### UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IMMIGRANT INVESTORS ASSOCIATION,	)		
INC., d/b/a INVEST IN THE USA ("IIUSA")	)		
1440 G. St. NW,	)		
Washington, D.C. 20005	)		
_	)		
Plaintiff,	)		
V.	)	Case No.:	
	)		1:24-cv-803
UNITED STATES CITIZENSHIP AND	)		
IMMIGRATION SERVICES ("USCIS"),	)		
5900 Capital Gateway Drive,	)		
Camp Springs, MD 20746,	)		
	)		
Defendant.	)		
	_)		

EXHIBITS TO COMPLAINT FOR DECLARATORY AND INJUNCTIVE RELIEF UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT

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Robert Kraft, President William P. Gresser, Vice President Adam Greene, Secretary-Treasurer Aaron L. Grau, Executive Director

Christine Chen, Director
Eren Cicekdagi, Director
Rush Deacon, Director
Daniel J. Healy, Director
Patrick F. Hogan, Director
Joseph McCarthy, Director



Email: info@iiusa.org Telephone: 202-795-9669 www.iiusa.org Mariza McKee, Director David Souders, Director Abteen Vaziri, Director Cletus M. Weber, Director

K. David Andersson, President Emeritus Stephen Yale-Loehr, President Emeritus Robert C. Divine, Vice President Emeritus Henry Liebman, Director Emeritus Tom Rosenfeld, Director Emeritus Stephen Strnisha, Director Emeritus

VIA EMAIL March 2, 2023

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services National Records Center, FOIA/PA Office P. O. Box 648010 Lee's Summit, MO 64064-8010

**Attention:** SENIOR FOIA OFFICER

### **RE: Freedom of Information Act Request**

To whom it may concern:

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, U.S.C., et Seq., and C.F.R. 103.8 et Seq., I, Ashley Sanislo Casey, as Director of Education and Professional Development, on behalf of the Invest In the USA ("IIUSA"), am hereby making this request for release of information.

### We respectfully request that you please provide the following:

1. Form I-526E receipts, approvals, denials, and withdrawals by country of birth by investment type (high unemployment, rural, infrastructure, or unreserved) from May 15, 2022 through February 28, 2023.

We prefer this data to be given in spreadsheet form and below is an example to help convey the data we are requesting and the format for which it should be disseminated:

Number of I-526E Petitions Received by Country of Birth by Investment Type

Country of Birth	Rural Area	High Unemployment Area	Infrastructure	Unreserved (including C5, T5, I5, R5)
(Country Name)	#	#	#	#

Number of <u>I-526E</u> Petitions <u>Approved</u> by Country of Birth by Investment Type

Country of Birth	Rural Area	High Unemployment Area	
			(including C5, T5, I5, R5)

(Country Name)	#	#	#	#
(Country Maine)	<i>"</i>	π	π	π

Number of <u>I-526E</u> Petitions <u>Denied</u> by Country of Birth by Investment Type

Country of Birth	Rural Area	High Unemployment Area	Infrastructure	Unreserved (including C5, T5, I5, R5)
(Country Name)	#	#	#	#

Number of I-526E Petitions Withdrew by Country of Birth by Investment Type

Country of Birth	Rural Area	High Unemployment Area	Infrastructure	Unreserved (including C5, T5, I5, R5)
(Country Name)	#	#	#	#

IIUSA is a 501(c)(6) not-for-profit trade organization comprised of USCIS designated Regional Center members who manage, operate and promote employment-creating investment into specified regional areas of the United States. As such IIUSA has a vital interest in the information sought in this Freedom of Information Request.

As a trade organization we have no interest in the personal information pertaining to beneficiaries or petitioners. The purpose of this request is to advance and maintain Regional Center industry standards and best practices.

We trust you will find the enclosed in order and sufficient to proceed with this request. I respectfully ask that you conduct a search and forward all records you have on file regarding the above referenced matters to our offices at the address noted on the bottom of the first page.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions. Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Ashley Sanislo Casey

Director of Education & Professional Development

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
National Records Center
P.O. Box 648010
Lee's Summit, MO 64064-8010



March 3, 2023

Ashley Casey 80 M Street SE Suite 100 Washginton, DC 20003

### Dear Ashley Casey:

We received your request for information relating to Form I-526E receipts, approvals, denials, and withdrawals by country of birth by investment type (high unemployment, rural, infrastructure, or unreserved) from May 15, 2022 through February 28, 2023.

Your request was received in this office on March 2, 2023. We may need to contact you at a later date to discuss the scope of your request.

Your request is being handled under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. § 552). It has been assigned the following control number: COW2023001372. Please cite this number in all future correspondence about your request.

We respond to requests on a first-in, first-out basis and on a multi-track system. Your request has been placed in the simple track (Track 1).

Your request for a fee waiver has been granted.

Consistent with 6 C.F.R. § 5.5(a) of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) FOIA regulations, USCIS processes FOIA requests according to their order of receipt. Although USCIS' goal is to respond within 20 business days of receipt of your request, FOIA does permit a 10-day extension of this time period in certain circumstances. Due to the increasing number of FOIA requests received by this office, we may encounter some delay in processing your request. Additionally, due to the scope and nature of your request, USCIS will need to locate, compile, and review responsive records from multiple offices, both at headquarters and in the field. USCIS may also need to consult with another agency or other component of the Department of Homeland Security that have a substantial interest in the responsive information. Due to these unusual circumstances, USCIS will invoke a 10-day extension for your request pursuant to 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(6)(B). Please contact our office if you would like to limit the scope of your request or to agree on a different timetable for the processing of your request. We will make every effort to comply with your request in a timely manner.

The National Records Center (NRC) has the responsibility to ensure that personally identifiable information (PII) pertaining to U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) clients is protected. In our efforts to safeguard this information, we may request that additional information be provided to facilitate and correctly identify records responsive to your request. Though submission of this information is voluntary, without this information, your request may be delayed while additional steps are taken to ensure the correct responsive records are located and processed. Further, if we are unable to positively identify the subject of the record we may be unable to provide records responsive to your FOIA request.

### How to Check the Status of Your Request

You may check the status of your FOIA request online at first.uscis.gov/#/check-status. If you have any questions concerning your pending FOIA/PA request, or to check the status of a pending application or

COW2023001372 Page 2

petition, please call the USCIS Contact Center at 800-375-5283 (TTY 800-767-1833).

### How to Submit Questions or Changes

Questions concerning this FOIA/PA request may be mailed to U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, National Records Center, FOIA/PA Office, P.O. Box 648010, Lee's Summit, MO 64064-8010 or emailed to FOIAPAQuestions@uscis.dhs.gov. All FOIA/PA related requests, including address changes must be submitted in writing, and signed by the requester. Please include the control number listed above on all correspondence. For more information regarding the USCIS FOIA Program, please visit the USCIS website at www.uscis.gov/FOIA.

Sincerely,

Director, FOIA Operations

Cynthia Munita

Robert Kraft, President William P. Gresser, Vice President Adam Greene, Secretary-Treasurer Aaron L. Grau. Executive Director

Christine Chen, Director
Eren Cicekdagi, Director
Rush Deacon, Director
Daniel J. Healy, Director
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Joseph McCarthy, Director



Email: info@iiusa.org Telephone: 202-795-9669 www.iiusa.org Mariza McKee, Director David Souders, Director Abteen Vaziri, Director Cletus M. Weber. Director

K. David Andersson, President Emeritus Stephen Yale-Loehr, President Emeritus Robert C. Divine, Vice President Emeritus Henry Liebman, Director Emeritus Tom Rosenfeld, Director Emeritus Stephen Strnisha, Director Emeritus

VIA EMAIL March 2, 2023

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services National Records Center, FOIA/PA Office P. O. Box 648010 Lee's Summit, MO 64064-8010

**Attention:** SENIOR FOIA OFFICER

### **RE: Freedom of Information Act Request**

To whom it may concern:

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, U.S.C., et Seq., and C.F.R. 103.8 et Seq., I, Ashley Sanislo Casey, as Director of Education and Professional Development, on behalf of the Invest In the USA ("IIUSA"), am hereby making this request for release of information.

### We respectfully request that you please provide the following:

1. Form I-526 receipts, approvals, denials, and withdrawals by country of birth by investment type (high unemployment, rural, infrastructure, or unreserved) from May 15, 2022 through February 28, 2023.

We prefer this data to be given in spreadsheet form and below is an example to help convey the data we are requesting and the format for which it should be disseminated:

Number of I-526 Petitions Received by Country of Birth by Investment Type

Country of Birth	Rural Area	High Unemployment Area	Infrastructure	Unreserved (including C5, T5, I5, R5)
(Country Name)	#	#	#	#

Number of I-526 Petitions Approved by Country of Birth by Investment Type

Country of Birth	Rural Area	High Unemployment Area	Infrastructure	Unreserved (including C5, T5, I5, R5)
(Country Name)	#	#	#	#

Number of I-526 Petitions Denied by Country of Birth by Investment Type

Country of Birth	Rural Area	High Unemployment Area	Infrastructure	Unreserved (including C5, T5, I5, R5)
(Country Name)	#	#	#	#

Number of I-526 Petitions Withdrew by Country of Birth by Investment Type

Country of Birth	Rural Area	High Unemployment Area	Infrastructure	Unreserved (including C5, T5, I5, R5)
(Country Name)	#	#	#	#

IIUSA is a 501(c)(6) not-for-profit trade organization comprised of USCIS designated Regional Center members who manage, operate and promote employment-creating investment into specified regional areas of the United States. As such IIUSA has a vital interest in the information sought in this Freedom of Information Request.

As a trade organization we have no interest in the personal information pertaining to beneficiaries or petitioners. The purpose of this request is to advance and maintain Regional Center industry standards and best practices.

We trust you will find the enclosed in order and sufficient to proceed with this request. I respectfully ask that you conduct a search and forward all records you have on file regarding the above referenced matters to our offices at the address noted on the bottom of the first page.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions. Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Ashley Sanislo Casey

Director of Education & Professional Development

U.S. Department of Homeland Security U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services National Records Center P.O. Box 648010

P.O. Box 648010 Lee's Summit, MO 64064-8010



March 3, 2023

Ashley Casey 80 M Street SE Suite 100 Washington, DC 20003

### Dear Ashley Casey:

We received your request for information relating to Form I-526 receipts, approvals, denials, and withdrawals by country of birth by investment type (high unemployment, rural, infrastructure, or unreserved) from May 15, 2022 through February 28, 2023.

Your request was received in this office on March 2, 2023. We may need to contact you at a later date to discuss the scope of your request.

Your request is being handled under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. § 552). It has been assigned the following control number: COW2023001373. Please cite this number in all future correspondence about your request.

We respond to requests on a first-in, first-out basis and on a multi-track system. Your request has been placed in the simple track (Track 1).

Your request for a fee waiver has been granted.

Consistent with 6 C.F.R. § 5.5(a) of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) FOIA regulations, USCIS processes FOIA requests according to their order of receipt. Although USCIS' goal is to respond within 20 business days of receipt of your request, FOIA does permit a 10-day extension of this time period in certain circumstances. Due to the increasing number of FOIA requests received by this office, we may encounter some delay in processing your request. Additionally, due to the scope and nature of your request, USCIS will need to locate, compile, and review responsive records from multiple offices, both at headquarters and in the field. USCIS may also need to consult with another agency or other component of the Department of Homeland Security that have a substantial interest in the responsive information. Due to these unusual circumstances, USCIS will invoke a 10-day extension for your request pursuant to 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(6)(B). Please contact our office if you would like to limit the scope of your request or to agree on a different timetable for the processing of your request. We will make every effort to comply with your request in a timely manner.

The National Records Center (NRC) has the responsibility to ensure that personally identifiable information (PII) pertaining to U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) clients is protected. In our efforts to safeguard this information, we may request that additional information be provided to facilitate and correctly identify records responsive to your request. Though submission of this information is voluntary, without this information, your request may be delayed while additional steps are taken to ensure the correct responsive records are located and processed. Further, if we are unable to positively identify the subject of the record we may be unable to provide records responsive to your FOIA request.

### How to Check the Status of Your Request

You may check the status of your FOIA request online at first.uscis.gov/#/check-status. If you have any questions concerning your pending FOIA/PA request, or to check the status of a pending application or

COW2023001373

Page 2

petition, please call the USCIS Contact Center at 800-375-5283 (TTY 800-767-1833).

### How to Submit Questions or Changes

Questions concerning this FOIA/PA request may be mailed to U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, National Records Center, FOIA/PA Office, P.O. Box 648010, Lee's Summit, MO 64064-8010 or emailed to FOIAPAQuestions@uscis.dhs.gov. All FOIA/PA related requests, including address changes must be submitted in writing, and signed by the requester. Please include the control number listed above on all correspondence. For more information regarding the USCIS FOIA Program, please visit the USCIS website at www.uscis.gov/FOIA.

