# **EXHIBIT A**

### Case 1:19-cv-10291 Document 1-1 Filed 02/15/19 Page 2 of 4

### **Daniel McFadden**

From: Daniel McFadden

Sent: Friday, December 28, 2018 1:54 PM

To: 'foia@hq.dhs.gov' **FOIA Request** Subject:

**Attachments:** DHS FOIA 12 28 18.pdf

To whom it may concern,

Please see the attached FOIA request.

Regards, Dan McFadden

#### Dan McFadden

Pronouns: he, him, his

#### Staff Attorney

American Civil Liberties Union Foundation of Massachusetts 211 Congress Street, Boston, MA 02110 617.482.3170 x171 | <u>dmcfadden@aclum.org</u> aclum.org



Massachusetts



Daniel L. McFadden Staff Attorney (617) 482-3170 ext. 171 dmcfadden@aclum.org

December 28, 2018

#### Via Electronic Mail

U.S. Department of Homeland Security 245 Murray Lane SW Washington, D.C. 20528 foia@hq.dhs.gov

Re: FOIA Request

To whom it may concern:

This letter constitutes a request pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. § 552. This request is submitted on behalf of the American Civil Liberties Union of Massachusetts (the "ACLUM").

On December 24, 2018, the President of the United States made an announcement (the "Announcement") on Twitter that:

I am in the Oval Office & just gave out a 115 mile long contract for another large section of the Wall in Texas.<sup>1</sup>

ACLUM requests the following records:

- 1. The "contract" referenced in the Announcement.
- 2. All purchase orders, invoices, RFPs, documentation of selection, sole source or limited source justification and approval documents, studies of cost, efficacy, and/or environmental impact, and other memoranda and documentation pertaining to the "contract" referenced in the Announcement

If this request is denied in whole or part, we ask that you justify each such denial by reference to specific exemptions of the FOIA. Please release all segregable portions of otherwise exempt material.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> https://twitter.com/realDonaldTrump/status/1077329121745793025

December 28, 2018

We request a fee waiver because ACLUM is a "representative of the news media" under the FOIA. See 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(4)(A)(ii)(II); Nat's Security Archive v. Dep't of Defense, 880 F.2d 1381, 1387 (D.C. Cir 1989). ACLUM is a not-for-profit, non-partisan organization dedicated to the principles of liberty and equality. As the Massachusetts affiliate of the national ACLU, a not-for-profit, non-partisan organization, ACLUM distributes information both within and outside of Massachusetts. Gathering and disseminating current information to the public is a critical and substantial component of ACLUM's mission and work. ACLUM publishes newsletters, news briefings, reports and other materials that are disseminated to the public, including through ACLUM's website² and regular posts on social media sites such as Facebook and Twitter. These materials are widely available to everyone, including tax-exempt organizations, not-for-profit groups, law students and faculty, at no cost. Accordingly, ACLUM is entitled to a fee waiver.

In addition, ACLUM is entitled to a waiver or reduction of fees because disclosure of the requested information is in the public interest because it is likely to contribute significantly to public understanding of the operations or activities of the government, and disclosure of the information is not primarily in the commercial interest of the requester. See 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(4)(A)(iii). The public is keenly interested in understanding the scope, nature, cost, and efficacy of DHS operations at the U.S.-Mexico border, which have been a widely publicized feature of the President's campaign and public agenda in office.

We reserve the right to appeal a decision to withhold any information or to deny a waiver of fees. Please provide documents in digital form wherever possible.

We look forward to your reply to this request within twenty (20) business days, as required under 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(6)(A)(i).

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

/s/ Daniel L. McFadden

Daniel L. McFadden

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> www.aclum.org

# **EXHIBIT B**

### **Daniel McFadden**

From: foia@hq.dhs.gov

**Sent:** Monday, January 14, 2019 12:14 PM

**To:** Daniel McFadden

**Subject:** Department of Homeland Security FOIA 2019-HQFO-00257 Acknowledgment

Attachments: Ack - No Contract Number\_Use FPDS\_Decentralized.pdf

### Good Morning,

Attached is our acknowledgment of your DHS FOIA request. If you need to contact this office again concerning your request, please provide the DHS reference number. This will enable us to quickly retrieve the information you are seeking and reduce our response time. This office can be reached at 866-431-0486.

### Regards,

DHS Privacy Office
Disclosure & FOIA Program
STOP 0655
Department of Homeland Security
245 Murray Drive, SW
Washington, DC 20528-0655

Telephone: 1-866-431-0486 or 202-343-1743

Fax: 202-343-4011 Visit our FOIA website

**U.S. Department of Homeland Security** Washington, DC 20528



Privacy Office, Mail Stop 0655

January 14, 2019

Dan McFadden

American Civil Liberties Union of Massachusetts 211 Congress Street

Boston, MA 02110

Re: 2019-HQFO-00257

Dear McFadden:

This letter acknowledges receipt of your December 28, 2018, Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request to the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), for all purchase orders, invoices, RFPs, documentation of selection, sole source or limited source justification and approval documents, studies of cost, efficacy, and/or environmental impact, and other memoranda and documentation pertaining to the "contract" referenced in the Presidential tweet of December 24, 2018, stating "I am in the Oval Office & just gave out a 115 mile long contract for another large section of the Wall in Texas". This office received your request on December 31, 2018.

