Wednesday, March 18, 2026 at 2:04:27 PM Eastern Daylight Time

Subject: Re: Public Records Request (FL-FIU-26-0091)
Date: Wednesday, March 18, 2026 at 10:59:06 AM Eastern Daylight Time
From: Madeline Baro
To: AO Records
Category: STATUS, PRODUCTION

EXTERNAL SENDER

Hello Katie,

Regarding your public records request, the documents fall under a federal law enforcement program, we have been asked to refer you to the federal partners to fulfill the request through the FOIA process pursuant to the 287(g) memorandum of agreement for Florida International University readily available from ICE.gov. Please contact **Mike Meares,** Public Affairs Officer, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Office of Public Affairs who can be reached via 813.521.6112 or Christopher.Meares@hsi.dhs.gov and/or Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) | ICE.

Per U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Government Information Law Division, Office of the Principal Legal Advisor:
Although we recognize that FOIA applies only to federal agencies and does not govern state records, the application of federal confidentiality requirements to Florida public records was addressed in the 2023 *Government-In-The-Sunshine Manual*, (http://myfloridalegal.com/webfiles.nsf/wf/mnos-b9qq79/$file/sunshinemanual.pdf) issued by the Florida Office of the Attorney General. The Manual states:

> *Generally, records that would otherwise be public under state law are unavailable for public inspection only when there is an absolute conflict between federal and state law relating to confidentiality of records. If a federal statute requires particular records to be withheld from a public records request, and the state is clearly subject to the provisions of such statute, then pursuant to the Supremacy Clause of the United States Constitution, Art. VI, U.S. Const., the state must keep the records confidential. See Florida Department of Education v. NYT Management Services, Inc., 895 So. 2d 1151 (Fla. 1st DCA 2005) (federal law prohibits public disclosure of social security numbers in state teacher certification database); AGOs 90-102 and 74-372. Compare State ex rel. Cummer v. Pace, 159 So. 679 (Fla. 1935); AGOs 85-03, 81-101, and 80-31. See also Wallace v. Guzman, 687 So. 2d 1351, 1353 (Fla. 3d DCA 1997) (exemptions from disclosure set forth in federal Freedom of Information Act apply to federal agencies but not to state agencies).*

As a result, federal laws that require confidentiality are recognized under Public Records laws.

Best,

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

Madeline Baró, MPA
Florida International University

Senior Director, *Media Relations*
Marketing and Strategic Communications
11200 SW 8th St., PC 519
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Website: https://news.fiu.edu

From: Madeline Baro <mbaro@fiu.edu>
Sent: Tuesday, January 20, 2026 11:45 AM
To: records@americanoversight.org <records@americanoversight.org>
Subject: Re: Public Records Request (FL-FIU-26-0091)

Hi Katie,

We have received your request below for public records. If there is a cost associated with gathering these documents, you will be provided with a good faith estimate of the costs as quickly as possible. If no estimate is necessary, responsive documents will be provided to you within a reasonable period of time.

Madeline Baró, MPA
Florida International University

Senior Director, *Media Relations*
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From: AO Records <records@americanoversight.org>
Sent: Thursday, January 15, 2026 4:55 PM
To: Office of the General Counsel <generalc@fiu.edu>
Subject: Public Records Request (FL-FIU-26-0091)

Note: This message originated from outside the FIU Faculty/Staff email system.

Dear Public Records Officer,

Please find attached a request for records under the Florida Constitution and Florida's public records laws.

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

Sincerely,
Katie Barton

Katherine Barton | She/Her
Paralegal | American Oversight
records@americanoversight.org
www.americanoversight.org | @weareoversight

PRR: FL-FIU-26-0091

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