Sincerely,

Cynthia Munita

Director, FOIA Operations



William P. Gresser, President Noreen Hogan, Vice President Adam Greene, Secretary-Treasurer Aaron L. Grau, Executive Director Christine Chen, Director
Eren Cicekdagi, Director
Roberto Contreras IV, Director
Lulu Gordon, Director
Daniel J. Healy, Director
Mariza McKee, Director
David Souders, Director
Abteen Vaziri, Director
Cletus M. Weber, Director
Dan Wycklendt, Director

K. David Andersson, President Emeritus
Robert Kraft, President Emeritus
Stephen Yale-Loehr, President Emeritus
Robert C. Divine, Director Emeritus
Patrick F. Hogan, Director Emeritus
Henry Liebman, Director Emeritus
Tom Rosenfeld, Director Emeritus
Stephen Strnisha, Director Emeritus

VIA FIRST July 12, 2023

Document

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services National Records Center, FOIA/PA Office P. O. Box 648010 Lee's Summit, MO 64064-8010

Attention: SENIOR FOIA OFFICER

**RE:** Freedom of Information Act Request

To whom it may concern:

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, U.S.C., et Seq., and C.F.R. 103.8 et Seq., I, Ashley Sanislo Casey, as Director of Education and Professional Development, on behalf of the Invest In the USA ("IIUSA"), am hereby making this request for release of information.

### We respectfully request that you please provide the following:

1. Form I-526E receipts, approvals, denials, and withdrawals by country of birth by investment type (high unemployment, rural, infrastructure, or unreserved) from March1 through June 30, 2023.

We prefer this data to be given in spreadsheet form and below is an example to help convey the data we are requesting and the format for which it should be disseminated:

Number of I-526E Petitions Received by Country of Birth by Investment Type

Country of Birth	Rural Area	High Unemployment Area	Infrastructure	Unreserved (including C5, T5, I5, R5)
(Country Name)	#	#	#	#

Number of I-526E Petitions Approved by Country of Birth by Investment Type

Country of Birth	Rural Area	High Unemployment Area	Infrastructure	Unreserved (including C5, T5, I5, R5)
(Country Name)	#	#	#	#

Number of <u>I-526E</u> Petitions <u>Denied</u> by Country of Birth by Investment Type

Country of Birth	Rural Area	High Unemployment Area	Infrastructure	Unreserved (including C5, T5, I5, R5)
(Country Name)	#	#	#	#

Number of <u>I-526E</u> Petitions <u>Withdrew</u> by Country of Birth by Investment Type

Country of Birth	Rural Area	High Unemployment Area	Infrastructure	Unreserved (including C5, T5, I5, R5)
(Country Name)	#	#	#	#

IIUSA is a 501(c)(6) not-for-profit trade organization comprised of USCIS designated Regional Center members who manage, operate, and promote employment-creating investment into specified regional areas of the United States. As such IIUSA has a vital interest in the information sought in this Freedom of Information Request.

As a trade organization we have no interest in the personal information pertaining to beneficiaries or petitioners. The purpose of this request is to advance and maintain Regional Center industry standards and best practices.

We trust you will find the enclosed in order and sufficient to proceed with this request. I respectfully ask that you conduct a search and forward all records you have on file regarding the above referenced matters to our offices at the address noted on the bottom of the first page.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions. Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Ashley Sanislo Casey

Oshly (dxy

IIUSA Director of Education & Professional Development

U.S. Department of Homeland Security U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services National Records Center P.O. Box 648010

Lee's Summit, MO 64064-8010



March 3, 2023

Ashley Casey 80 M Street SE Suite 100 Washington, DC 20003

### Dear Ashley Casey:

We received your request for information relating to reasons for form I-526 and I-526E requests for evidence (RFE), notices of intent to deny (NOID) and denials from May 15, 2022 thru February 28, 2023.

Your request was received in this office on March 2, 2023. We may need to contact you at a later date to discuss the scope of your request.

Your request is being handled under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. § 552). It has been assigned the following control number: COW2023001387. Please cite this number in all future correspondence about your request.

We respond to requests on a first-in, first-out basis and on a multi-track system. Your request has been placed in the complex track (Track 2).

Your request for a fee waiver has been granted.

Consistent with 6 C.F.R. § 5.5(a) of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) FOIA regulations, USCIS processes FOIA requests according to their order of receipt. Although USCIS' goal is to respond within 20 business days of receipt of your request, FOIA does permit a 10-day extension of this time period in certain circumstances. Due to the increasing number of FOIA requests received by this office, we may encounter some delay in processing your request. Additionally, due to the scope and nature of your request, USCIS will need to locate, compile, and review responsive records from multiple offices, both at headquarters and in the field. USCIS may also need to consult with another agency or other component of the Department of Homeland Security that have a substantial interest in the responsive information. Due to these unusual circumstances, USCIS will invoke a 10-day extension for your request pursuant to 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(6)(B). Please contact our office if you would like to limit the scope of your request or to agree on a different timetable for the processing of your request. We will make every effort to comply with your request in a timely manner.

The National Records Center (NRC) has the responsibility to ensure that personally identifiable information (PII) pertaining to U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) clients is protected. In our efforts to safeguard this information, we may request that additional information be provided to facilitate and correctly identify records responsive to your request. Though submission of this information is voluntary, without this information, your request may be delayed while additional steps are taken to ensure the correct responsive records are located and processed. Further, if we are unable to positively identify the subject of the record we may be unable to provide records responsive to your FOIA request.

### How to Check the Status of Your Request

You may check the status of your FOIA request online at first.uscis.gov/#/check-status. If you have any questions concerning your pending FOIA/PA request, or to check the status of a pending application or petition, please call the USCIS Contact Center at 800-375-5283 (TTY 800-767-1833).

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### **How to Submit Questions or Changes**

Questions concerning this FOIA/PA request may be mailed to U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, National Records Center, FOIA/PA Office, P.O. Box 648010, Lee's Summit, MO 64064-8010 or emailed to FOIAPAQuestions@uscis.dhs.gov. All FOIA/PA related requests, including address changes must be submitted in writing, and signed by the requester. Please include the control number listed above on all correspondence. For more information regarding the USCIS FOIA Program, please visit the USCIS website at www.uscis.gov/FOIA.

Sincerely,

Cynthia Munita

Director, FOIA Operations



William P. Gresser, President Noreen Hogan, Vice President Adam Greene, Secretary-Treasurer Aaron L. Grau, Executive Director Christine Chen, Director
Eren Cicekdagi, Director
Roberto Contreras IV, Director
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Robert Kraft, President Emeritus
Stephen Yale-Loehr, President Emeritus
Robert C. Divine, Director Emeritus
Patrick F. Hogan, Director Emeritus
Henry Liebman, Director Emeritus
Tom Rosenfeld, Director Emeritus
Stephen Strnisha, Director Emeritus

VIA FIRST July 12, 2023

Document

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services National Records Center, FOIA/PA Office P. O. Box 648010 Lee's Summit, MO 64064-8010

Attention: SENIOR FOIA OFFICER

**RE:** Freedom of Information Act Request

To whom it may concern:

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, U.S.C., et Seq., and C.F.R. 103.8 et Seq., I, Ashley Sanislo Casey, as Director of Education and Professional Development, on behalf of the Invest In the USA ("IIUSA"), am hereby making this request for release of information.

### We respectfully request that you please provide the following:

1. Form I-526 receipts, approvals, denials, and withdrawals by country of birth by investment type (high unemployment, rural, infrastructure, or unreserved) from March 1 through June 30, 2023.

We prefer this data to be given in spreadsheet form and below is an example to help convey the data we are requesting and the format for which it should be disseminated:

Number of I-526 Petitions Received by Country of Birth by Investment Type

Country of Birth	Rural Area	High Unemployment Area	Infrastructure	Unreserved (including C5, T5, I5, R5)
(Country Name)	#	#	#	#

Number of I-526 Petitions Approved by Country of Birth by Investment Type

Country of Birth	Rural Area	High Unemployment Area	Infrastructure	Unreserved (including C5, T5, I5, R5)
(Country Name)	#	#	#	#

Number of <u>I-526</u> Petitions <u>Denied</u> by Country of Birth by Investment Type

Country of Birth	Rural Area	High Unemployment Area	Infrastructure	Unreserved (including C5, T5, I5, R5)
(Country Name)	#	#	#	#

Number of <u>I-526</u> Petitions <u>Withdrew</u> by Country of Birth by Investment Type

Country of Birth	Rural Area	High Unemployment Area	Infrastructure	Unreserved (including C5, T5, I5, R5)
(Country Name)	#	#	#	#

IIUSA is a 501(c)(6) not-for-profit trade organization comprised of USCIS designated Regional Center members who manage, operate, and promote employment-creating investment into specified regional areas of the United States. As such IIUSA has a vital interest in the information sought in this Freedom of Information Request.

As a trade organization we have no interest in the personal information pertaining to beneficiaries or petitioners. The purpose of this request is to advance and maintain Regional Center industry standards and best practices.

We trust you will find the enclosed in order and sufficient to proceed with this request. I respectfully ask that you conduct a search and forward all records you have on file regarding the above referenced matters to our offices at the address noted on the bottom of the first page.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions. Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Ashley Sanislo Casey

Oshly (dxy

IIUSA Director of Education & Professional Development

U.S. Department of Homeland Security U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services National Records Center P.O. Box 648010

P.O. Box 648010 Lee's Summit, MO 64064-8010



January 29, 2024

Ashley Casey 80 M Street SE Suite 100 Washington, DC 20003

### Dear Ashley Casey:

This letter is in response to your request for records under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) or Privacy Act (PA), which was received in this office on March 2, 2023, requesting reasons for form I-829 requests for evidence (RFE), notices of intent to deny (NOID), and denials from May 15, 2022 thru February 28, 2023.

The information requested pertains to individuals' form I-829 RFE, NOID and denial letters. This documentation is stored within the individuals' Alien files (A-files). As explained below, USCIS is unable to provide these record without consent from each individual.

Additionally, USCIS is unable to provide a report indicating the reasons for RFE, NOID and denials. USCIS' systems do not capture this information.

After carefully considering your request, we must deny it in its entirety pursuant to 5 U.S.C. § 552 (b)(6).

Exemption (b)(6) permits the government to withhold all information about individuals in personnel, medical and similar files where the disclosure of such information would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy. The types of documents and/or information that we have withheld may consist of birth certificates, naturalization certificates, drivers' licenses, social security numbers, home addresses, dates of birth, or various other documents and/or information belonging to a third party that are considered personal.

In order to obtain these records your request must demonstrate one or more of the following criteria:

- Written authorization from the individual(s) permitting disclosure of the records to you, which consists of a written statement from the records' subject(s) stating his/her full name, current address, and date and place of birth. Additionally, the written statement must be signed by the records' subject(s) and the signature must either be notarized or signed under penalty of perjury;
- Proof of parentage with the parent's verification of identity if the subject of record is a minor at the time of the request;
- Proof of court-appointed guardianship with the guardian's verification of identity;
- Proof that the subject(s) of your request is deceased; or
- A clear demonstration that the public interest in disclosure outweighs the personal privacy interest(s) of the individual(s) and that significant public benefit would result from the disclosure of the requested records.

When a FOIA requester seeks information about individuals in personnel, medical, and similar files FOIA Exemption 6 protects from disclosure information that, if released, would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy. To determine whether the disclosure of personal information would constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy, Exemption 6 requires the government to balance

COW2023001388 Page 2

the privacy interests of individuals that would be compromised by disclosure of government records about them against the public interest in release of the records. The only relevant public interest to be considered is the extent to which the requested information sheds light on the agency's performance of its statutory duties. Where the privacy interest outweighs the public, the information is protected from disclosure. In the absence of written authorization permitting disclosure of the records to you, proof that the subject is deceased, or a demonstration of a public interest that would outweigh the subject's privacy interest, you are not entitled to the requested records under the FOIA.

You have the right to file an administrative appeal within 90 days of the date of this letter. By filing an appeal, you preserve your rights under FOIA and give the agency a chance to review and reconsider your request and the agency's decision. You may file an administrative FOIA appeal by mail to USCIS FOIA/PA Appeals Office, 150 Space Center Loop, Suite 500, Lee's Summit, MO 64064-2139. Both the letter and the envelope should be clearly marked "Freedom of Information Act Appeal."

If you would like to discuss our response before filing an appeal to attempt to resolve your dispute without going through the appeals process, you may contact our USCIS FOIA Public Liaison at U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, National Records Center, FOIA/PA Office, P.O. Box 648010, Lee's Summit, MO 64064-8010, or by email at FOIAPAQuestions@uscis.dhs.gov.

A USCIS FOIA Public Liaison is an agency official to whom FOIA requesters can raise concerns about the service the requester has received from the agency's FOIA Office. USCIS FOIA Public Liaisons are responsible for assisting in reducing delays, increasing transparency, and understanding of the status of requests, and assisting in the resolution of disputes.

If you are unable to resolve your FOIA dispute through our USCIS FOIA Public Liaison, 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 Office of Government Information Services, National Archives and Records Administration, 8601 Adelphi Road-OGIS, College Park, Maryland 20740-6001; email ogis@nara.gov; telephone 202-741-5770; toll free 877-684-6448; or facsimile 202-741-5769.

Sincerely,

Jarrod T Panter

Acting Chief FOIA Officer

Freedom of Information Act & Privacy Act Unit

U.S. Department of Homeland Security U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services National Records Center P.O. Box 648010



March 3, 2023

Ashley Casey 80 M Street SE Suite 100 Washington, DC 20003

### Dear Ashley Casey:

We received your request for information relating to the reasons for form I-829 requests for evidence (RFE), notices of intent to deny (NOID) and denials from May 15, 2022 thru February 28, 2023.

Your request was received in this office on March 2, 2023. We may need to contact you at a later date to discuss the scope of your request.