After careful review of your FOIA request, we determined that your request is too broad in scope or did not specifically identify the records which you are seeking. Records must be described in reasonably sufficient detail to enable government employees who are familiar with the subject area to locate records without placing an unreasonable burden upon the agency. For this reason, 6 C.F.R. Part 5 §5.3(b) of the DHS FOIA regulations require that you describe the records you are seeking with as much information as possible to ensure that our search can locate them with a reasonable amount of effort. In addition to the information provided, your request description should include the specific DHS contract numbers of interest. If such contracts exist, you may find the associated contract numbers via the Federal Procurement Data System (FPDS), which is accessible from <a href="https://www.fpds.gov/fpdsng\_cms/">https://www.fpds.gov/fpdsng\_cms/</a>. The FPDS allows for anyone to register and access records pertaining to all federal agency procurement actions, including the ability to run a variety of reports based on specified criteria.

Please be aware that DHS is decentralized and each DHS component has its own FOIA Officer. If detailed information on a specific contract is desired, please contact the FOIA Officer at the funding component directly with the specific contract number(s). A list of DHS disclosure contacts is available on our website from <a href="http://www.dhs.gov/foia-contact-information">http://www.dhs.gov/foia-contact-information</a>.

Please resubmit your revised request, containing a reasonable description of the records you are seeking, directly to the DHS component that maintains the record(s) you are seeking. You

should also provide a mailing address to which DHS may respond with any responsive records, if located.

If we do not hear from you within 30 days from the date of this letter, we will assume you are no longer interested in this FOIA request as it pertains to this office, and this case will be administratively closed. Please be advised that this action is not a denial of your request and will not preclude you from filing other requests in the future.

Your request has been assigned reference number **2019-HQFO-00257**. Please refer to this identifier in any future correspondence. You may contact this office at our toll-free telephone number, 866-431-0486, or at 202-343-1743.

Sincerely,

James Holzer

FOIA Program Specialist

James VMC Hober, I

# **EXHIBIT C**

### **Daniel McFadden**

From: Daniel McFadden

Sent: Wednesday, January 16, 2019 5:12 PM

To: 'foia@hq.dhs.gov'
Cc: Matthew Segal

**Subject:** FOIA Reference No. 2019-HQFO-00257 **Attachments:** DHS FOIA Reply to Response 1 16 19.pdf

Please see the attached letter regarding FOIA Reference No. 2019-HQFO-00257.

Regards,

Dan McFadden

Dan McFadden

Pronouns: he, him, his

Staff Attorney

American Civil Liberties Union Foundation of Massachusetts

211 Congress Street, Boston, MA  $02110\,$ 

617.482.3170 x171 |  $\underline{dmcfadden@aclum.org}$ 

aclum.org





Daniel L. McFadden Staff Attorney (617) 482-3170 ext. 171 dmcfadden@aclum.org

January 16, 2018

#### Via Electronic Mail

James Holzer
FOIA Program Specialist
DHS Privacy Office
Disclosure & FOIA Program
STOP 0655
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
245 Murray Lane SW
Washington, D.C. 20528
foia@hq.dhs.gov

Re: FOIA Request

Reference No. 2019-HQFO-00257

Dear Mr. Holzer:

On December 24, 2018, the President of the United States made an announcement (the "Announcement") that:

I am in the Oval Office & just gave out a 115 mile long contract for another large section of the Wall in Texas.<sup>1</sup>

On December 28, 2018, I submitted a request under the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. § 552, (the "Request") on behalf of the American Civil Liberties Union of Massachusetts (the "ACLUM"). The Request sought the following records:

- 1. The "contract" referenced in the Announcement.
- 2. All purchase orders, invoices, RFPs, documentation of selection, sole source or limited source justification and approval documents, studies of cost, efficacy, and/or environmental impact, and other memoranda and

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> https://twitter.com/realDonaldTrump/status/1077329121745793025

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James Holzer FOIA Program Specialist U.S. Dep't of Homeland Security January 16, 2019

documentation pertaining to the "contract" referenced in the Announcement

The Request additionally sought a fee waiver under 5 U.S.C. §§ 552(a)(4)(A)(ii)(II) and 552(a)(4)(A)(iii). The Request has been assigned Reference No. 2019-HQFO-00257.

On January 14, 2019, you responded on behalf of DHS that the Request "is too broad in scope or did not specifically identify the records which you are seeking." You further stated that the Request "should include the <u>specific DHS contract numbers of interest</u>" (emphasis in original), which you suggested may be found by searching the website <a href="https://www.fpds.gov/fpdsng\_cms/">https://www.fpds.gov/fpdsng\_cms/</a>. You further stated that the Request should be directed to "the FOIA Officer at the funding [DHS] component directly with the specific contract number." You concluded:

Please resubmit your revised request, containing a reasonable description of the records you are seeking, directly to the DHS component that maintains the record(s) you are seeking. . . . Please be advised that <u>this action is not a denial of your request</u> and will not preclude you from filing other requests in the future. (emphasis added)

ACLUM will not resubmit or modify the Request. The President's Announcement referred to a single "115 mile long contract for another large section of the Wall in Texas" signed on December 24, 2018. There is no reason to believe that more than one such contract exists, or that retrieving this contract would present any unreasonable burden for DHS. Indeed, given the magnitude of such a project, and DHS's recent public focus on a proposed U.S.-Mexico border wall, personnel throughout DHS, and at its highest levels, must have access to and be intimately familiar with this contract—unless the President's Announcement was simply a lie.

