



Shawn Musgrave <smusgrave@revealnews.org>

Re: Request for Materials related to Afghan Evacuation and Post Evacuation Efforts

Najib Aminy <naminy@revealnews.org>

Thu, Feb 17, 2022 at 12:25 PM

To: uscis.foia@uscis.dhs.gov

Cc: Victoria Baranetsky <vbaranetsky@revealnews.org>, Shawn Musgrave <smusgrave@revealnews.org>

USCIS FOIA Program
National Records Center, FOIA/PA Office
P. O. Box 648010
Lee's Summit, MO. 64064-8010

02/17/2022

VIA ELECTRONIC DELIVERY**Re: Request for Materials related to Afghan Evacuation and Post Evacuation Efforts****NEWS MEDIA REQUEST
FEE WAIVER REQUESTED**

Dear Records Custodian:

I am a reporter for The Center for Investigative Reporting (“CIR”), the oldest non-profit investigative newsroom in the country. Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. Section 552) I request the following records:

1. The current database schema, data dictionary, or other reference document(s) regarding all databases used by USCIS to track Humanitarian Parole applications from Afghan Nationals.
2. Data (or other records) that show the number of Humanitarian Parole applications with all relevant fields from Afghan nationals that USCIS received between the period of Jan 1, 2021 to Feb 1, 2022
3. Data (or other records) that show the number of Humanitarian Parole applications with all relevant fields from Afghan nationals that USCIS approved between the period of Jan 1, 2021 to Feb 1, 2022
4. Data (or other records) that show the number of Humanitarian Parole applications with all relevant fields from Afghan nationals that USCIS rejected between the period of Jan 1, 2021 to Feb 1, 2022
5. Data (or other records) that show the number of Humanitarian Parole applications with all relevant fields from Afghan nationals that USCIS “Administratively closed” between the period of Jan 1, 2021 to Feb 1, 2022
6. Data (or other records) that show the number of Humanitarian Parole applications with all relevant fields from Afghan nationals that USCIS is processing and where the status of the application is pending between the period of Jan 1, 2021 to Feb 1, 2022
7. Data (or other records) that show the demographic breakdown of Humanitarian Parole applications USCIS received from Afghan nationals from Jan 1, 2021 to Feb 1, 2022, including

- all relevant fields (including but not limited to: each applicant's gender, sex, age, family unit, children, marital status, applicant's home city, applicant's filing location).
8. Data (or other records) that show the number of Humanitarian Parole applications from Afghan nationals that USCIS denied with all relevant fields (including but not limited to date of denial, type of denial, when the application was received, when the ruling was made)
 9. Data (or other records) that show the average response time, with all relevant fields, for USCIS in receiving, processing and responding to Humanitarian Parole applications from Afghan nationals from Jan 1, 2021 to Feb 1, 2022
 10. Data (or other records) that show the quickest response time, with all relevant fields, for USCIS in receiving, processing and responding to Humanitarian Parole applications from Afghan nationals from Jan 1, 2021 to Feb 1, 2022
 11. Data (or other records) that show the slowest response time, with all relevant fields, for USCIS in receiving, processing and responding to Humanitarian Parole applications from Afghan nationals from Jan 1, 2021 to Feb 1, 2022
 12. Data (or other records) that show the total number of fee waivers (FORM I-912) with all relevant fields that USCIS received, processed and responded to in relation to Humanitarian Parole applications from Afghan Nationals from Jan 1, 2021 to Feb 1, 2022
 13. Data (or other records) that show the response breakdown of fee waivers USCIS received from Afghan nationals from Jan 1, 2021 to Feb 1, 2022, including all relevant fields (including but not limited to accepted, denied, dates received and dates responded to)
 14. Data (or other records) that show the total fees USCIS has collected with all relevant fields from Humanitarian Parole applications from Afghan Nationals from Jan 1, 2021 to Feb 1, 2022
 15. Data (or other records) with all relevant fields that show documents, training materials or rubrics that USCIS has provided to its own internal adjudicators to determine rulings specific to Humanitarian Parole applications (including but not limited to approvals, further evidence needed, administrative review, denials)

As required under FOIA, I request that the agency provide the above records in their native digital format, where applicable (such as a CSV, Excel, or other digital data format), and transferred to me electronically.

News media status and fee waiver

As a reporter for the Center for Investigative Reporting, I qualify as a news media requester for the purpose of fees. *See* 5 U.S.C. 552(a)(4)(A)(ii).

Further, because this request is being made for a journalistic purpose regarding a matter of public interest, I further ask that you waive any fees. *See* 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(4)(A)(iii). Disclosure of information regarding Afghan nationals' applications for humanitarian parole is likely to contribute significantly to public understanding of how USCIS reviewed and granted these applications. This request is not primarily in the commercial interest of myself or CIR.

Additionally, please notify me of costs before taking any billable steps.

Segregability

If you deny this request in whole or in part, I request that you respond with the statutory exemption underlying the denial and the reasoning therein. If an asserted exemption applies to only a portion of a record, please delete or redact the portion to which the exemption applies and provide the remainder of the record, as required under the FOIA.

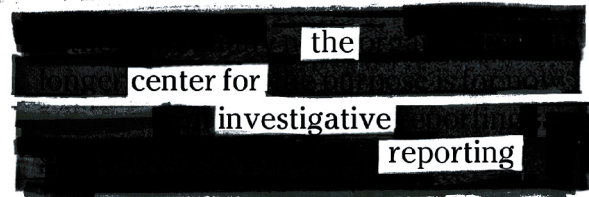
If you have any questions about my request, please do not hesitate to e-mail me or call me. The Center for Investigative Reporting's legal counsel is also copied on this letter. We look forward to a response as quickly as possible under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. Section 552).

Sincerely,

Najib Aminy
Producer, The Center for Investigative Reporting
naminy@revealnews.org

cc: D. Victoria Baranetsky, General Counsel, The Center for Investigative Reporting
Shawn Musgrave, First Amendment Fellow, The Center for Investigative Reporting

 **Reveal_AfghanRefugee_FOIA.pdf**
315K



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