Your request is being handled under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. § 552). It has been assigned the following control number: COW2023001388. Please cite this number in all future correspondence about your request.

We respond to requests on a first-in, first-out basis and on a multi-track system. Your request has been placed in the complex track (Track 2).

Your request for a fee waiver has been granted.

Consistent with 6 C.F.R. § 5.5(a) of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) FOIA regulations, USCIS processes FOIA requests according to their order of receipt. Although USCIS' goal is to respond within 20 business days of receipt of your request, FOIA does permit a 10-day extension of this time period in certain circumstances. Due to the increasing number of FOIA requests received by this office, we may encounter some delay in processing your request. Additionally, due to the scope and nature of your request, USCIS will need to locate, compile, and review responsive records from multiple offices, both at headquarters and in the field. USCIS may also need to consult with another agency or other component of the Department of Homeland Security that have a substantial interest in the responsive information. Due to these unusual circumstances, USCIS will invoke a 10-day extension for your request pursuant to 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(6)(B). Please contact our office if you would like to limit the scope of your request or to agree on a different timetable for the processing of your request. We will make every effort to comply with your request in a timely manner.

The National Records Center (NRC) has the responsibility to ensure that personally identifiable information (PII) pertaining to U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) clients is protected. In our efforts to safeguard this information, we may request that additional information be provided to facilitate and correctly identify records responsive to your request. Though submission of this information is voluntary, without this information, your request may be delayed while additional steps are taken to ensure the correct responsive records are located and processed. Further, if we are unable to positively identify the subject of the record we may be unable to provide records responsive to your FOIA request.

### How to Check the Status of Your Request

You may check the status of your FOIA request online at first.uscis.gov/#/check-status. If you have any questions concerning your pending FOIA/PA request, or to check the status of a pending application or petition, please call the USCIS Contact Center at 800-375-5283 (TTY 800-767-1833).

COW2023001388 Page 2

### **How to Submit Questions or Changes**

Questions concerning this FOIA/PA request may be mailed to U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, National Records Center, FOIA/PA Office, P.O. Box 648010, Lee's Summit, MO 64064-8010 or emailed to FOIAPAQuestions@uscis.dhs.gov. All FOIA/PA related requests, including address changes must be submitted in writing, and signed by the requester. Please include the control number listed above on all correspondence. For more information regarding the USCIS FOIA Program, please visit the USCIS website at www.uscis.gov/FOIA.

Sincerely,

Cynthia Munita

Director, FOIA Operations



ABJ Document 1
William P. Gresser,
President
Noreen Hogan,
Vice President
Adam Greene,
Secretary-Treasurer
Aaron L. Grau,
Executive Director

Christine Chen, Director
Eren Cicekdagi, Director
Roberto Contreras IV, Director
Lulu Gordon, Director
Daniel J. Healy, Director
Mariza McKee, Director
David Souders, Director
Abteen Vaziri, Director
Cletus M. Weber, Director
Dan Wycklendt, Director

K. David Andersson, President Emeritus Robert Kraft, President Emeritus Stephen Yale-Loehr, President Emeritus Robert C. Divine, Director Emeritus Patrick F. Hogan, Director Emeritus Henry Liebman, Director Emeritus Tom Rosenfeld, Director Emeritus Stephen Strnisha, Director Emeritus

VIA FIRST August 1, 2023

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services National Records Center, FOIA/PA Office P. O. Box 648010 Lee's Summit, MO 64064-8010

Attention: SENIOR FOIA OFFICER

**RE: Freedom of Information Act Request** 

To whom it may concern:

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, U.S.C., et Seq., and C.F.R. 103.8 et Seq., I, Ashley Sanislo Casey, as Director of Education and Professional Development, on behalf of the Invest in the USA ("IIUSA"), am hereby making this request for release of information.

### We respectfully request that you please provide the following:

1. Form I-526E receipts, approvals, denials, and withdrawals by country of birth by investment type (high unemployment, rural, infrastructure, or unreserved) from July 1-31, 2023.

We prefer this data to be given in spreadsheet form and below is an example to help convey the data we are requesting and the format for which it should be disseminated:

Number of I-526E Petitions Received by Country of Birth by Investment Type

Country of Birth	Rural Area	High Unemployment Area	Infrastructure	Unreserved (including C5, T5, I5, R5)
(Country Name)	#	#	#	#

Number of I-526E Petitions Approved by Country of Birth by Investment Type

Country of Birth	Rural Area	High Unemployment Area	Infrastructure	Unreserved (including C5, T5, I5, R5)
(Country Name)	#	#	#	#

Number of I-526E Petitions Denied by Country of Birth by Investment Type

Country of Birth	Rural Area	High Unemployment Area	Infrastructure	Unreserved (including C5, T5, I5, R5)
(Country Name)	#	#	#	#

Number of **I-526E** Petitions **Withdrew** by Country of Birth by Investment Type

Country of Birth	Rural Area	High Unemployment Area	Infrastructure	Unreserved (including C5, T5, I5, R5)
(Country Name)	#	#	#	#

IIUSA is a 501(c)(6) not-for-profit trade organization comprised of USCIS designated Regional Center members who manage, operate, and promote employment-creating investment into specified regional areas of the United States. As such IIUSA has a vital interest in the information sought in this Freedom of Information Request.

As a trade organization we have no interest in the personal information pertaining to beneficiaries or petitioners. The purpose of this request is to advance and maintain Regional Center industry standards and best practices.

We trust you will find the enclosed in order and sufficient to proceed with this request. I respectfully ask that you conduct a search and forward all records you have on file regarding the above referenced matters to our offices at the address noted on the bottom of the first page.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions at <a href="mailto:ashley.casey@iiusa.org">ashley.casey@iiusa.org</a> or 202-795-9664. Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Oshly (drey

Ashley Sanislo Casey

IIUSA Director of Education & Professional Development

U.S. Department of Homeland Security U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services National Records Center P.O. Box 648010

Lee's Summit, MO 64064-8010



August 2, 2023

Ashley Casey 80 M Street SE Suite 100 Washington, DC 20003

Dear Ashley Casey:

We received your request for information relating to:

1. Form I-526E receipts, approvals, denials, and withdrawals by country of birth by investment type (high unemployment, rural, infrastructure, or unreserved) from July 1-31, 2023.

Your request was received in this office on August 2, 2023. We may need to contact you at a later date to discuss the scope of your request.

Your request is being handled under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. § 552). It has been assigned the following control number: COW2023005250. Please cite this number in all future correspondence about your request.

We respond to requests on a first-in, first-out basis and on a multi-track system. Your request has been placed in the simple track (Track 1).

Your request for a fee waiver has been granted.

Consistent with 6 C.F.R. § 5.5(a) of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) FOIA regulations, USCIS processes FOIA requests according to their order of receipt. Although USCIS' goal is to respond within 20 business days of receipt of your request, FOIA does permit a 10-day extension of this time period in certain circumstances. Due to the increasing number of FOIA requests received by this office, we may encounter some delay in processing your request. Additionally, due to the scope and nature of your request, USCIS will need to locate, compile, and review responsive records from multiple offices, both at headquarters and in the field. USCIS may also need to consult with another agency or other component of the Department of Homeland Security that have a substantial interest in the responsive information. Due to these unusual circumstances, USCIS will invoke a 10-day extension for your request pursuant to 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(6)(B). Please contact our office if you would like to limit the scope of your request or to agree on a different timetable for the processing of your request. We will make every effort to comply with your request in a timely manner.

The National Records Center (NRC) has the responsibility to ensure that personally identifiable information (PII) pertaining to U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) clients is protected. In our efforts to safeguard this information, we may request that additional information be provided to facilitate and correctly identify records responsive to your request. Though submission of this information is voluntary, without this information, your request may be delayed while additional steps are taken to ensure the correct responsive records are located and processed. Further, if we are unable to positively identify the subject of the record we may be unable to provide records responsive to your FOIA request.

### How to Check the Status of Your Request

You may check the status of your FOIA request online at first.uscis.gov/#/check-status. If you have any

COW2023005250

Page 2

questions concerning your pending FOIA/PA request, or to check the status of a pending application or petition, please call the USCIS Contact Center at 800-375-5283 (TTY 800-767-1833).

### How to Submit Questions or Changes

Questions concerning this FOIA/PA request may be mailed to U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, National Records Center, FOIA/PA Office, P.O. Box 648010, Lee's Summit, MO 64064-8010 or emailed to FOIAPAQuestions@uscis.dhs.gov. All FOIA/PA related requests, including address changes must be submitted in writing, and signed by the requester. Please include the control number listed above on all correspondence. For more information regarding the USCIS FOIA Program, please visit the USCIS website at www.uscis.gov/FOIA.

Sincerely,

Cmunita

Cynthia Munita

Chief FOIA Officer

Freedom of Information Act & Privacy Act Unit



Christine Chen, Director
Eren Cicekdagi, Director
Roberto Contreras IV, Director
Lulu Gordon, Director
Daniel J. Healy, Director
Mariza McKee, Director
David Souders, Director
Abteen Vaziri, Director
Cletus M. Weber, Director
Dan Wycklendt, Director

K. David Andersson, President Emeritus Robert Kraft, President Emeritus Stephen Yale-Loehr, President Emeritus Robert C. Divine, Director Emeritus Patrick F. Hogan, Director Emeritus Henry Liebman, Director Emeritus Tom Rosenfeld, Director Emeritus Stephen Strnisha, Director Emeritus

VIA FIRST August 1, 2023

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services National Records Center, FOIA/PA Office P. O. Box 648010 Lee's Summit, MO 64064-8010

Attention: SENIOR FOIA OFFICER

**RE: Freedom of Information Act Request** 

To whom it may concern:

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, U.S.C., et Seq., and C.F.R. 103.8 et Seq., I, Ashley Sanislo Casey, as Director of Education and Professional Development, on behalf of the Invest in the USA ("IIUSA"), am hereby making this request for release of information.

# We respectfully request that you please provide the following:

1. Form I-526 receipts, approvals, denials, and withdrawals by country of birth by investment type (high unemployment, rural, infrastructure, or unreserved) from July 1-31, 2023.

We prefer this data to be given in spreadsheet form and below is an example to help convey the data we are requesting and the format for which it should be disseminated:

Number of I-526 Petitions Received by Country of Birth by Investment Type

Country of Birth	Rural Area	High Unemployment Area	Infrastructure	Unreserved (including C5, T5, I5, R5)
(Country Name)	#	#	#	#

Number of **I-526** Petitions **Approved** by Country of Birth by Investment Type

Country of Birth	Rural Area	High Unemployment Area	Infrastructure	Unreserved (including C5, T5, I5, R5)
(Country Name)	#	#	#	#

Number of <u>I-526</u> Petitions <u>Denied</u> by Country of Birth by Investment Type

Country of Birth	Rural Area	High Unemployment Area	Infrastructure	Unreserved (including C5, T5, I5, R5)
(Country Name)	#	#	#	#

Number of <u>I-526</u> Petitions <u>Withdrew</u> by Country of Birth by Investment Type

Country of Birth	Rural Area	High Unemployment Area	Infrastructure	Unreserved (including C5, T5, I5, R5)
(Country Name)	#	#	#	#

IIUSA is a 501(c)(6) not-for-profit trade organization comprised of USCIS designated Regional Center members who manage, operate, and promote employment-creating investment into specified regional areas of the United States. As such IIUSA has a vital interest in the information sought in this Freedom of Information Request.

As a trade organization we have no interest in the personal information pertaining to beneficiaries or petitioners. The purpose of this request is to advance and maintain Regional Center industry standards and best practices.

We trust you will find the enclosed in order and sufficient to proceed with this request. I respectfully ask that you conduct a search and forward all records you have on file regarding the above referenced matters to our offices at the address noted on the bottom of the first page.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions at <a href="mailto:ashley.casey@iiusa.org">ashley.casey@iiusa.org</a> or 202-795-9664. Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Oshly (drey

Ashley Sanislo Casey

U.S. Department of Homeland Security U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services National Records Center P.O. Box 648010

P.O. Box 648010 Lee's Summit, MO 64064-8010



August 2, 2023

Casey Ashley 80 M Street SE Suite 100 Washington, DC 20003

Dear Casey Ashley:

We received your request for information relating to:

TACHED DOCUMENT FOR THE FULL SCOPE OF THE REQUEST. 1.Form I-526 receipts, approvals, denials, and withdrawals by country of birth by investment type (high unemployment, rural, infrastructure, or unreserved) from July 1-31, 2023.

Your request was received in this office on August 2, 2023. We may need to contact you at a later date to discuss the scope of your request.

Your request is being handled under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. § 552). It has been assigned the following control number: COW2023005255. Please cite this number in all future correspondence about your request.

We respond to requests on a first-in, first-out basis and on a multi-track system. Your request has been placed in the simple track (Track 1).

Your request for a fee waiver has been granted.

Consistent with 6 C.F.R. § 5.5(a) of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) FOIA regulations, USCIS processes FOIA requests according to their order of receipt. Although USCIS' goal is to respond within 20 business days of receipt of your request, FOIA does permit a 10-day extension of this time period in certain circumstances. Due to the increasing number of FOIA requests received by this office, we may encounter some delay in processing your request. Additionally, due to the scope and nature of your request, USCIS will need to locate, compile, and review responsive records from multiple offices, both at headquarters and in the field. USCIS may also need to consult with another agency or other component of the Department of Homeland Security that have a substantial interest in the responsive information. Due to these unusual circumstances, USCIS will invoke a 10-day extension for your request pursuant to 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(6)(B). Please contact our office if you would like to limit the scope of your request or to agree on a different timetable for the processing of your request. We will make every effort to comply with your request in a timely manner.