Your response requests that ACLUM, the requestor, undertake to identify the specific contract number that was the subject of the President's Announcement, and, based on that number, the "funding component" within DHS. I have reviewed the website you provided (<a href="https://www.fpds.gov/fpdsng\_cms/">https://www.fpds.gov/fpdsng\_cms/</a>). A search for contracts containing the word "Texas" and signed on December 24, 2018 reveals four entries, none of which appears to be a contract for the construction of any wall of any length, much less a wall of 115 miles in length on the U.S.-Mexico border. Indeed, none of the contracts listed on the website as having been signed on December 24, 2018, appear to relate to construction of the proposed border wall. Accordingly, although I would certainly provide you with the contract number and "funding component" if that information were available in the federal contracting system, that does not appear to be the case.

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James Holzer FOIA Program Specialist U.S. Dep't of Homeland Security January 16, 2019

I therefore ask that you determine whether DHS will comply with the Request and notify me immediately of that decision. *See* 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(6)(A)(i). Should your office fail to do so by January 31, 2019 (*i.e.*, 20 business days after submission of the Request, plus two days of tolling while awaiting this response), ACLUM shall be deemed to have exhausted its administrative remedies. *See* 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(6)(A), (C)(i).

Sincerely,

/s/ Daniel L. McFadden

Daniel L. McFadden

# **EXHIBIT D**

### Case 1:19-cv-10291 Document 1-4 Filed 02/15/19 Page 2 of 3

### **Daniel McFadden**

From: foia@hq.dhs.gov

Sent: Monday, January 28, 2019 9:35 AM

**To:** Daniel McFadden

**Subject:** Department of Homeland Security FOIA 2019-HQFO-00257 Final Response

**Attachments:** Final - Transferred to Component - (1) Letter to Requester.pdf

#### Good Morning,

Attached is our final response to your request. If you need to contact this office again concerning your request, please provide the DHS reference number. This will enable us to quickly retrieve the information you are seeking and reduce our response time. This office can be reached at 866-431-0486.

#### Regards,

DHS Privacy Office
Disclosure & FOIA Program
STOP 0655
Department of Homeland Security
245 Murray Drive, SW
Washington, DC 20528-0655
Telephone: 1-866-431-0486 or 202-343-1743

Fax: 202-343-4011

Visit our FOIA website

**U.S. Department of Homeland Security** Washington, D.C. 20528



Privacy Office, Mail Stop 0655

January 28, 2019

Dan McFadden American Civil Liberties Union of Massachusetts 211 Congress Street Boston, MA 02110

Re: 2019-HQFO-00257

Dear Mr. McFadden:

This is in further response to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request to the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), Privacy Office, dated December 28, 2018, and received in this office on December 31, 2018. You requested documents regarding all purchase orders, invoices, RFPs, documentation of selection, sole source or limited source justification and approval documents, studies of cost, efficacy, and/or environmental impact, and other memoranda and documentation pertaining to the "contract" referenced in the Presidential tweet of December 24, 2018, stating "I am in the Oval Office & just gave out a 115 mile long contract for another large section of the Wall in Texas".

Due to the subject matter of your request, I am transferring this request to the FOIA Officer for U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP). Please find their contact information below.

U. S. Customs & Border Protection (CBP) FOIA Officer U.S. Customs and Border Protection 90 K Street, NW 9th Floor, Mail Stop 1181 Washington, DC 20229

Phone: 202-325-0150

If you need to contact our office again about this matter, please refer to **2019-HQFO-00257**. You may contact this office at 1-866-431-0486 or 202-343-1743.

James VMC Hohe

Sincerely,

James Holzer

FOIA Program Specialist

# **EXHIBIT E**

#### **Daniel McFadden**

From: FOIA <FOIA@HQ.DHS.GOV>

Sent: Thursday, January 31, 2019 1:19 PM

To: Daniel McFadden Cc: Matthew Segal

**Subject:** RE: FOIA Reference No. 2019-HQFO-00257

Hi Dan/Matt

We transferred the entire request to CBP for direct response to your office.

Thanks!! Harry

### **The Privacy Office**

U.S. Department of Homeland Security 245 Murray Lane SW STOP-0655 Washington, D.C. 20528-0655

**202-343-1743** | **866-431-0486** | **202-343-4011** 

foia@hq.dhs.gov

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From: Daniel McFadden < DmcFadden@aclum.org>

Sent: Monday, January 28, 2019 4:21 PM

To: FOIA <FOIA@HQ.DHS.GOV>

Cc: Matthew Segal < MSegal@aclum.org>

Subject: FOIA Reference No. 2019-HQFO-00257

Please see the attached letter regarding FOIA Reference No. 2019-HQFO-00257.

Regards,

Dan McFadden

#### Dan McFadden

Pronouns: he, him, his

Staff Attorney

American Civil Liberties Union Foundation of Massachusetts

### Case 1:19-cv-10291 Document 1-5 Filed 02/15/19 Page 3 of 3

211 Congress Street, Boston, MA 02110 617.482.3170 x171 |  $\frac{dmcfadden@aclum.org}{aclum.org}$ 



Massachusetts

# **EXHIBIT F**

Daniel McFadden

211 Congress St Boston, MA, 02110

01/31/2019

CBP-2019-025646

Dear Daniel McFadden:

On January 28, 2019, DHS transferred your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request in which you are seeking the contract for 115 miles of border wall in the San Diego Sector. This notice acknowledges receipt of your request. Please use the following unique FOIA tracking number CBP-2019-025646 to track the status of your request. If you have not already done so, you must create a FOIAonline account at <a href="https://foiaonline.gov">https://foiaonline.gov</a>. This is the only method available to check the status of your pending FOIA request.

