Exhibit 26

U.S. Department of Justice

Office of Information Policy
Sixth Floor
441 G Street, NW
Washington, DC 20530-0001

Telephone: (202) 514-3642

Morgan Weibel   October 14, 2020
Tahirih Justice Center
Suite 115
881 Sneath Lane
San Bruno, CA 94066   Re: Appeal No. A-2021-02182

                                         Request No. OIP FOIA 2020-
                                         01596
morgan@tahirih.org   MWH:MGS

VIA: Email

Dear Morgan Weibel:

       You attempted to appeal from the failure of the Initial Request Staff (IR Staff) of the
Office of Information Policy (OIP) to respond to your Freedom of Information Act request for
access to certain records concerning Appellate Immigration Judges that were referred to the IR
Staff by the Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR).

       Department of Justice regulations provide for an administrative appeal to the Office of
Information Policy only after there has been an adverse determination by a component. See 28
C.F.R. 16.8(a) (2019). As no adverse determination has yet been made by the IR Staff, there is
no action for this Office to consider on appeal.

       As you may know, the FOIA authorizes requesters to file a lawsuit when an agency
takes longer than the statutory time period to respond. See 5 U.S.C. 552(a)(6)(C)(i). However,
I can assure you that this Office has contacted the IR Staff and has been advised that your
request is currently being processed. If you are dissatisfied with the IR Staff's final response,
you may appeal again to this Office.

       This Office has forwarded a copy of your letter to the IR Staff. You should contact the
IR Staff's Requester Service Center at (202) 514-3642 for further updates regarding the status
of your request.

       If you have any questions regarding the action this Office has taken on your appeal, you
may contact this Office's FOIA Public Liaison for your appeal. Specifically, you may speak
with the undersigned agency official by calling (202) 514-3642.

Sincerely,

X_____

Matthew Hurd,
Acting Chief, Administrative Appeals Staff