The National Records Center (NRC) has the responsibility to ensure that personally identifiable information (PII) pertaining to U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) clients is protected. In our efforts to safeguard this information, we may request that additional information be provided to facilitate and correctly identify records responsive to your request. Though submission of this information is voluntary, without this information, your request may be delayed while additional steps are taken to ensure the correct responsive records are located and processed. Further, if we are unable to positively identify the subject of the record we may be unable to provide records responsive to your FOIA request.

How to Check the Status of Your Request

COW2023005255

Page 2

You may check the status of your FOIA request online at first.uscis.gov/#/check-status. If you have any questions concerning your pending FOIA/PA request, or to check the status of a pending application or petition, please call the USCIS Contact Center at 800-375-5283 (TTY 800-767-1833).

# How to Submit Questions or Changes

Questions concerning this FOIA/PA request may be mailed to U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, National Records Center, FOIA/PA Office, P.O. Box 648010, Lee's Summit, MO 64064-8010 or emailed to FOIAPAQuestions@uscis.dhs.gov. All FOIA/PA related requests, including address changes must be submitted in writing, and signed by the requester. Please include the control number listed above on all correspondence. For more information regarding the USCIS FOIA Program, please visit the USCIS website at www.uscis.gov/FOIA.

Sincerely,

Cynthia Munita

Chief FOIA Officer

# EXH. 7



Christine Chen, Director
Eren Cicekdagi, Director
Roberto Contreras IV, Director
Lulu Gordon, Director
Daniel J. Healy, Director
Mariza McKee, Director
David Souders, Director
Cletus M. Weber, Director
Dan Wycklendt, Director

K. David Andersson, President Emeritus
Robert Kraft, President Emeritus
Stephen Yale-Loehr, President Emeritus
Robert C. Divine, Director Emeritus
Patrick F. Hogan, Director Emeritus
Henry Liebman, Director Emeritus
Tom Rosenfeld, Director Emeritus
Stephen Strnisha, Director Emeritus

VIA FIRST September 6, 2023

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services National Records Center, FOIA/PA Office P. O. Box 648010 Lee's Summit, MO 64064-8010

Attention: SENIOR FOIA OFFICER

**RE: Freedom of Information Act Request** 

To whom it may concern:

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, U.S.C., et Seq., and C.F.R. 103.8 et Seq., I, Ashley Sanislo Casey, as Director of Education and Professional Development, on behalf of the Invest in the USA ("IIUSA"), am hereby making this request for release of information.

# We respectfully request that you please provide the following:

1. Form I-526E receipts, approvals, denials, and withdrawals by country of birth by investment type (high unemployment, rural, infrastructure, or unreserved) from August 1-31, 2023.

We prefer this data to be given in spreadsheet form and below is an example to help convey the data we are requesting and the format for which it should be disseminated:

Number of I-526E Petitions Received by Country of Birth by Investment Type

Country of Birth	Rural Area	High Unemployment Area	Infrastructure	Unreserved (including C5, T5, I5, R5)
(Country Name)	#	#	#	#

Number of I-526E Petitions Approved by Country of Birth by Investment Type

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Country of Birth	Rural Area	High Unemployment Area	Infrastructure	Unreserved (including C5, T5, I5, R5)
(Country Name)	#	#	#	#

Number of <u>I-526E</u> Petitions <u>Denied</u> by Country of Birth by Investment Type

Country of Birth	Rural Area	High Unemployment Area	Infrastructure	Unreserved (including C5, T5, I5, R5)
(Country Name)	#	#	#	#

Number of **I-526E** Petitions **Withdrew** by Country of Birth by Investment Type

Country of Birth	Rural Area	High Unemployment Area	Infrastructure	Unreserved (including C5, T5, I5, R5)
(Country Name)	#	#	#	#

IIUSA is a 501(c)(6) not-for-profit trade organization comprised of USCIS designated Regional Center members who manage, operate, and promote employment-creating investment into specified regional areas of the United States. As such IIUSA has a vital interest in the information sought in this Freedom of Information Request.

As a trade organization we have no interest in the personal information pertaining to beneficiaries or petitioners. The purpose of this request is to advance and maintain Regional Center industry standards and best practices.

We trust you will find the enclosed in order and sufficient to proceed with this request. I respectfully ask that you conduct a search and forward all records you have on file regarding the above referenced matters to our offices at the address noted on the bottom of the first page.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions at <a href="mailto:ashley.casey@iiusa.org">ashley.casey@iiusa.org</a> or 202-795-9664. Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Oshly (drey

Ashley Sanislo Casey

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
National Records Center
P.O. Box 648010
Lee's Summit, MO 64064-8010



September 7, 2023

Casey Ashley 80 M Street SE Suite 100 Washington, DC 20003

Dear Casey Ashley:

We received your request for information relating to:

1. Form I-526E receipts, approvals, denials, and withdrawals by country of birth by investment type (high unemployment, rural, infrastructure, or unreserved) from August 1-31, 2023.

Your request was received in this office on September 6, 2023. We may need to contact you at a later date to discuss the scope of your request.

Your request is being handled under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. § 552). It has been assigned the following control number: COW2023006076. Please cite this number in all future correspondence about your request.

We respond to requests on a first-in, first-out basis and on a multi-track system. Your request has been placed in the simple track (Track 1).

Your request for a fee waiver has been granted.

Consistent with 6 C.F.R. § 5.5(a) of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) FOIA regulations, USCIS processes FOIA requests according to their order of receipt. Although USCIS' goal is to respond within 20 business days of receipt of your request, FOIA does permit a 10-day extension of this time period in certain circumstances. Due to the increasing number of FOIA requests received by this office, we may encounter some delay in processing your request. Additionally, due to the scope and nature of your request, USCIS will need to locate, compile, and review responsive records from multiple offices, both at headquarters and in the field. USCIS may also need to consult with another agency or other component of the Department of Homeland Security that have a substantial interest in the responsive information. Due to these unusual circumstances, USCIS will invoke a 10-day extension for your request pursuant to 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(6)(B). Please contact our office if you would like to limit the scope of your request or to agree on a different timetable for the processing of your request. We will make every effort to comply with your request in a timely manner.

The National Records Center (NRC) has the responsibility to ensure that personally identifiable information (PII) pertaining to U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) clients is protected. In our efforts to safeguard this information, we may request that additional information be provided to facilitate and correctly identify records responsive to your request. Though submission of this information is voluntary, without this information, your request may be delayed while additional steps are taken to ensure the correct responsive records are located and processed. Further, if we are unable to positively identify the subject of the record we may be unable to provide records responsive to your FOIA request.

#### How to Check the Status of Your Request

You may check the status of your FOIA request online at first.uscis.gov/#/check-status. If you have any

COW2023006076

Page 2

questions concerning your pending FOIA/PA request, or to check the status of a pending application or petition, please call the USCIS Contact Center at 800-375-5283 (TTY 800-767-1833).

#### How to Submit Questions or Changes

Questions concerning this FOIA/PA request may be mailed to U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, National Records Center, FOIA/PA Office, P.O. Box 648010, Lee's Summit, MO 64064-8010 or emailed to FOIAPAQuestions@uscis.dhs.gov. All FOIA/PA related requests, including address changes must be submitted in writing, and signed by the requester. Please include the control number listed above on all correspondence. For more information regarding the USCIS FOIA Program, please visit the USCIS website at www.uscis.gov/FOIA.

Sincerely,

Jarrod T Panter

Acting Chief FOIA Officer

# EXH. 8



Christine Chen, Director
Eren Cicekdagi, Director
Roberto Contreras IV, Director
Lulu Gordon, Director
Daniel J. Healy, Director
Mariza McKee, Director
David Souders, Director
Cletus M. Weber, Director
Dan Wycklendt, Director

K. David Andersson, President Emeritus
Robert Kraft, President Emeritus
Stephen Yale-Loehr, President Emeritus
Robert C. Divine, Director Emeritus
Patrick F. Hogan, Director Emeritus
Henry Liebman, Director Emeritus
Tom Rosenfeld, Director Emeritus
Stephen Strnisha, Director Emeritus

VIA FIRST September 6, 2023

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services National Records Center, FOIA/PA Office P. O. Box 648010 Lee's Summit, MO 64064-8010

Attention: SENIOR FOIA OFFICER

**RE: Freedom of Information Act Request** 

To whom it may concern:

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, U.S.C., et Seq., and C.F.R. 103.8 et Seq., I, Ashley Sanislo Casey, as Director of Education and Professional Development, on behalf of the Invest in the USA ("IIUSA"), am hereby making this request for release of information.

# We respectfully request that you please provide the following:

1. Form I-526 receipts, approvals, denials, and withdrawals by country of birth by investment type (high unemployment, rural, infrastructure, or unreserved) from August 1-31, 2023.

We prefer this data to be given in spreadsheet form and below is an example to help convey the data we are requesting and the format for which it should be disseminated:

Number of <u>I-526</u> Petitions <u>Received</u> by Country of Birth by Investment Type

Country of Birth	Rural Area	High Unemployment Area	Infrastructure	Unreserved (including C5, T5, I5, R5)
(Country Name)	#	#	#	#

Number of **I-526** Petitions **Approved** by Country of Birth by Investment Type

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Country of Birth	Rural Area	High Unemployment Area	Infrastructure	Unreserved (including C5, T5, I5, R5)
(Country Name)	#	#	#	#

Number of **I-526** Petitions **Denied** by Country of Birth by Investment Type

Country of Birth	Rural Area	High Unemployment Area	Infrastructure	Unreserved (including C5, T5, I5, R5)
(Country Name)	#	#	#	#

Number of <u>I-526</u> Petitions <u>Withdrew</u> by Country of Birth by Investment Type

Country of Birth	Rural Area	High Unemployment Area	Infrastructure	Unreserved (including C5, T5, I5, R5)
(Country Name)	#	#	#	#

IIUSA is a 501(c)(6) not-for-profit trade organization comprised of USCIS designated Regional Center members who manage, operate, and promote employment-creating investment into specified regional areas of the United States. As such IIUSA has a vital interest in the information sought in this Freedom of Information Request.

As a trade organization we have no interest in the personal information pertaining to beneficiaries or petitioners. The purpose of this request is to advance and maintain Regional Center industry standards and best practices.

We trust you will find the enclosed in order and sufficient to proceed with this request. I respectfully ask that you conduct a search and forward all records you have on file regarding the above referenced matters to our offices at the address noted on the bottom of the first page.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions at <a href="mailto:ashley.casey@iiusa.org">ashley.casey@iiusa.org</a> or 202-795-9664. Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Oshly (drey

Ashley Sanislo Casey

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
National Records Center
P.O. Box 648010
Lee's Summit, MO 64064-8010



September 7, 2023

Casey Ashley 80 M Street SE Suite 100 Washington, DC 20003

Dear Casey Ashley:

We received your request for information relating to:

1. Form I-526 receipts, approvals, denials, and withdrawals by country of birth by investment type (high unemployment, rural, infrastructure, or unreserved) from August 1-31, 2023.

Your request was received in this office on September 6, 2023. We may need to contact you at a later date to discuss the scope of your request.

Your request is being handled under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. § 552). It has been assigned the following control number: COW2023006077. Please cite this number in all future correspondence about your request.

We respond to requests on a first-in, first-out basis and on a multi-track system. Your request has been placed in the simple track (Track 1).

Your request for a fee waiver has been granted.

Consistent with 6 C.F.R. § 5.5(a) of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) FOIA regulations, USCIS processes FOIA requests according to their order of receipt. Although USCIS' goal is to respond within 20 business days of receipt of your request, FOIA does permit a 10-day extension of this time period in certain circumstances. Due to the increasing number of FOIA requests received by this office, we may encounter some delay in processing your request. Additionally, due to the scope and nature of your request, USCIS will need to locate, compile, and review responsive records from multiple offices, both at headquarters and in the field. USCIS may also need to consult with another agency or other component of the Department of Homeland Security that have a substantial interest in the responsive information. Due to these unusual circumstances, USCIS will invoke a 10-day extension for your request pursuant to 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(6)(B). Please contact our office if you would like to limit the scope of your request or to agree on a different timetable for the processing of your request. We will make every effort to comply with your request in a timely manner.

The National Records Center (NRC) has the responsibility to ensure that personally identifiable information (PII) pertaining to U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) clients is protected. In our efforts to safeguard this information, we may request that additional information be provided to facilitate and correctly identify records responsive to your request. Though submission of this information is voluntary, without this information, your request may be delayed while additional steps are taken to ensure the correct responsive records are located and processed. Further, if we are unable to positively identify the subject of the record we may be unable to provide records responsive to your FOIA request.

#### How to Check the Status of Your Request

You may check the status of your FOIA request online at first.uscis.gov/#/check-status. If you have any

COW2023006077

Page 2

questions concerning your pending FOIA/PA request, or to check the status of a pending application or petition, please call the USCIS Contact Center at 800-375-5283 (TTY 800-767-1833).

