

U.S. Department of Justice

United States Attorney Southern District of New York

86 Chambers Street, 3rd Floor New York, New York 10007

October 30, 2009

BY FEDERAL EXPRESS

Jameel Jaffer, Esq. American Civil Liberties Union Foundation 125 Broad Street, 18th Floor New York, N.Y. 10004

Re: ACLU v. Central Intelligence Agency, et al., No. 09 Civ. 5413 (AKH)

Dear Mr. Jaffer:

On behalf of the Central Intelligence Agency ("CIA"), I enclose documents and a preliminary draft <u>Vaughn</u> index responsive to the Freedom of Information Act ("FOIA") request dated December 9, 2008 (the "Request"), that is the subject of the above-referenced case.

The enclosed documents represent a partial response to the Request as the CIA is continuing to search for and process additional responsive documents. To date, the CIA has located approximately 100 potentially responsive documents, some of which are voluminous, and is in the process of reviewing the documents for responsiveness and for potential equities held by a number of other agencies. The CIA predicts that its line-by-line review of the documents and the coordination with other agencies will take approximately three months. Accordingly, the CIA will endeavor to complete its processing of those documents by January 31, 2010. Furthermore, the CIA will continue to search for additional responsive documents. While the CIA is not in a position at this time to estimate when it can complete its search, or the processing of any additional responsive documents (since the CIA does not know how many additional responsive documents it will find), the CIA will provide an update on or before December 15, 2009.

We recognize that the ACLU would prefer a firm deadline for the completion of the search and processing of all responsive documents, but based on the complexities involved in the search and the coordination with other agencies, as well as the CIA's obligations in other cases with the ACLU, the CIA is not in a position to provide the ACLU with an estimate for a deadline. The CIA is committed, however, to meeting its FOIA obligations and to responding to the Request as expeditiously as possible.

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We thank you for your continued cooperation in this matter.

Very truly yours,

PREET BHARARA United States Attorney Southern District of New York

By:

LARA K. ESHKENAZI TARA M. La MORTE MICHAEL J. BYARS

Assistant United States Attorneys Telephone: (212) 637-2758/2746/2793

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