

Exhibit E

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BY ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION (FOIA PORTAL)
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Director, Office of Information Policy
United States Department of Justice
441 G Street, NW, 6th Floor
Washington, DC 20530-0001
202-514-3642 (FOIA)

Re: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT APPEAL
Request No. 145-FOI-16474 (SBL:ES:HDK)

Dear Director:

This is an administrative appeal made in writing to the Director, Office of Information Policy (OIP), United States Department of Justice, 441 G Street, NW, 6th Floor, Washington, DC 20530-0001, through OIP's FOIA STAR portal.

By letter dated September 16, 2020, I received the response of the Civil Division, Department of Justice, to my Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request, in which I had requested records concerning a case against the Royal Bank of Scotland (RBS), which was first received December 14, 2018.

After an initial denial based on various grounds, including, among others, that the Department of Justice (DOJ) had destroyed responsive records, upon my appeal of that initial denial, and upon the DOJ's remand of my request, the Civil Division continued its search.

Although the Civil Division located 610 pages responsive to my request, it withheld 597 pages in full, raising various new, non-applicable, blanket exemptions from non-disclosure, including trade secrets, unwarranted invasion of privacy, inter-

and intra-agency communications protected by the deliberative process, and unwarranted invasion of personal property.¹

This is an administrative appeal of the Civil Division determination to withhold, in full, 597 pages of the 610 pages of responsive pages discovered by the Civil Division in its search.

Very Truly Yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Victor Hong". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly stylized font.

Victor Hong

¹In addition, the Civil Division referred a mere 13 pages to the Executive Office for United States Attorneys (EOUSA) for processing, which this requester still has not received.