#### How to Submit Questions or Changes

Questions concerning this FOIA/PA request may be mailed to U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, National Records Center, FOIA/PA Office, P.O. Box 648010, Lee's Summit, MO 64064-8010 or emailed to FOIAPAQuestions@uscis.dhs.gov. All FOIA/PA related requests, including address changes must be submitted in writing, and signed by the requester. Please include the control number listed above on all correspondence. For more information regarding the USCIS FOIA Program, please visit the USCIS website at www.uscis.gov/FOIA.

Sincerely,

Jarrod T Panter

Acting Chief FOIA Officer

# EXH. 9



Christine Chen, Director
Eren Cicekdagi, Director
Roberto Contreras IV, Director
Lulu Gordon, Director
Daniel J. Healy, Director
Mariza McKee, Director
David Souders, Director
Cletus M. Weber, Director
Dan Wycklendt, Director

K. David Andersson, President Emeritus
Robert Kraft, President Emeritus
Stephen Yale-Loehr, President Emeritus
Robert C. Divine, Director Emeritus
Patrick F. Hogan, Director Emeritus
Henry Liebman, Director Emeritus
Tom Rosenfeld, Director Emeritus
Stephen Strnisha, Director Emeritus

VIA FIRST November 2, 2023

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services National Records Center, FOIA/PA Office P. O. Box 648010 Lee's Summit, MO 64064-8010

Attention: SENIOR FOIA OFFICER

**RE: Freedom of Information Act Request** 

To whom it may concern:

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, U.S.C., et Seq., and C.F.R. 103.8 et Seq., I, Ashley Sanislo Casey, as Director of Education and Professional Development, on behalf of the Invest in the USA ("IIUSA"), am hereby making this request for release of information.

# We respectfully request that you please provide the following:

 Form I-526E receipts, approvals, denials, and withdrawals by country of birth by investment type (high unemployment, rural, infrastructure, or unreserved) from September 1 through October 31, 2023.

We prefer this data to be given in spreadsheet form and below is an example to help convey the data we are requesting and the format for which it should be disseminated:

Number of I-526E Petitions Received by Country of Birth by Investment Type

Country of Birth	Rural Area	High Unemployment Area	Infrastructure	Unreserved (including C5, T5, I5, R5)
(Country Name)	#	#	#	#

Number of I-526E Petitions Approved by Country of Birth by Investment Type

Country of Birth	Rural Area	High Unemployment Area	Infrastructure	Unreserved (including C5, T5, I5, R5)
(Country Name)	#	#	#	#

Number of <u>I-526E</u> Petitions <u>Denied</u> by Country of Birth by Investment Type

Country of Birth	Rural Area	High Unemployment Area	Infrastructure	Unreserved (including C5, T5, I5, R5)
(Country Name)	#	#	#	#

Number of **I-526E** Petitions **Withdrew** by Country of Birth by Investment Type

Country of Birth	Rural Area	High Unemployment Area	Infrastructure	Unreserved (including C5, T5, I5, R5)
(Country Name)	#	#	#	#

IIUSA is a 501(c)(6) not-for-profit trade organization comprised of USCIS designated Regional Center members who manage, operate, and promote employment-creating investment into specified regional areas of the United States. As such IIUSA has a vital interest in the information sought in this Freedom of Information Request.

As a trade organization we have no interest in the personal information pertaining to beneficiaries or petitioners. The purpose of this request is to advance and maintain Regional Center industry standards and best practices.

We trust you will find the enclosed in order and sufficient to proceed with this request. I respectfully ask that you conduct a search and forward all records you have on file regarding the above referenced matters to our offices at the address noted on the bottom of the first page.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions at <a href="mailto:ashley.casey@iiusa.org">ashley.casey@iiusa.org</a> or 202-795-9664. Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Oshly (drey

Ashley Sanislo Casey

U.S. Department of Homeland Security U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services National Records Center P.O. Box 648010

P.O. Box 648010 Lee's Summit, MO 64064-8010



November 3, 2023

Ashley Casey 80 M Street SE Suite 100 Washington, DC 20003

#### Dear Ashley Casey:

We received your request for information relating to Form I-526E receipts, approvals, denials, and withdrawals by country of birth by investment type (high unemployment, rural, infrastructure, or unreserved) from September 1 through October 31, 2023.

Your request was received in this office on November 3, 2023. We may need to contact you at a later date to discuss the scope of your request.

Your request is being handled under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. § 552). It has been assigned the following control number: COW2023007578. Please cite this number in all future correspondence about your request.

We respond to requests on a first-in, first-out basis and on a multi-track system. Your request has been placed in the simple track (Track 1).

Your request for a fee waiver has been granted.

Consistent with 6 C.F.R. § 5.5(a) of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) FOIA regulations, USCIS processes FOIA requests according to their order of receipt. Although USCIS' goal is to respond within 20 business days of receipt of your request, FOIA does permit a 10-day extension of this time period in certain circumstances. Due to the increasing number of FOIA requests received by this office, we may encounter some delay in processing your request. Additionally, due to the scope and nature of your request, USCIS will need to locate, compile, and review responsive records from multiple offices, both at headquarters and in the field. USCIS may also need to consult with another agency or other component of the Department of Homeland Security that have a substantial interest in the responsive information. Due to these unusual circumstances, USCIS will invoke a 10-day extension for your request pursuant to 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(6)(B). Please contact our office if you would like to limit the scope of your request or to agree on a different timetable for the processing of your request. We will make every effort to comply with your request in a timely manner.

The National Records Center (NRC) has the responsibility to ensure that personally identifiable information (PII) pertaining to U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) clients is protected. In our efforts to safeguard this information, we may request that additional information be provided to facilitate and correctly identify records responsive to your request. Though submission of this information is voluntary, without this information, your request may be delayed while additional steps are taken to ensure the correct responsive records are located and processed. Further, if we are unable to positively identify the subject of the record we may be unable to provide records responsive to your FOIA request.

#### How to Check the Status of Your Request

You may check the status of your FOIA request online at first.uscis.gov/#/check-status. If you have any questions concerning your pending FOIA/PA request, or to check the status of a pending application or

COW2023007578

Page 2

petition, please call the USCIS Contact Center at 800-375-5283 (TTY 800-767-1833).

### How to Submit Questions or Changes

Questions concerning this FOIA/PA request may be mailed to U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, National Records Center, FOIA/PA Office, P.O. Box 648010, Lee's Summit, MO 64064-8010 or emailed to FOIAPAQuestions@uscis.dhs.gov. All FOIA/PA related requests, including address changes must be submitted in writing, and signed by the requester. Please include the control number listed above on all correspondence. For more information regarding the USCIS FOIA Program, please visit the USCIS website at www.uscis.gov/FOIA.

Sincerely,

Jarrod T Panter

Acting Chief FOIA Officer

# EXH. 10



Christine Chen, Director
Eren Cicekdagi, Director
Roberto Contreras IV, Director
Lulu Gordon, Director
Daniel J. Healy, Director
Mariza McKee, Director
David Souders, Director
Cletus M. Weber, Director
Dan Wycklendt, Director

Page 61 of 114
K. David Andersson, President Emeritus
Robert Kraft, President Emeritus
Stephen Yale-Loehr, President Emeritus
Robert C. Divine, Director Emeritus
Patrick F. Hogan, Director Emeritus
Henry Liebman, Director Emeritus
Tom Rosenfeld, Director Emeritus
Stephen Strnisha, Director Emeritus

VIA FIRST November 2, 2023

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services National Records Center, FOIA/PA Office P. O. Box 648010 Lee's Summit, MO 64064-8010

Attention: SENIOR FOIA OFFICER

**RE: Freedom of Information Act Request** 

To whom it may concern:

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, U.S.C., et Seq., and C.F.R. 103.8 et Seq., I, Ashley Sanislo Casey, as Director of Education and Professional Development, on behalf of the Invest in the USA ("IIUSA"), am hereby making this request for release of information.

# We respectfully request that you please provide the following:

1. Form I-526 receipts, approvals, denials, and withdrawals by country of birth by investment type (high unemployment, rural, infrastructure, or unreserved) from September 1 through October 31, 2023.

We prefer this data to be given in spreadsheet form and below is an example to help convey the data we are requesting and the format for which it should be disseminated:

Number of I-526 Petitions Received by Country of Birth by Investment Type

Country of Birth	Rural Area	High Unemployment Area	Infrastructure	Unreserved (including C5, T5, I5, R5)
(Country Name)	#	#	#	#

Number of **I-526** Petitions **Approved** by Country of Birth by Investment Type

Country of Birth	Rural Area	High Unemployment Area	Infrastructure	Unreserved (including C5, T5, I5, R5)
(Country Name)	#	#	#	#

Number of **I-526** Petitions **Denied** by Country of Birth by Investment Type

Country of Birth	Rural Area	High Unemployment Area	Infrastructure	Unreserved (including C5, T5, I5, R5)
(Country Name)	#	#	#	#

Number of <u>I-526</u> Petitions <u>Withdrew</u> by Country of Birth by Investment Type

Country of Birth	Rural Area	High Unemployment Area	Infrastructure	Unreserved (including C5, T5, I5, R5)
(Country Name)	#	#	#	#

IIUSA is a 501(c)(6) not-for-profit trade organization comprised of USCIS designated Regional Center members who manage, operate, and promote employment-creating investment into specified regional areas of the United States. As such IIUSA has a vital interest in the information sought in this Freedom of Information Request.

As a trade organization we have no interest in the personal information pertaining to beneficiaries or petitioners. The purpose of this request is to advance and maintain Regional Center industry standards and best practices.

We trust you will find the enclosed in order and sufficient to proceed with this request. I respectfully ask that you conduct a search and forward all records you have on file regarding the above referenced matters to our offices at the address noted on the bottom of the first page.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions at <a href="mailto:ashley.casey@iiusa.org">ashley.casey@iiusa.org</a> or 202-795-9664. Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Oshly (drey

Ashley Sanislo Casey

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
National Records Center
P.O. Box 648010
Lee's Summit, MO 64064-8010



November 3, 2023

Ashley Casey 80 M Street SE Suite 100 Washington, DC 20003

#### Dear Ashley Casey:

We received your request for information relating to Form I-526 receipts, approvals, denials, and withdrawals by country of birth by investment type (high unemployment, rural, infrastructure, or unreserved) from September 1 through October 31, 2023.

Your request was received in this office on November 3, 2023. We may need to contact you at a later date to discuss the scope of your request.

Your request is being handled under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. § 552). It has been assigned the following control number: COW2023007579. Please cite this number in all future correspondence about your request.

We respond to requests on a first-in, first-out basis and on a multi-track system. Your request has been placed in the simple track (Track 1).

Your request for a fee waiver has been granted.

Consistent with 6 C.F.R. § 5.5(a) of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) FOIA regulations, USCIS processes FOIA requests according to their order of receipt. Although USCIS' goal is to respond within 20 business days of receipt of your request, FOIA does permit a 10-day extension of this time period in certain circumstances. Due to the increasing number of FOIA requests received by this office, we may encounter some delay in processing your request. Additionally, due to the scope and nature of your request, USCIS will need to locate, compile, and review responsive records from multiple offices, both at headquarters and in the field. USCIS may also need to consult with another agency or other component of the Department of Homeland Security that have a substantial interest in the responsive information. Due to these unusual circumstances, USCIS will invoke a 10-day extension for your request pursuant to 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(6)(B). Please contact our office if you would like to limit the scope of your request or to agree on a different timetable for the processing of your request. We will make every effort to comply with your request in a timely manner.

The National Records Center (NRC) has the responsibility to ensure that personally identifiable information (PII) pertaining to U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) clients is protected. In our efforts to safeguard this information, we may request that additional information be provided to facilitate and correctly identify records responsive to your request. Though submission of this information is voluntary, without this information, your request may be delayed while additional steps are taken to ensure the correct responsive records are located and processed. Further, if we are unable to positively identify the subject of the record we may be unable to provide records responsive to your FOIA request.

#### How to Check the Status of Your Request

You may check the status of your FOIA request online at first.uscis.gov/#/check-status. If you have any questions concerning your pending FOIA/PA request, or to check the status of a pending application or

COW2023007579

Page 2

petition, please call the USCIS Contact Center at 800-375-5283 (TTY 800-767-1833).

### How to Submit Questions or Changes

Questions concerning this FOIA/PA request may be mailed to U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, National Records Center, FOIA/PA Office, P.O. Box 648010, Lee's Summit, MO 64064-8010 or emailed to FOIAPAQuestions@uscis.dhs.gov. All FOIA/PA related requests, including address changes must be submitted in writing, and signed by the requester. Please include the control number listed above on all correspondence. For more information regarding the USCIS FOIA Program, please visit the USCIS website at www.uscis.gov/FOIA.

Sincerely,

Jarrod T Panter

Acting Chief FOIA Officer

# EXH. 11



Christine Chen, Director
Eren Cicekdagi, Director
Roberto Contreras IV, Director
Lulu Gordon, Director
Daniel J. Healy, Director
Mariza McKee, Director
David Souders, Director
Cletus M. Weber, Director
Dan Wycklendt, Director

K. David Andersson, President Emeritus
Robert Kraft, President Emeritus
Stephen Yale-Loehr, President Emeritus
Robert C. Divine, Director Emeritus
Patrick F. Hogan, Director Emeritus
Henry Liebman, Director Emeritus
Tom Rosenfeld, Director Emeritus
Stephen Strnisha, Director Emeritus

VIA FIRST December 5, 2023

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services National Records Center, FOIA/PA Office P. O. Box 648010 Lee's Summit, MO 64064-8010

Attention: SENIOR FOIA OFFICER

**RE: Freedom of Information Act Request** 

To whom it may concern:

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, U.S.C., et Seq., and C.F.R. 103.8 et Seq., I, Ashley Sanislo Casey, as Director of Education and Professional Development, on behalf of the Invest in the USA ("IIUSA"), am hereby making this request for release of information.

