Case 1:22-cv-01000 Document 1-20 Filed 04/11/22 Page 1 of 4

EXHIBIT 20

From:	<u>Italia Patti</u>
То:	"USAEO-FOIA Requests"
Subject:	RE: FOIA Request
Date:	Thursday, June 10, 2021 3:02:00 PM

Hello again,

I am writing to follow up, as I never received a response explaining that the request submitted on March 1, 2021 was a new request, not the one you'd previously (in June 2020) referred to OIP. Could you please give me an update on the status of the request submitted on March 1, 2021? Thanks very much.

Sincerely, Italia

Italia Patti Assistant Federal Defender

From: Italia Patti
Sent: Thursday, March 4, 2021 1:35 PM
To: 'USAEO-FOIA Requests' <USAEO.FOIA.Requests@usdoj.gov>
Subject: RE: FOIA Request

Hello again,

I wanted to let you know that IFCD also submitted a FOIA request for these records to the National Archives and Records Administration, and in an email earlier today, NARA indicated that EOUSA would likely have these records.

As I said, I would be very happy to speak with your FOIA Public Liaison, and left her a voicemail on February 24, but have not heard back. Additionally, when I tried to copy OIP's FOIA Public Liaison, Ms. Villanueva, on the March 2 email I sent you, the email bounced back. So I am not copying her on this email. But as I mentioned, I would be very happy to talk to someone at OIP as well as your office.

Thanks very much for your time and attention to this matter.

Sincerely, Italia

Italia Patti Assistant Federal Defender

From: Italia Patti Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 3:42 PM To: 'USAEO-FOIA Requests' <USAEO.FOIA.Requests@usdoj.gov>
Cc: 'vvillanueva@jmd.usdoj.gov' <<u>vvillanueva@jmd.usdoj.gov</u>>
Subject: RE: FOIA Request

Hello,

Thanks for your email. I hope you are well. This is a new FOIA request, not the one you already responded to (in the correspondence you attached). This request is framed more broadly than the request the IFCD initially submitted, and it aims to provide some additional detail in case that helps your office locate records. Specifically, IFCD included in the new request that it believes a local screening committee assisted in the search/hiring process. That fact (among others) leads IFCD to believe that the local office or EOUSA would have some records. Please search for records responsive to this request.

I understand that your office already referred a similar request (the one referenced in the correspondence you attached) to OIP. OIP recently informed IFCD that it could not locate any responsive records. On February 24, I spoke by phone with the OIP FOIA Public Liaison, Valeree Villanueva, and she indicated that she thought EOUSA was probably the right starting point in locating these records. She gave me the contact information for your office's FOIA Public Liaison, Arla Witte-Simpson. On February 24, I left Ms. Witte-Simpson a voicemail, but have not received a call or email back.

Basically, IFCD is in a situation where EOUSA is saying that OIP would have these kinds of records, and OIP seems to think that EOUSA would have these kinds of records. Neither office located any records, and I am not entirely clear on whether your office ever conducted a search. Can you confirm for me whether your office conducted a search in response to the IFCD's previous request? It is hard to believe that DOJ does not have a single record related to the hiring of a new United States Attorney for the Central District of California. If your office doesn't have them, could you tell me who does? According to OIP, it is not them.

I would be more than happy to discuss this matter by phone. In fact, I would love to speak with someone from your office and someone from OIP together, so we can figure out where records related to hiring a United States Attorney for the Central District of California might be. If there is a different office IFCD needs to request records from, of course IFCD will do that. But so far IFCD has just been ping-ponged back and forth between your office and OIP, and no one has located any records.

I am copying Ms. Villanueva on this email. Thank you very much for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely, Italia

Italia Patti Assistant Federal Defender

Case 1:22-cv-01000 Document 1-20 Filed 04/11/22 Page 4 of 4

From: USAEO-FOIA Requests <<u>USAEO.FOIA.Requests@usdoj.gov</u>>
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 2:08 PM
To: Italia Patti <<u>Italia_Patti@fd.org</u>>; USAEO-FOIA Requests <<u>USAEO.FOIA.Requests@usdoj.gov</u>>
Subject: RE: FOIA Request

Good afternoon Ms. Patti,

This request was referred to OIP since it was seeking information regarding the appointment of a USA. That information is typically handled by OIP or JMD. I have attached a copy of the response letter to requester, the original request, and the referral email.

Please let me know if you have any additional questions. Thank you!

EOUSA FOIA

From: Italia Patti <<u>Italia_Patti@fd.org</u>>
Sent: Monday, March 1, 2021 5:06 PM
To: USAEO-FOIA Requests <<u>USAEO.FOIA.Requests@usa.doj.gov</u>>
Subject: FOIA Request

Hello,

Attached please find a FOIA request from the Indiana Federal Community Defenders.

Thank you, Italia Patti

Italia Patti

Assistant Federal Defender Indiana Federal Community Defenders § 2255 Capital Habeas Unit 317 383 3520

pronouns: she/her/hers