

Exhibit 16



U.S. Department of Justice

Justice Management Division

Office of General Counsel

Washington, D.C. 20530

VIA EMAIL

Morgan Weibel
Executive Director, San Francisco Bay Area
Tahirih Justice Center

RE: JMD FOIA # 125608

Dear Ms. Weibel:

In responding to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request dated July 1, 2020, seeking records relating to the hiring of Appellate Immigration Judges, the Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR) identified 38 pages of interest to the Justice Management Division (JMD) and referred them to the JMD FOIA Office for a determination regarding release.

We have reviewed the 38 pages and have determined that they may be released with redactions under Exemption 5 of the FOIA, 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(5), which covers certain inter- and intra-agency communications protected by the deliberative process privilege. In addition, employee contact information has been redacted under Exemption 6 of the FOIA.

You may contact our FOIA Public Liaison, Karen McFadden at (202) 514-3101 or JMDFOIA@usdoj.gov, for further assistance and to discuss any aspect of your request. Additionally, you may contact the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) at the National Archives and Records Administration to inquire about the FOIA mediation services they offer. The contact information for OGIS is as follows: Office of Government Information Services, National Archives and Records Administration, 8601 Adelphi Road-OGIS, College Park, Maryland 20740-6001, e-mail at ogis@nara.gov; telephone at 202-741-5770; toll free at 1-877-684-6448; or facsimile at 202-741-5769.

If you are not satisfied with JMD's determination in response to this request, you may administratively appeal by writing to the Director, Office of Information Policy (OIP), United States Department of Justice, 441 G Street, NW, 6th Floor, Washington, D.C. 20530, or you may submit an appeal through OIP's FOIA STAR portal by creating an account following the instructions on OIP's website: <https://www.justice.gov/oip/submit-and-track-request-or-appeal>. Your appeal must be postmarked or electronically transmitted within 90 days of the date of my response to your request. If you submit your appeal by mail, both the letter and the envelope should be clearly marked "Freedom of Information Act Appeal."

Sincerely,
**MORTON
POSNER**

Morton J. Posner
Acting General Counsel

Digitally signed by
MORTON POSNER
Date: 2022.03.02
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