# We respectfully request that you please provide the following:

1. Form I-526E receipts, approvals, denials, and withdrawals by country of birth by investment type (high unemployment, rural, infrastructure, or unreserved) from November 1-30, 2023.

We prefer this data to be given in spreadsheet form and below is an example to help convey the data we are requesting and the format for which it should be disseminated:

Number of I-526E Petitions Received by Country of Birth by Investment Type

Country of Birth	Rural Area	High Unemployment Area	Infrastructure	Unreserved (including C5, T5, I5, R5)
(Country Name)	#	#	#	#

Number of I-526E Petitions Approved by Country of Birth by Investment Type

Country of Birth	Rural Area	High Unemployment Area	Infrastructure	Unreserved (including C5, T5, I5, R5)
(Country Name)	#	#	#	#

Number of I-526E Petitions Denied by Country of Birth by Investment Type

Country of Birth	Rural Area	High Unemployment Area	Infrastructure	Unreserved (including C5, T5, I5, R5)
(Country Name)	#	#	#	#

Number of **I-526E** Petitions **Withdrew** by Country of Birth by Investment Type

Country of Birth	Rural Area	High Unemployment Area	Infrastructure	Unreserved (including C5, T5, I5, R5)
(Country Name)	#	#	#	#

IIUSA is a 501(c)(6) not-for-profit trade organization comprised of USCIS designated Regional Center members who manage, operate, and promote employment-creating investment into specified regional areas of the United States. As such IIUSA has a vital interest in the information sought in this Freedom of Information Request.

As a trade organization we have no interest in the personal information pertaining to beneficiaries or petitioners. The purpose of this request is to advance and maintain Regional Center industry standards and best practices.

We trust you will find the enclosed in order and sufficient to proceed with this request. I respectfully ask that you conduct a search and forward all records you have on file regarding the above referenced matters to our offices at the address noted on the bottom of the first page.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions at <a href="mailto:ashley.casey@iiusa.org">ashley.casey@iiusa.org</a> or 202-795-9664. Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Oshly (drey

Ashley Sanislo Casey

U.S. Department of Homeland Security U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services National Records Center P.O. Box 648010

Lee's Summit, MO 64064-8010



December 6, 2023

Ashley Casey 80 M Street SE Suite 100 Washington, DC 20003

#### Dear Ashley Casey:

We received your request for information relating to form I-526E receipts, approvals, denials, and withdrawals by country of birth by investment type (high unemployment, rural, infrastructure, or unreserved) from November 1-30, 2023.

Your request was received in this office on December 5, 2023. We may need to contact you at a later date to discuss the scope of your request.

Your request is being handled under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. § 552). It has been assigned the following control number: OPQ2023000032. Please cite this number in all future correspondence about your request.

We respond to requests on a first-in, first-out basis and on a multi-track system. Your request has been placed in the simple track (Track 1).

In your request, you seek a fee waiver. Under the Freedom of Information Act's (FOIA) fee waiver standard, 5 U.S.C § 552 (A)(4)(iii), two requirements must be met prior to a grant of a fee waiver. As stated, documents shall be furnished without any charge or at a charge reduced below the fees established, where the requester has demonstrated that:

- (i) disclosure is in the public interest because it is likely to contribute significantly to public understanding of the operations or activities of the government; and
- (ii) disclosure is not primarily in the commercial interest of the requester.

Since you have not met the necessary requirements for a fee waiver, we are denying your fee waiver request.

If you would like to discuss our response before filing an appeal to attempt to resolve your dispute without going through the appeals process, you may contact our USCIS FOIA Public Liaison at U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, National Records Center, FOIA/PA Office, P.O. Box 648010, Lee's Summit, MO 64064-8010, or by email at FOIAPAQuestions@uscis.dhs.gov.

A USCIS FOIA Public Liaison is an agency official to whom FOIA requesters can raise concerns about the service the requester has received from the agency's FOIA Office. USCIS FOIA Public Liaisons are responsible for assisting in reducing delays, increasing transparency, and understanding of the status of requests, and assisting in the resolution of disputes.

If you are unable to resolve your FOIA dispute through our USCIS FOIA Public Liaison, 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 Office of Government Information Services, National Archives and Records Administration, 8601 Adelphi Road-OGIS, College Park, Maryland 20740-6001; email ogis@nara.gov; telephone 202OPQ2023000032 Page 2

741-5770; toll free 877-684-6448; or facsimile 202-741-5769.

Consistent with 6 C.F.R. § 5.5(a) of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) FOIA regulations, USCIS processes FOIA requests according to their order of receipt. Although USCIS' goal is to respond within 20 business days of receipt of your request, FOIA does permit a 10-day extension of this time period in certain circumstances. Due to the increasing number of FOIA requests received by this office, we may encounter some delay in processing your request. Additionally, due to the scope and nature of your request, USCIS will need to locate, compile, and review responsive records from multiple offices, both at headquarters and in the field. USCIS may also need to consult with another agency or other component of the Department of Homeland Security that have a substantial interest in the responsive information. Due to these unusual circumstances, USCIS will invoke a 10-day extension for your request pursuant to 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(6)(B). Please contact our office if you would like to limit the scope of your request or to agree on a different timetable for the processing of your request. We will make every effort to comply with your request in a timely manner.

In accordance with Department of Homeland Security Regulations (6 C.F.R. § 5.3(c)), your request is deemed to constitute an agreement to pay any fees that may be chargeable up to \$25.00. Fees may be charged for searching for records sought at the respective clerical, professional, and/or managerial rates of \$4.00/\$7.00/\$10.25 per quarter hour, and for duplication of copies at the rate of \$.10 per copy. The first 100 copies and two hours of search time are not charged, and the remaining combined charges for search and duplication must exceed \$14.00 before we will charge you any fees. Most requests do not require any fees; however, if fees in excess of \$25.00 are required, we will notify you beforehand.

The National Records Center (NRC) has the responsibility to ensure that personally identifiable information (PII) pertaining to U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) clients is protected. In our efforts to safeguard this information, we may request that additional information be provided to facilitate and correctly identify records responsive to your request. Though submission of this information is voluntary, without this information, your request may be delayed while additional steps are taken to ensure the correct responsive records are located and processed. Further, if we are unable to positively identify the subject of the record we may be unable to provide records responsive to your FOIA request.

#### How to Check the Status of Your Request

You may check the status of your FOIA request online at first.uscis.gov/#/check-status. If you have any questions concerning your pending FOIA/PA request, or to check the status of a pending application or petition, please call the USCIS Contact Center at 800-375-5283 (TTY 800-767-1833).

### How to Submit Questions or Changes

OPQ2023000032

Page 3

Questions concerning this FOIA/PA request may be mailed to U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, National Records Center, FOIA/PA Office, P.O. Box 648010, Lee's Summit, MO 64064-8010 or emailed to FOIAPAQuestions@uscis.dhs.gov. All FOIA/PA related requests, including address changes must be submitted in writing, and signed by the requester. Please include the control number listed above on all correspondence. For more information regarding the USCIS FOIA Program, please visit the USCIS website at www.uscis.gov/FOIA.

Sincerely,

Jarrod T Panter

Acting Chief FOIA Officer

# EXH. 12



ABJ Document 1
William P. Gresser,
President
Noreen Hogan,
Vice President
Adam Greene,
Secretary-Treasurer
Aaron L. Grau,
Executive Director

Christine Chen, Director
Eren Cicekdagi, Director
Roberto Contreras IV, Director
Lulu Gordon, Director
Daniel J. Healy, Director
Mariza McKee, Director
David Souders, Director
Cletus M. Weber, Director
Dan Wycklendt, Director

K. David Andersson, President Emeritus
Robert Kraft, President Emeritus
Stephen Yale-Loehr, President Emeritus
Robert C. Divine, Director Emeritus
Patrick F. Hogan, Director Emeritus
Henry Liebman, Director Emeritus
Tom Rosenfeld, Director Emeritus
Stephen Strnisha, Director Emeritus

VIA FIRST December 5, 2023

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services National Records Center, FOIA/PA Office P. O. Box 648010 Lee's Summit, MO 64064-8010

Attention: SENIOR FOIA OFFICER

**RE: Freedom of Information Act Request** 

To whom it may concern:

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, U.S.C., et Seq., and C.F.R. 103.8 et Seq., I, Ashley Sanislo Casey, as Director of Education and Professional Development, on behalf of the Invest in the USA ("IIUSA"), am hereby making this request for release of information.

# We respectfully request that you please provide the following:

1. Form I-526 receipts, approvals, denials, and withdrawals by country of birth by investment type (high unemployment, rural, infrastructure, or unreserved) from November 1-30, 2023.

We prefer this data to be given in spreadsheet form and below is an example to help convey the data we are requesting and the format for which it should be disseminated:

Number of **I-526E** Petitions **Received** by Country of Birth by Investment Type

Country of Birth	Rural Area	High Unemployment Area	Infrastructure	Unreserved (including C5, T5, I5, R5)
(Country Name)	#	#	#	#

Number of I-526E Petitions Approved by Country of Birth by Investment Type

		are reperented by element		SS 1 JP S
Country of Birth	Rural Area	High Unemployment Area	Infrastructure	Unreserved (including C5, T5, I5, R5)
(Country Name)	#	#	#	#

Number of I-526E Petitions Denied by Country of Birth by Investment Type

Country of Birth	Rural Area	High Unemployment Area	Infrastructure	Unreserved (including C5, T5, I5, R5)
(Country Name)	#	#	#	#

Number of **I-526E** Petitions **Withdrew** by Country of Birth by Investment Type

Country of Birth	Rural Area	High Unemployment Area	Infrastructure	Unreserved (including C5, T5, I5, R5)
(Country Name)	#	#	#	#

IIUSA is a 501(c)(6) not-for-profit trade organization comprised of USCIS designated Regional Center members who manage, operate, and promote employment-creating investment into specified regional areas of the United States. As such IIUSA has a vital interest in the information sought in this Freedom of Information Request.

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We trust you will find the enclosed in order and sufficient to proceed with this request. I respectfully ask that you conduct a search and forward all records you have on file regarding the above referenced matters to our offices at the address noted on the bottom of the first page.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions at <a href="mailto:ashley.casey@iiusa.org">ashley.casey@iiusa.org</a> or 202-795-9664. Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Oshly (drey

Ashley Sanislo Casey

IIUSA Director of Education & Professional Development

U.S. Department of Homeland Security U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services National Records Center P.O. Box 648010

P.O. Box 648010 Lee's Summit, MO 64064-8010



December 6, 2023

Ashley Casey 80 M Street SE Suite 100 Washington, DC 20003

### Dear Ashley Casey:

We received your request for information relating to form I-526 receipts, approvals, denials, and withdrawals by country of birth by investment type (high unemployment, rural, infrastructure, or unreserved) from November 1-30, 2023

Your request was received in this office on December 5, 2023. We may need to contact you at a later date to discuss the scope of your request.

Your request is being handled under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. § 552). It has been assigned the following control number: OPQ2023000033. Please cite this number in all future correspondence about your request.

We respond to requests on a first-in, first-out basis and on a multi-track system. Your request has been placed in the simple track (Track 1).

In your request, you seek a fee waiver. Under the Freedom of Information Act's (FOIA) fee waiver standard, 5 U.S.C § 552 (A)(4)(iii), two requirements must be met prior to a grant of a fee waiver. As stated, documents shall be furnished without any charge or at a charge reduced below the fees established, where the requester has demonstrated that:

- (i) disclosure is in the public interest because it is likely to contribute significantly to public understanding of the operations or activities of the government; and
- (ii) disclosure is not primarily in the commercial interest of the requester.

Since you have not met the necessary requirements for a fee waiver, we are denying your fee waiver request.

If you would like to discuss our response before filing an appeal to attempt to resolve your dispute without going through the appeals process, you may contact our USCIS FOIA Public Liaison at U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, National Records Center, FOIA/PA Office, P.O. Box 648010, Lee's Summit, MO 64064-8010, or by email at FOIAPAQuestions@uscis.dhs.gov.

A USCIS FOIA Public Liaison is an agency official to whom FOIA requesters can raise concerns about the service the requester has received from the agency's FOIA Office. USCIS FOIA Public Liaisons are responsible for assisting in reducing delays, increasing transparency, and understanding of the status of requests, and assisting in the resolution of disputes.

If you are unable to resolve your FOIA dispute through our USCIS FOIA Public Liaison, 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 Office of Government Information Services, National Archives and Records Administration, 8601 Adelphi Road-OGIS, College Park, Maryland 20740-6001; email ogis@nara.gov; telephone 202-

OPQ2023000033 Page 2

741-5770; toll free 877-684-6448; or facsimile 202-741-5769.