Provisions of the Act allow us to recover part of the cost of complying with your request. We shall charge you for records in accordance with the DHS FOIA regulations outlined on the DHS website, <a href="https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2016/11/22/2016-28095/freedom-of-information-act-regulations">https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2016/11/22/2016-28095/freedom-of-information-act-regulations</a>. By submitting your request, you have agreed to pay up to \$25.00 in applicable processing fees, if any fees associated with your request exceed this amount, CBP shall contact you; however, the first 100 pages are free.

Due to the increasing number of FOIA requests received by this office, we may encounter some delay in processing your request. Consistent with 6 C.F.R. Part 5 §5.5(a) of the DHS FOIA regulations, CBP processes FOIA requests according to their order of receipt. Although CBP's goal is to respond within 20 business days of receipt of your request, FOIA does permit a 10-day extension of this time period in certain circumstances pursuant to 6 C.F.R. Part 5 §5.5(c).

CBP's FOIA Division is working hard to reduce the amount of time necessary to respond to FOIA requests. Currently, the average time to process a FOIA request related to "travel/border incidents" is a minimum of 3-6 months. We truly appreciate your continued patience.

For additional information please consult CBP FOIA website please click on FOIA Act Resources or visit http://www.cbp.gov/site-policy-notices/foia.

Sincerely,

U.S. Customs and Border Protection

# **EXHIBIT G**

#### **Daniel McFadden**

From: admin@foiaonline.gov

Sent: Tuesday, February 12, 2019 7:35 AM

**To:** Daniel McFadden

**Subject:** FOIA Tracking Number Change for referral CBP-2019-025646 (to CBP-

OA-2019-025646)

The FOIA referral CBP-2019-025646 has had its Tracking Number changed to CBP-OA-2019-025646. This is normally due to the referral being transferred to another agency (for example, EPA to Dept. of Commerce) or to a sub-agency to process it. Additional details for this referral are as follows:

Old Tracking Number: CBP-2019-025646New Tracking Number: CBP-OA-2019-025646

Requester Name: Daniel McFadden

• Date Submitted: 01/31/2019

• Long Description: 2019-HQFO-00257. The requester is seeking records regarding all purchase orders, invoices, RFPs, documentation of selection, sole source or limited source justification and approval documents, studies of cost, efficacy, and/or environmental impact, and other memoranda and documentation pertaining to the "contract" referenced in the Presidential tweet of December 24, 2018, stating "I am in the Oval Office & just gave out a 115 mile long contract for another large section of the Wall in Texas".

# **EXHIBIT H**



Daniel L. McFadden Staff Attorney (617) 482-3170 ext. 171 dmcfadden@aclum.org

January 8, 2019

### Via Electronic Mail

FOIA Office Fort Worth District U.S. Army Corps of Engineers P.O. Box 17300 Fort Worth, TX 76102-0300 foia-swf@usace.army.mil

Re: FOIA Request

To whom it may concern:

This letter constitutes a request pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. § 552. This request is submitted on behalf of the American Civil Liberties Union of Massachusetts (the "ACLUM").

On December 24, 2018, the President of the United States made an announcement (the "Announcement") on Twitter that:

I am in the Oval Office & just gave out a 115 mile long contract for another large section of the Wall in Texas.<sup>1</sup>

ACLUM requests the following records:

- 1. The "contract" referenced in the Announcement.
- 2. All purchase orders, invoices, RFPs, documentation of selection, sole source or limited source justification and approval documents, studies of cost, efficacy, and/or environmental impact, and other memoranda and documentation pertaining to the "contract" referenced in the Announcement

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> https://twitter.com/realDonaldTrump/status/1077329121745793025

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Fort Worth District U.S. Army Corps of Engineers January 8, 2019

If this request is denied in whole or part, we ask that you justify each such denial by reference to specific exemptions of the FOIA. Please release all segregable portions of otherwise exempt material.

We request a fee waiver because ACLUM is a "representative of the news media" under the FOIA. See 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(4)(A)(ii)(II); Nat's Security Archive v. Dep't of Defense, 880 F.2d 1381, 1387 (D.C. Cir 1989). ACLUM is a not-for-profit, non-partisan organization dedicated to the principles of liberty and equality. As the Massachusetts affiliate of the national ACLU, a not-for-profit, non-partisan organization, ACLUM distributes information both within and outside of Massachusetts. Gathering and disseminating current information to the public is a critical and substantial component of ACLUM's mission and work. ACLUM publishes newsletters, news briefings, reports and other materials that are disseminated to the public, including through ACLUM's website² and regular posts on social media sites such as Facebook and Twitter. These materials are widely available to everyone, including tax-exempt organizations, not-for-profit groups, law students and faculty, at no cost. Accordingly, ACLUM is entitled to a fee waiver.

In addition, ACLUM is entitled to a waiver or reduction of fees because disclosure of the requested information is in the public interest because it is likely to contribute significantly to public understanding of the operations or activities of the government, and disclosure of the information is not primarily in the commercial interest of the requester. See 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(4)(A)(iii). The public is keenly interested in understanding the scope, nature, cost, and efficacy of government operations at the U.S.-Mexico border, which have been a widely publicized feature of the President's campaign and public agenda in office.

We reserve the right to appeal a decision to withhold any information or to deny a waiver of fees. Please provide documents in digital form wherever possible.

