

Subject: DOJ-EOIR FOIA Request # 2022-12536

Date: Tuesday, March 8, 2022 at 2:57:42 PM Eastern Standard Time

From: jeniffer.perez.santiago@usdoj.gov

To: FOIA

CC: jeniffer.perez.santiago@usdoj.gov

Dear Ms. Stoneman.:

This correspondence is in response to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request dated 12/22/2021 to the Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR) in which you seek certain records described in your request.

On January 11, 2022, EOIR responded to item 3 of your request.

Pertaining to item 2 of your request, a search was conducted, and no records were found.

Pertaining to item 1, your request as-filed would require the Executive Office for Immigration Review to conduct an unreasonably burdensome search. In order for this Office to respond to your request, EOIR would have to search for a period of 19 months for one of the custodians and 18 months for the other one. The FOIA is not intended to allow requesters to conduct a “fishing expedition” through agency files. *Dale v. IRS*, 238 F. Supp. 2d 99, 104-05 (D.D.C. 2002). This protects the ability of federal agencies to prioritize their resources notwithstanding any obligation to provide access to records under FOIA. *Int’l Counsel Bureau v. U.S. Dep’t of Def.*, 723 F. Supp. 2d 54, 59–60 (D.D.C. 2010). In that regard, your request as-filed is not reasonably described because it is overly broad and would result in an unreasonably burdensome search.

Because your request would require an unreasonably burdensome search and is therefore, not reasonably described, your request is on hold.

I would like to set up a time to discuss your request and explore a way to narrow the scope of item 1. Please let me know when you are available for a phone call, or you can call to my direct phone number (571)326-4838. If we do not hear from you within 30 calendar days of this notice, we will assume that you are no longer interested and your request will be administratively closed.

Sincerely,

Jeniffer Perez Santiago
Attorney Advisor