Consistent with 6 C.F.R. § 5.5(a) of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) FOIA regulations, USCIS processes FOIA requests according to their order of receipt. Although USCIS' goal is to respond within 20 business days of receipt of your request, FOIA does permit a 10-day extension of this time period in certain circumstances. Due to the increasing number of FOIA requests received by this office, we may encounter some delay in processing your request. Additionally, due to the scope and nature of your request, USCIS will need to locate, compile, and review responsive records from multiple offices, both at headquarters and in the field. USCIS may also need to consult with another agency or other component of the Department of Homeland Security that have a substantial interest in the responsive information. Due to these unusual circumstances, USCIS will invoke a 10-day extension for your request pursuant to 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(6)(B). Please contact our office if you would like to limit the scope of your request or to agree on a different timetable for the processing of your request. We will make every effort to comply with your request in a timely manner.

In accordance with Department of Homeland Security Regulations (6 C.F.R. § 5.3(c)), your request is deemed to constitute an agreement to pay any fees that may be chargeable up to \$25.00. Fees may be charged for searching for records sought at the respective clerical, professional, and/or managerial rates of \$4.00/\$7.00/\$10.25 per quarter hour, and for duplication of copies at the rate of \$.10 per copy. The first 100 copies and two hours of search time are not charged, and the remaining combined charges for search and duplication must exceed \$14.00 before we will charge you any fees. Most requests do not require any fees; however, if fees in excess of \$25.00 are required, we will notify you beforehand.

The National Records Center (NRC) has the responsibility to ensure that personally identifiable information (PII) pertaining to U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) clients is protected. In our efforts to safeguard this information, we may request that additional information be provided to facilitate and correctly identify records responsive to your request. Though submission of this information is voluntary, without this information, your request may be delayed while additional steps are taken to ensure the correct responsive records are located and processed. Further, if we are unable to positively identify the subject of the record we may be unable to provide records responsive to your FOIA request.

### How to Check the Status of Your Request

You may check the status of your FOIA request online at first.uscis.gov/#/check-status. If you have any questions concerning your pending FOIA/PA request, or to check the status of a pending application or petition, please call the USCIS Contact Center at 800-375-5283 (TTY 800-767-1833).

# How to Submit Questions or Changes

OPQ2023000033

Page 3

Questions concerning this FOIA/PA request may be mailed to U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, National Records Center, FOIA/PA Office, P.O. Box 648010, Lee's Summit, MO 64064-8010 or emailed to FOIAPAQuestions@uscis.dhs.gov. All FOIA/PA related requests, including address changes must be submitted in writing, and signed by the requester. Please include the control number listed above on all correspondence. For more information regarding the USCIS FOIA Program, please visit the USCIS website at www.uscis.gov/FOIA.

Sincerely,

Jarrod T Panter

Acting Chief FOIA Officer

Freedom of Information Act & Privacy Act Unit

# EXH. 13



ABJ Document 1
William P. Gresser,
President
Noreen Hogan,
Vice President
Adam Greene,
Secretary-Treasurer
Aaron L. Grau,
Executive Director

Christine Chen, Director
Eren Cicekdagi, Director
Roberto Contreras IV, Director
Lulu Gordon, Director
Daniel J. Healy, Director
Mariza McKee, Director
David Souders, Director
Cletus M. Weber, Director
Dan Wycklendt, Director

K. David Andersson, President Emeritus
Robert Kraft, President Emeritus
Stephen Yale-Loehr, President Emeritus
Robert C. Divine, Director Emeritus
Patrick F. Hogan, Director Emeritus
Henry Liebman, Director Emeritus
Tom Rosenfeld, Director Emeritus
Stephen Strnisha, Director Emeritus

VIA FIRST January 3, 2024

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services National Records Center, FOIA/PA Office P. O. Box 648010 Lee's Summit, MO 64064-8010

Attention: SENIOR FOIA OFFICER

**RE: Freedom of Information Act Request** 

To whom it may concern:

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, U.S.C., et Seq., and C.F.R. 103.8 et Seq., I, Ashley Sanislo Casey, as Director of Education and Professional Development, on behalf of the Invest in the USA ("IIUSA"), am hereby making this request for release of information.

# We respectfully request that you please provide the following:

1. Form I-526E receipts, approvals, denials, and withdrawals by country of birth by investment type (high unemployment, rural, infrastructure, or unreserved) from December 1 through December 31, 2023.

We prefer this data to be given in spreadsheet form and below is an example to help convey the data we are requesting and the format for which it should be disseminated:

Number of I-526E Petitions Received by Country of Birth by Investment Type

Country of Birth	Rural Area	High Unemployment Area	Infrastructure	Unreserved (including C5, T5, I5, R5)
(Country Name)	#	#	#	#

Number of I-526E Petitions Approved by Country of Birth by Investment Type

Country of Birth	Rural Area	High Unemployment Area	Infrastructure	Unreserved (including C5, T5, I5, R5)
(Country Name)	#	#	#	#

Number of I-526E Petitions Denied by Country of Birth by Investment Type

Country of Birth	Rural Area	High Unemployment Area	Infrastructure	Unreserved (including C5, T5, I5, R5)
(Country Name)	#	#	#	#

Number of **I-526E** Petitions **Withdrew** by Country of Birth by Investment Type

Country of Birth	Rural Area	High Unemployment Area	Infrastructure	Unreserved (including C5, T5, I5, R5)
(Country Name)	#	#	#	#

IIUSA is a 501(c)(6) not-for-profit trade organization comprised of USCIS designated Regional Center members who manage, operate, and promote employment-creating investment into specified regional areas of the United States. As such IIUSA has a vital interest in the information sought in this Freedom of Information Request.

As a trade organization we have no interest in the personal information pertaining to beneficiaries or petitioners. The purpose of this request is to advance and maintain Regional Center industry standards and best practices.

We trust you will find the enclosed in order and sufficient to proceed with this request. I respectfully ask that you conduct a search and forward all records you have on file regarding the above referenced matters to our offices at the address noted on the bottom of the first page.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions at <a href="mailto:ashley.casey@iiusa.org">ashley.casey@iiusa.org</a> or 202-795-9664. Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Oshly (dxy

Ashley Sanislo Casey

IIUSA Director of Education & Professional Development

U.S. Department of Homeland Security U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services National Records Center P.O. Box 648010

Lee's Summit, MO 64064-8010



January 4, 2024

Ashley Casey 80 M Street SE Suite 100 Washington, DC 20003

### Dear Ashley Casey:

We received your request for information relating to form I-526E receipts, approvals, denials, and withdrawals by country of birth by investment type (high unemployment, rural, infrastructure, or unreserved) from December 1 through December 31, 2023.

Your request was received in this office on January 4, 2024. We may need to contact you at a later date to discuss the scope of your request.

Your request is being handled under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. § 552). It has been assigned the following control number: COW2024000133. Please cite this number in all future correspondence about your request.

We respond to requests on a first-in, first-out basis and on a multi-track system. Your request has been placed in the simple track (Track 1).

In your request, you seek a fee waiver. Under the Freedom of Information Act's (FOIA) fee waiver standard, 5 U.S.C § 552 (A)(4)(iii), two requirements must be met prior to a grant of a fee waiver. As stated, documents shall be furnished without any charge or at a charge reduced below the fees established, where the requester has demonstrated that:

- (i) disclosure is in the public interest because it is likely to contribute significantly to public understanding of the operations or activities of the government; and
- (ii) disclosure is not primarily in the commercial interest of the requester.

Since you have not met the necessary requirements for a fee waiver, we are denying your fee waiver request.

If you would like to discuss our response before filing an appeal to attempt to resolve your dispute without going through the appeals process, you may contact our USCIS FOIA Public Liaison at U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, National Records Center, FOIA/PA Office, P.O. Box 648010, Lee's Summit, MO 64064-8010, or by email at FOIAPAQuestions@uscis.dhs.gov.

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741-5770; toll free 877-684-6448; or facsimile 202-741-5769.

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In accordance with Department of Homeland Security Regulations (6 C.F.R. § 5.3(c)), your request is deemed to constitute an agreement to pay any fees that may be chargeable up to \$25.00. Fees may be charged for searching for records sought at the respective clerical, professional, and/or managerial rates of \$4.00/\$7.00/\$10.25 per quarter hour, and for duplication of copies at the rate of \$.10 per copy. The first 100 copies and two hours of search time are not charged, and the remaining combined charges for search and duplication must exceed \$14.00 before we will charge you any fees. Most requests do not require any fees; however, if fees in excess of \$25.00 are required, we will notify you beforehand.

The National Records Center (NRC) has the responsibility to ensure that personally identifiable information (PII) pertaining to U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) clients is protected. In our efforts to safeguard this information, we may request that additional information be provided to facilitate and correctly identify records responsive to your request. Though submission of this information is voluntary, without this information, your request may be delayed while additional steps are taken to ensure the correct responsive records are located and processed. Further, if we are unable to positively identify the subject of the record we may be unable to provide records responsive to your FOIA request.

### How to Check the Status of Your Request

You may check the status of your FOIA request online at first.uscis.gov/#/check-status. If you have any questions concerning your pending FOIA/PA request, or to check the status of a pending application or petition, please call the USCIS Contact Center at 800-375-5283 (TTY 800-767-1833).

# How to Submit Questions or Changes

Page 3

Questions concerning this FOIA/PA request may be mailed to U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, National Records Center, FOIA/PA Office, P.O. Box 648010, Lee's Summit, MO 64064-8010 or emailed to FOIAPAQuestions@uscis.dhs.gov. All FOIA/PA related requests, including address changes must be submitted in writing, and signed by the requester. Please include the control number listed above on all correspondence. For more information regarding the USCIS FOIA Program, please visit the USCIS website at www.uscis.gov/FOIA.

Sincerely,

Jarrod T Panter

Acting Chief FOIA Officer

Freedom of Information Act & Privacy Act Unit

# EXH. 14



ABJ Document 1
William P. Gresser,
President
Noreen Hogan,
Vice President
Adam Greene,
Secretary-Treasurer
Aaron L. Grau,
Executive Director

Christine Chen, Director
Eren Cicekdagi, Director
Roberto Contreras IV, Director
Lulu Gordon, Director
Daniel J. Healy, Director
Mariza McKee, Director
David Souders, Director
Cletus M. Weber, Director
Dan Wycklendt, Director

K. David Andersson, President Emeritus
Robert Kraft, President Emeritus
Stephen Yale-Loehr, President Emeritus
Robert C. Divine, Director Emeritus
Patrick F. Hogan, Director Emeritus
Henry Liebman, Director Emeritus
Tom Rosenfeld, Director Emeritus
Stephen Strnisha, Director Emeritus

VIA FIRST January 3, 2024

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services National Records Center, FOIA/PA Office P. O. Box 648010 Lee's Summit, MO 64064-8010

Attention: SENIOR FOIA OFFICER

**RE: Freedom of Information Act Request** 

To whom it may concern:

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, U.S.C., et Seq., and C.F.R. 103.8 et Seq., I, Ashley Sanislo Casey, as Director of Education and Professional Development, on behalf of the Invest in the USA ("IIUSA"), am hereby making this request for release of information.

# We respectfully request that you please provide the following:

1. Form I-526 receipts, approvals, denials, and withdrawals by country of birth by investment type (high unemployment, rural, infrastructure, or unreserved) from December 1 through December 31, 2023.

We prefer this data to be given in spreadsheet form and below is an example to help convey the data we are requesting and the format for which it should be disseminated:

Number of I-526 Petitions Received by Country of Birth by Investment Type

Country of Birth	Rural Area	High Unemployment Area	Infrastructure	Unreserved (including C5, T5, I5, R5)
(Country Name)	#	#	#	#

Number of **I-526** Petitions **Approved** by Country of Birth by Investment Type

Country of Birth	Rural Area	High Unemployment Area	Infrastructure	Unreserved (including C5, T5, I5, R5)
(Country Name)	#	#	#	#

Number of **I-526** Petitions **Denied** by Country of Birth by Investment Type

Country of Birth	Rural Area	High Unemployment Area	Infrastructure	Unreserved (including C5, T5, I5, R5)
(Country Name)	#	#	#	#

Number of <u>I-526</u> Petitions <u>Withdrew</u> by Country of Birth by Investment Type

Country of Birth	Rural Area	High Unemployment Area	Infrastructure	Unreserved (including C5, T5, I5, R5)
(Country Name)	#	#	#	#

IIUSA is a 501(c)(6) not-for-profit trade organization comprised of USCIS designated Regional Center members who manage, operate, and promote employment-creating investment into specified regional areas of the United States. As such IIUSA has a vital interest in the information sought in this Freedom of Information Request.

As a trade organization we have no interest in the personal information pertaining to beneficiaries or petitioners. The purpose of this request is to advance and maintain Regional Center industry standards and best practices.

We trust you will find the enclosed in order and sufficient to proceed with this request. I respectfully ask that you conduct a search and forward all records you have on file regarding the above referenced matters to our offices at the address noted on the bottom of the first page.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions at <a href="mailto:ashley.casey@iiusa.org">ashley.casey@iiusa.org</a> or 202-795-9664. Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Oshly (drey

Ashley Sanislo Casey

IIUSA Director of Education & Professional Development

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
National Records Center

P.O. Box 648010 Lee's Summit, MO 64064-8010



January 4, 2024

Ashley Casey 80 M Street SE Suite 100 Washington, DC 20003

### Dear Ashley Casey:

We received your request for information relating to Form I-526 receipts, approvals, denials, and withdrawals by country of birth by investment type (high unemployment, rural, infrastructure, or unreserved) from December 1 through December 31, 2023.

Your request was received in this office on January 4, 2024. We may need to contact you at a later date to discuss the scope of your request.

Your request is being handled under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. § 552). It has been assigned the following control number: COW2024000134. Please cite this number in all future correspondence about your request.