We look forward to your reply to this request within twenty (20) business days, as required under 5 U.S.C.  $\S$  552(a)(6)(A)(i).

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

/s/ Daniel L. McFadden

Daniel L. McFadden

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> www.aclum.org

# **EXHIBIT I**



Daniel L. McFadden Staff Attorney (617) 482-3170 ext. 171 dmcfadden@aclum.org

January 31, 2019

#### Via Electronic Mail

FOIA Office Los Angeles District CESPL-OC U.S. Army Corps of Engineers 915 Wilshire Blvd. Los Angeles, CA 90017-3401 foia-spl@usace.army.mil

Re: FOIA Request

To whom it may concern:

This letter constitutes a request pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. § 552. This request is submitted on behalf of the American Civil Liberties Union of Massachusetts (the "ACLUM").

On December 24, 2018, the President of the United States made an announcement (the "Announcement") that:

I am in the Oval Office & just gave out a 115 mile long contract for another large section of the Wall in Texas.<sup>1</sup>

ACLUM requests the following records:

- 1. The "contract" referenced in the Announcement.
- 2. All purchase orders, invoices, RFPs, documentation of selection, sole source or limited source justification and approval documents, studies of cost, efficacy, and/or environmental impact, and other memoranda and documentation pertaining to the "contract" referenced in the Announcement

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> https://twitter.com/realDonaldTrump/status/1077329121745793025

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Los Angeles District U.S. Army Corps of Engineers January 31, 2019

If this request is denied in whole or part, we ask that you justify each such denial by reference to specific exemptions of the FOIA. Please release all segregable portions of otherwise exempt material.

We request a fee waiver because ACLUM is a "representative of the news media" under the FOIA. See 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(4)(A)(ii)(II); Nat's Security Archive v. Dep't of Defense, 880 F.2d 1381, 1387 (D.C. Cir 1989). ACLUM is a not-for-profit, non-partisan organization dedicated to the principles of liberty and equality. As the Massachusetts affiliate of the national ACLU, a not-for-profit, non-partisan organization, ACLUM distributes information both within and outside of Massachusetts. Gathering and disseminating current information to the public is a critical and substantial component of ACLUM's mission and work. ACLUM publishes newsletters, news briefings, reports and other materials that are disseminated to the public, including through ACLUM's website² and regular posts on social media sites such as Facebook and Twitter. These materials are widely available to everyone, including tax-exempt organizations, not-for-profit groups, law students and faculty, at no cost. Accordingly, ACLUM is entitled to a fee waiver.

In addition, ACLUM is entitled to a waiver or reduction of fees because disclosure of the requested information is in the public interest because it is likely to contribute significantly to public understanding of the operations or activities of the government, and disclosure of the information is not primarily in the commercial interest of the requester. See 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(4)(A)(iii). The public is keenly interested in understanding the scope, nature, cost, and efficacy of government operations at the U.S.-Mexico border, which have been a widely publicized feature of the President's campaign and public agenda in office.

We reserve the right to appeal a decision to withhold any information or to deny a waiver of fees. Please provide documents in digital form wherever possible.

We look forward to your reply to this request within twenty (20) business days, as required under 5 U.S.C.  $\S$  552(a)(6)(A)(i).

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

/s/ Daniel L. McFadden

Daniel L. McFadden

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> www.aclum.org

# **EXHIBIT J**



Daniel L. McFadden Staff Attorney (617) 482-3170 ext. 171 dmcfadden@aclum.org

January 31, 2019

#### Via Electronic Mail

FOIA Office Albuquerque District CESPA-OC U.S. Army Corps of Engineers 4101 Jefferson Plaza, NE Albuquerque, NM 87109-3435 foia-spa@usace.army.mil

Re: FOIA Request

To whom it may concern:

This letter constitutes a request pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. § 552. This request is submitted on behalf of the American Civil Liberties Union of Massachusetts (the "ACLUM").

On December 24, 2018, the President of the United States made an announcement (the "Announcement") that:

I am in the Oval Office & just gave out a 115 mile long contract for another large section of the Wall in Texas.<sup>1</sup>

ACLUM requests the following records:

- 1. The "contract" referenced in the Announcement.
- 2. All purchase orders, invoices, RFPs, documentation of selection, sole source or limited source justification and approval documents, studies of cost, efficacy, and/or environmental impact, and other memoranda and documentation pertaining to the "contract" referenced in the Announcement

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> https://twitter.com/realDonaldTrump/status/1077329121745793025

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Albuquerque District U.S. Army Corps of Engineers January 31, 2019

If this request is denied in whole or part, we ask that you justify each such denial by reference to specific exemptions of the FOIA. Please release all segregable portions of otherwise exempt material.

We request a fee waiver because ACLUM is a "representative of the news media" under the FOIA. See 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(4)(A)(ii)(II); Nat's Security Archive v. Dep't of Defense, 880 F.2d 1381, 1387 (D.C. Cir 1989). ACLUM is a not-for-profit, non-partisan organization dedicated to the principles of liberty and equality. As the Massachusetts affiliate of the national ACLU, a not-for-profit, non-partisan organization, ACLUM distributes information both within and outside of Massachusetts. Gathering and disseminating current information to the public is a critical and substantial component of ACLUM's mission and work. ACLUM publishes newsletters, news briefings, reports and other materials that are disseminated to the public, including through ACLUM's website² and regular posts on social media sites such as Facebook and Twitter. These materials are widely available to everyone, including tax-exempt organizations, not-for-profit groups, law students and faculty, at no cost. Accordingly, ACLUM is entitled to a fee waiver.

In addition, ACLUM is entitled to a waiver or reduction of fees because disclosure of the requested information is in the public interest because it is likely to contribute significantly to public understanding of the operations or activities of the government, and disclosure of the information is not primarily in the commercial interest of the requester. See 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(4)(A)(iii). The public is keenly interested in understanding the scope, nature, cost, and efficacy of government operations at the U.S.-Mexico border, which have been a widely publicized feature of the President's campaign and public agenda in office.

We reserve the right to appeal a decision to withhold any information or to deny a waiver of fees. Please provide documents in digital form wherever possible.

We look forward to your reply to this request within twenty (20) business days, as required under 5 U.S.C.  $\S$  552(a)(6)(A)(i).

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

/s/ Daniel L. McFadden

Daniel L. McFadden

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> www.aclum.org

# **EXHIBIT K**



Daniel L. McFadden Staff Attorney (617) 482-3170 ext. 171 dmcfadden@aclum.org

January 31, 2019

#### Via Electronic Mail

FOIA Office Galveston District CESWG-OC U.S. Army Corps of Engineers P.O. Box 1229 Galveston, TX 77553-1229 foia-swg@usace.army.mil

Re: FOIA Request

To whom it may concern:

This letter constitutes a request pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. § 552. This request is submitted on behalf of the American Civil Liberties Union of Massachusetts (the "ACLUM").

On December 24, 2018, the President of the United States made an announcement (the "Announcement") that:

I am in the Oval Office & just gave out a 115 mile long contract for another large section of the Wall in Texas.<sup>1</sup>

ACLUM requests the following records:

- 1. The "contract" referenced in the Announcement.
- 2. All purchase orders, invoices, RFPs, documentation of selection, sole source or limited source justification and approval documents, studies of cost, efficacy, and/or environmental impact, and other memoranda and documentation pertaining to the "contract" referenced in the Announcement

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> https://twitter.com/realDonaldTrump/status/1077329121745793025

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Galveston District U.S. Army Corps of Engineers January 31, 2019

If this request is denied in whole or part, we ask that you justify each such denial by reference to specific exemptions of the FOIA. Please release all segregable portions of otherwise exempt material.

We request a fee waiver because ACLUM is a "representative of the news media" under the FOIA. See 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(4)(A)(ii)(II); Nat's Security Archive v. Dep't of Defense, 880 F.2d 1381, 1387 (D.C. Cir 1989). ACLUM is a not-for-profit, non-partisan organization dedicated to the principles of liberty and equality. As the Massachusetts affiliate of the national ACLU, a not-for-profit, non-partisan organization, ACLUM distributes information both within and outside of Massachusetts. Gathering and disseminating current information to the public is a critical and substantial component of ACLUM's mission and work. ACLUM publishes newsletters, news briefings, reports and other materials that are disseminated to the public, including through ACLUM's website² and regular posts on social media sites such as Facebook and Twitter. These materials are widely available to everyone, including tax-exempt organizations, not-for-profit groups, law students and faculty, at no cost. Accordingly, ACLUM is entitled to a fee waiver.

In addition, ACLUM is entitled to a waiver or reduction of fees because disclosure of the requested information is in the public interest because it is likely to contribute significantly to public understanding of the operations or activities of the government, and disclosure of the information is not primarily in the commercial interest of the requester. See 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(4)(A)(iii). The public is keenly interested in understanding the scope, nature, cost, and efficacy of government operations at the U.S.-Mexico border, which have been a widely publicized feature of the President's campaign and public agenda in office.

We reserve the right to appeal a decision to withhold any information or to deny a waiver of fees. Please provide documents in digital form wherever possible.

We look forward to your reply to this request within twenty (20) business days, as required under 5 U.S.C.  $\S$  552(a)(6)(A)(i).

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

/s/ Daniel L. McFadden

Daniel L. McFadden

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> www.aclum.org

# **EXHIBIT L**

#### **Daniel McFadden**

From: Kelly, Robert K CIV (US) <Robert.K.Kelly@usace.army.mil>

Sent: Thursday, January 31, 2019 4:02 PM

To:Daniel McFaddenSubject:RE: FOIA Request

I'm Sorry. All FOIA request that come in reference to The Border Wall are processed by the Fort Worth District for all Army Corps of Engineers, Office of Counsel in the state of Texas.

----Original Message----

From: Daniel McFadden [mailto:DmcFadden@aclum.org]

Sent: Thursday, January 31, 2019 2:27 PM

To: Kelly, Robert K CIV (US) < Robert.K.Kelly@usace.army.mil>

Cc: Smith, Delene R CIV USARMY CESWF (US) < Delene.R.Smith@usace.army.mil>

Subject: [Non-DoD Source] RE: FOIA Request

Mr. Kelly,

Thank you for your prompt response. Is the request being transferred because the Galveston District, US ACE, has conducted a search and failed to locate any responsive records? Or do you have information indicating that the responsive records are located in the Fort Worth District?

Thank you again.

Best regards,
Dan McFadden

\_\_\_\_\_

Dan McFadden

Pronouns: he, him, his

#### Staff Attorney

American Civil Liberties Union Foundation of Massachusetts 211 Congress Street, Boston, MA 02110 617.482.3170 x171 | dmcfadden@aclum.org aclum.org

----Original Message-----

From: Kelly, Robert K CIV (US) [mailto:Robert.K.Kelly@usace.army.mil]

Sent: Thursday, January 31, 2019 3:16 PM

To: Daniel McFadden < DmcFadden@aclum.org>

Cc: Smith, Delene R CIV USARMY CESWF (US) < Delene.R.Smith@usace.army.mil>

Subject: RE: FOIA Request

Good afternoon. Your FOIA request has been forwarded to the Fort Worth District, Army Corps of Engineers. Ms Delene Smith is the FOIA person assigned your FOIA request. Her email is attached. Thank you.

----Original Message----

From: Daniel McFadden [mailto:DmcFadden@aclum.org]

## Case 1:19-cv-10291 Document 1-12 Filed 02/15/19 Page 3 of 3

Sent: Thursday, January 31, 2019 11:59 AM To: FOIA-SWG <foia-swg@usace.army.mil> Subject: [Non-DoD Source] FOIA Request</foia-swg@usace.army.mil>	
To whom it may concern,	
Please see the attached FOIA request.	
Regards,	
Dan McFadden	
Dan McFadden	
Pronouns: he, him, his	
Staff Attorney	
American Civil Liberties Union Foundation of Massachusetts	
211 Congress Street, Boston, MA 02110	
617.482.3170 x171   dmcfadden@aclum.org <mailto:dmcfadden@aclum.org></mailto:dmcfadden@aclum.org>	
aclum.org <blockedblockedhttp: www.aclu.org=""></blockedblockedhttp:>	

# **EXHIBIT M**

## **Daniel McFadden**

Dan McFadden

From: Sent: To: Cc: Subject:	Mobly, Angela R CIV USARMY CESPA (US) <angela.r.mobly@usace.army.mil> Thursday, January 31, 2019 5:03 PM Daniel McFadden FOIA-SPA; Smith, Delene R CIV USARMY CESWF (US) RE: FOIA Request</angela.r.mobly@usace.army.mil>	
Mr. McFadden,		
All FOIA requests regarding the border wall are being centrally processed through the Fort Worth District. The point of contact is Ms. Delene Smith who is copied on this email and her contact information is below:		
Delene R. Smith Paralegal Specialist CISM Team Member Office of Counsel Fort Worth District (817) 886-1148 (Office) (817) 247-5946 (cell) delene.r.smith@usace.army.mil		
Thank you,		
Angela R. Mobly Paralegal Specialist U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Albuquerque District Office of Counsel 4101 Jefferson Plaza NE Albuquerque, NM 87109 Ph: (505) 342-3300 E-mail: Angela.R.Mobly@usace.ar	rmy.mil	
Original Message From: Daniel McFadden [mailto:DmcFadden@aclum.org] Sent: Thursday, January 31, 2019 10:55 AM To: FOIA-SPA <foia-spa@usace.army.mil> Subject: [Non-DoD Source] FOIA Request</foia-spa@usace.army.mil>		
To whom it may concern,		
Please see the attached FOIA request.		
Regards,		

1

\_\_\_\_\_

Dan McFadden

Pronouns: he, him, his

Staff Attorney

American Civil Liberties Union Foundation of Massachusetts

211 Congress Street, Boston, MA 02110

617.482.3170 x171 | dmcfadden@aclum.org <mailto:dmcfadden@aclum.org>

aclum.org <Blockedhttp://www.aclu.org/>

# **EXHIBIT N**

### Case 1:19-cv-10291 Document 1-14 Filed 02/15/19 Page 2 of 4



### DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

LOS ANGELES DISTRICT, U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS 915 WILSHIRE BOULEVARD, SUITE 930 LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90017-3409

January 31, 2019



Office of District Counsel

Daniel McFadden Staff Attorney American Civil Liberties Union Foundation of Massachusetts 211 Congress Street Boston, MA 02110

Dear Mr. McFadden,

Our office received your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request dated January 31, 2019. You requested documents related to a contract mentioned in a December 24, 2018 announcement by the President of the United States. Generally, it is the policy of the Department of the Army to release the maximum amount of information under the FOIA unless that information is exempt from release and an important reason exists for nondisclosure.

Your request is being referred to the Ft. Worth District. Your point of contact is Ms. Delene Smith, who can be reached by email at <a href="Delene.R.Smith@usace.army.mil">Delene.R.Smith@usace.army.mil</a> and by telephone at (817) 886-1148. Your request to the Los Angeles District will be administratively closed. Your patience and cooperation in this matter are appreciated. If you have any questions, please contact me at (213) 452-3954, or Ms. Julie M. Reigns at (213) 452-3947 or by email at <a href="mailto:julie.m.reigns@usace.army.mil">julie.m.reigns@usace.army.mil</a>.

Sincerely,

For Burke S. Large Assistant District Counsel

Enclosure



Daniel L. McFadden Staff Attorney (617) 482-3170 ext. 171 dmcfadden@aclum.org

January 31, 2019

### Via Electronic Mail

FOIA Office Los Angeles District CESPL-OC U.S. Army Corps of Engineers 915 Wilshire Blvd. Los Angeles, CA 90017-3401 foia-spl@usace.army.mil

Re: FOIA Request

To whom it may concern:

This letter constitutes a request pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. § 552. This request is submitted on behalf of the American Civil Liberties Union of Massachusetts (the "ACLUM").

On December 24, 2018, the President of the United States made an announcement (the "Announcement") that:

I am in the Oval Office & just gave out a 115 mile long contract for another large section of the Wall in Texas.<sup>1</sup>

ACLUM requests the following records:

- 1. The "contract" referenced in the Announcement.
- 2. All purchase orders, invoices, RFPs, documentation of selection, sole source or limited source justification and approval documents, studies of cost, efficacy, and/or environmental impact, and other memoranda and documentation pertaining to the "contract" referenced in the Announcement

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> https://twitter.com/realDonaldTrump/status/1077329121745793025

Case 1:19-cv-10291 Document 1-14 Filed 02/15/19 Page 4 of 4

Los Angeles District U.S. Army Corps of Engineers January 31, 2019

If this request is denied in whole or part, we ask that you justify each such denial by reference to specific exemptions of the FOIA. Please release all segregable portions of otherwise exempt material.

We request a fee waiver because ACLUM is a "representative of the news media" under the FOIA. See 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(4)(A)(ii)(II); Nat's Security Archive v. Dep't of Defense, 880 F.2d 1381, 1387 (D.C. Cir 1989). ACLUM is a not-for-profit, non-partisan organization dedicated to the principles of liberty and equality. As the Massachusetts affiliate of the national ACLU, a not-for-profit, non-partisan organization, ACLUM distributes information both within and outside of Massachusetts. Gathering and disseminating current information to the public is a critical and substantial component of ACLUM's mission and work. ACLUM publishes newsletters, news briefings, reports and other materials that are disseminated to the public, including through ACLUM's website² and regular posts on social media sites such as Facebook and Twitter. These materials are widely available to everyone, including tax-exempt organizations, not-for-profit groups, law students and faculty, at no cost. Accordingly, ACLUM is entitled to a fee waiver.

In addition, ACLUM is entitled to a waiver or reduction of fees because disclosure of the requested information is in the public interest because it is likely to contribute significantly to public understanding of the operations or activities of the government, and disclosure of the information is not primarily in the commercial interest of the requester. See 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(4)(A)(iii). The public is keenly interested in understanding the scope, nature, cost, and efficacy of government operations at the U.S.-Mexico border, which have been a widely publicized feature of the President's campaign and public agenda in office.

We reserve the right to appeal a decision to withhold any information or to deny a waiver of fees. Please provide documents in digital form wherever possible.

We look forward to your reply to this request within twenty (20) business days, as required under 5 U.S.C.  $\S$  552(a)(6)(A)(i).

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

/s/ Daniel L. McFadden

Daniel L. McFadden

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> www.aclum.org

# **EXHIBIT O**



#### **DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY**

FORT WORTH DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS P. O. BOX 17300 FORT WORTH, TEXAS 76102-0300

January 11, 2019

Office of Counsel

SUBJECT: Freedom of Information Act 19-0044 (FP-19-007359)

Daniel L. McFadden, Esq.
American Civil Liberties Union Foundation of Massachusetts
211 Congress Street
Boston, MA 02110
dmcfadden@aclum.org

Sent via Email

Dear Mr. McFadden:

This is in response to your Freedom of Information Act request, received by our office on January 8, 2019, wherein you requested:

- The "contract" referenced in the Announcement ("I am in the Oval Office & just gave out a 115 mile long contract for another large section of the Wall in Texas.")
- All purchase orders, invoices, RFPs, documentation of selection, sole source or limited source justification and approval documents, studies of cost, efficacy, and/or environmental impact, and other memoranda and documentation pertaining to the "contract" referenced in the Announcement. ("I am in the Oval Office & just gave out a 115 mile long contract for another large section of the Wall in Texas.")

A search of the records located within the Fort Worth District failed to produce any records pertaining to the above-referenced information. Therefore, the Fort Worth District has no records that are responsive to your request and as such, you are advised of your right to appeal this adverse determination through this office which will forward it to our Washington Office for processing to the Secretary of the Army (Attn: General Counsel). Your appeal must be addressed to U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Fort Worth District, Attn: CESWF-OC/FOIA, P.O. Box 17300, Fort Worth, Texas 76102-0300 or emailed to <a href="FOIA-SWF@usace.army.mil">FOIA-SWF@usace.army.mil</a>. Your appeal must be in writing and to be considered timely must be postmarked, or electronically transmitted, within 90 calendar days after the date of this response. To facilitate handling, the letter and envelope, or subject line of the email, should be marked "FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT APPEAL". Please note your appeal should refer to the assigned request number, and clearly identify the agency determination that is being appealed; however, the appeal cannot be used to make a new request for new or additional information

You are advised that you may seek dispute resolution regarding this determination through the FOIA Liaison for the Corps of Engineers (Corps) or the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS). Contact information is as follows:

### **FOIA Liaison for the Corps:**

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers FOIA Liaison ATTN: CECC-G 441 G Street, NW Washington, DC 20314-1000

Email: foia-liaison@usace.army.mil

Phone: 202-761-0511

## **FOIA Liaison for OGIS:**

Office of Government Information Services
National Archives and Records Administration
8601 Adelphi Road—OGIS
College Park, MD 20740-6001

ogis@nara.gov

https://www.archives.gov/ogis

Phone: 202-741-5770 Phone: 877-684-6448

If you have any questions regarding this matter contact Delene Smith at (817) 886-1148 or email at <a href="mailto:foia-swf@usace.army.mil">foia-swf@usace.army.mil</a> and reference FOIA No. 19-0044.

Sincerely,

Katherine Denzel Initial Denial Authority District Counsel