We respond to requests on a first-in, first-out basis and on a multi-track system. Your request has been placed in the simple track (Track 1).

Consistent with 6 C.F.R. § 5.5(a) of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) FOIA regulations, USCIS processes FOIA requests according to their order of receipt. Although USCIS' goal is to respond within 20 business days of receipt of your request, FOIA does permit a 10-day extension of this time period in certain circumstances. Due to the increasing number of FOIA requests received by this office, we may encounter some delay in processing your request. Additionally, due to the scope and nature of your request, USCIS will need to locate, compile, and review responsive records from multiple offices, both at headquarters and in the field. USCIS may also need to consult with another agency or other component of the Department of Homeland Security that have a substantial interest in the responsive information. Due to these unusual circumstances, USCIS will invoke a 10-day extension for your request pursuant to 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(6)(B). Please contact our office if you would like to limit the scope of your request or to agree on a different timetable for the processing of your request. We will make every effort to comply with your request in a timely manner.

In accordance with Department of Homeland Security Regulations (6 C.F.R. § 5.3(c)), your request is deemed to constitute an agreement to pay any fees that may be chargeable up to \$25.00. Fees may be charged for searching for records sought at the respective clerical, professional, and/or managerial rates of \$4.00/\$7.00/\$10.25 per quarter hour, and for duplication of copies at the rate of \$.10 per copy. The first 100 copies and two hours of search time are not charged, and the remaining combined charges for search and duplication must exceed \$14.00 before we will charge you any fees. Most requests do not require any fees; however, if fees in excess of \$25.00 are required, we will notify you beforehand.

The National Records Center (NRC) has the responsibility to ensure that personally identifiable information (PII) pertaining to U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) clients is protected. In our efforts to safeguard this information, we may request that additional information be provided to facilitate and correctly identify records responsive to your request. Though submission of this information is voluntary, without this information, your request may be delayed while additional steps are taken to

Page 2

ensure the correct responsive records are located and processed. Further, if we are unable to positively identify the subject of the record we may be unable to provide records responsive to your FOIA request.

## How to Check the Status of Your Request

You may check the status of your FOIA request online at first.uscis.gov/#/check-status. If you have any questions concerning your pending FOIA/PA request, or to check the status of a pending application or petition, please call the USCIS Contact Center at 800-375-5283 (TTY 800-767-1833).

# How to Submit Questions or Changes

Questions concerning this FOIA/PA request may be mailed to U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, National Records Center, FOIA/PA Office, P.O. Box 648010, Lee's Summit, MO 64064-8010 or emailed to FOIAPAQuestions@uscis.dhs.gov. All FOIA/PA related requests, including address changes must be submitted in writing, and signed by the requester. Please include the control number listed above on all correspondence. For more information regarding the USCIS FOIA Program, please visit the USCIS website at www.uscis.gov/FOIA.

Sincerely,

Jarrod T Panter

Acting Chief FOIA Officer

Freedom of Information Act & Privacy Act Unit

# EXH. 15



ABJ Document 1
William P. Gresser,
President
Noreen Hogan,
Vice President
Adam Greene,
Secretary-Treasurer
Aaron L. Grau,
Executive Director

Christine Chen, Director
Eren Cicekdagi, Director
Roberto Contreras IV, Director
Lulu Gordon, Director
Daniel J. Healy, Director
Mariza McKee, Director
David Souders, Director
Cletus M. Weber, Director
Dan Wycklendt, Director

K. David Andersson, President Emeritus
Robert Kraft, President Emeritus
Stephen Yale-Loehr, President Emeritus
Robert C. Divine, Director Emeritus
Patrick F. Hogan, Director Emeritus
Henry Liebman, Director Emeritus
Tom Rosenfeld, Director Emeritus
Stephen Strnisha, Director Emeritus

VIA FIRST February 6, 2024

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services National Records Center, FOIA/PA Office P. O. Box 648010 Lee's Summit, MO 64064-8010

Attention: SENIOR FOIA OFFICER

**RE: Freedom of Information Act Request** 

To whom it may concern:

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, U.S.C., et Seq., and C.F.R. 103.8 et Seq., I, Ashley Sanislo Casey, as Director of Education and Professional Development, on behalf of the Invest in the USA ("IIUSA"), am hereby making this request for release of information.

# We respectfully request that you please provide the following:

1. Form I-526E receipts, approvals, denials, and withdrawals by country of birth by investment type (high unemployment, rural, infrastructure, or unreserved) from January 1 through January 31, 2024.

We prefer this data to be given in spreadsheet form and below is an example to help convey the data we are requesting and the format for which it should be disseminated:

Number of I-526E Petitions Received by Country of Birth by Investment Type

Country of Birth	Rural Area	High Unemployment Area	Infrastructure	Unreserved (including C5, T5, I5, R5)
(Country Name)	#	#	#	#

Number of I-526E Petitions Approved by Country of Birth by Investment Type

Country of Birth	Rural Area	High Unemployment Area	Infrastructure	Unreserved (including C5, T5, I5, R5)
(Country Name)	#	#	#	#

Number of I-526E Petitions Denied by Country of Birth by Investment Type

Country of Birth	Rural Area	High Unemployment Area	Infrastructure	Unreserved (including C5, T5, I5, R5)
(Country Name)	#	#	#	#

Number of **I-526E** Petitions **Withdrew** by Country of Birth by Investment Type

Country of Birth	Rural Area	High Unemployment Area	Infrastructure	Unreserved (including C5, T5, I5, R5)
(Country Name)	#	#	#	#

IIUSA is a 501(c)(6) not-for-profit trade organization comprised of USCIS designated Regional Center members who manage, operate, and promote employment-creating investment into specified regional areas of the United States. As such IIUSA has a vital interest in the information sought in this Freedom of Information Request.

As a trade organization we have no interest in the personal information pertaining to beneficiaries or petitioners. The purpose of this request is to advance and maintain Regional Center industry standards and best practices.

We trust you will find the enclosed in order and sufficient to proceed with this request. I respectfully ask that you conduct a search and forward all records you have on file regarding the above referenced matters to our offices at the address noted on the bottom of the first page.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions at <a href="mailto:ashley.casey@iiusa.org">ashley.casey@iiusa.org</a> or 202-795-9664. Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Oshly (drey

Ashley Sanislo Casey

IIUSA Director of Education & Professional Development

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
National Records Center
P.O. Box 648010
Lee's Summit, MO 64064-8010



February 7, 2024

Ashley Casey 80 M Street SE Suite 100 Washington, DC 20003

## Dear Ashley Casey:

We received your request for information relating to the most up-to-date Immigrant Investor Program Office (IPO) EB-5 adjudicator training materials as of the date of this letter.

Your request was received in this office on February 7, 2024. We may need to contact you at a later date to discuss the scope of your request.

Your request is being handled under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. § 552). It has been assigned the following control number: EB52024000010. Please cite this number in all future correspondence about your request.

We respond to requests on a first-in, first-out basis and on a multi-track system. Your request has been placed in the complex track (Track 2).

In your request, you seek a fee waiver. Under the Freedom of Information Act's (FOIA) fee waiver standard, 5 U.S.C § 552 (A)(4)(iii), two requirements must be met prior to a grant of a fee waiver. As stated, documents shall be furnished without any charge or at a charge reduced below the fees established, where the requester has demonstrated that:

- (i) disclosure is in the public interest because it is likely to contribute significantly to public understanding of the operations or activities of the government; and
- (ii) disclosure is not primarily in the commercial interest of the requester.

Since you have not met the necessary requirements for a fee waiver, we are denying your fee waiver request.

If you would like to discuss our response before filing an appeal to attempt to resolve your dispute without going through the appeals process, you may contact our USCIS FOIA Public Liaison at U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, National Records Center, FOIA/PA Office, P.O. Box 648010, Lee's Summit, MO 64064-8010, or by email at FOIAPAQuestions@uscis.dhs.gov.

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If you are unable to resolve your FOIA dispute through our USCIS FOIA Public Liaison, 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 Office of Government Information Services, National Archives and Records Administration, 8601 Adelphi Road-OGIS, College Park, Maryland 20740-6001; email ogis@nara.gov; telephone 202-741-5770; toll free 877-684-6448; or facsimile 202-741-5769.

EB52024000010 Page 2

Consistent with 6 C.F.R. § 5.5(a) of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) FOIA regulations, USCIS processes FOIA requests according to their order of receipt. Although USCIS' goal is to respond within 20 business days of receipt of your request, FOIA does permit a 10-day extension of this time period in certain circumstances. Due to the increasing number of FOIA requests received by this office, we may encounter some delay in processing your request. Additionally, due to the scope and nature of your request, USCIS will need to locate, compile, and review responsive records from multiple offices, both at headquarters and in the field. USCIS may also need to consult with another agency or other component of the Department of Homeland Security that have a substantial interest in the responsive information. Due to these unusual circumstances, USCIS will invoke a 10-day extension for your request pursuant to 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(6)(B). Please contact our office if you would like to limit the scope of your request or to agree on a different timetable for the processing of your request. We will make every effort to comply with your request in a timely manner.

In accordance with Department of Homeland Security Regulations (6 C.F.R. § 5.3(c)), your request is deemed to constitute an agreement to pay any fees that may be chargeable up to \$25.00. Fees may be charged for searching for records sought at the respective clerical, professional, and/or managerial rates of \$4.00/\$7.00/\$10.25 per quarter hour, and for duplication of copies at the rate of \$.10 per copy. The first 100 copies and two hours of search time are not charged, and the remaining combined charges for search and duplication must exceed \$14.00 before we will charge you any fees. Most requests do not require any fees; however, if fees in excess of \$25.00 are required, we will notify you beforehand.

The National Records Center (NRC) has the responsibility to ensure that personally identifiable information (PII) pertaining to U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) clients is protected. In our efforts to safeguard this information, we may request that additional information be provided to facilitate and correctly identify records responsive to your request. Though submission of this information is voluntary, without this information, your request may be delayed while additional steps are taken to ensure the correct responsive records are located and processed. Further, if we are unable to positively identify the subject of the record we may be unable to provide records responsive to your FOIA request.

### How to Check the Status of Your Request

You may check the status of your FOIA request online at first.uscis.gov/#/check-status. If you have any questions concerning your pending FOIA/PA request, or to check the status of a pending application or petition, please call the USCIS Contact Center at 800-375-5283 (TTY 800-767-1833).

### How to Submit Questions or Changes

EB52024000010 Page 3

Questions concerning this FOIA/PA request may be mailed to U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, National Records Center, FOIA/PA Office, P.O. Box 648010, Lee's Summit, MO 64064-8010 or emailed to FOIAPAQuestions@uscis.dhs.gov. All FOIA/PA related requests, including address changes must be submitted in writing, and signed by the requester. Please include the control number listed above on all correspondence. For more information regarding the USCIS FOIA Program, please visit the USCIS website at www.uscis.gov/FOIA.

Sincerely,

Jarrod T Panter

Acting Chief FOIA Officer

Freedom of Information Act & Privacy Act Unit

# EXH. 16



BJ Document 1-1
William P. Gresser,
President
Noreen Hogan,
Vice President
Adam Greene,
Secretary-Treasurer
Aaron L. Grau,
Executive Director

Christine Chen, Director
Eren Cicekdagi, Director
Roberto Contreras IV, Director
Lulu Gordon, Director
Daniel J. Healy, Director
Mariza McKee, Director
David Souders, Director
Cletus M. Weber, Director
Dan Wycklendt, Director

Page 101 of 114
K. David Andersson, President Emeritus
Robert Kraft, President Emeritus
Stephen Yale-Loehr, President Emeritus
Robert C. Divine, Director Emeritus
Patrick F. Hogan, Director Emeritus
Henry Liebman, Director Emeritus
Tom Rosenfeld, Director Emeritus
Stephen Strnisha, Director Emeritus

VIA FIRST February 6, 2024

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services National Records Center, FOIA/PA Office P. O. Box 648010 Lee's Summit, MO 64064-8010

Attention: SENIOR FOIA OFFICER

**RE: Freedom of Information Act Request** 

To whom it may concern:

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, U.S.C., et Seq., and C.F.R. 103.8 et Seq., I, Ashley Sanislo Casey, as Director of Education and Professional Development, on behalf of the Invest in the USA ("IIUSA"), am hereby making this request for release of information.

# We respectfully request that you please provide the following:

1. Form I-526 receipts, approvals, denials, and withdrawals by country of birth by investment type (high unemployment, rural, infrastructure, or unreserved) from January 1 through January 31, 2024.

We prefer this data to be given in spreadsheet form and below is an example to help convey the data we are requesting and the format for which it should be disseminated:

Number of I-526 Petitions Received by Country of Birth by Investment Type

Country of Birth	Rural Area	High Unemployment Area	Infrastructure	Unreserved (including C5, T5, I5, R5)
(Country Name)	#	#	#	#

Number of **I-526** Petitions **Approved** by Country of Birth by Investment Type

		5116 <u>1 16 6 1 6 1 6 1 6 1 6 1 6 1 6 1 6 </u>	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
Country of Birth	Rural Area	High Unemployment Area	Infrastructure	Unreserved (including C5, T5, I5, R5)
(Country Name)	#	#	#	#

Number of **I-526** Petitions **Denied** by Country of Birth by Investment Type

Country of Birth	Rural Area	High Unemployment Area	Infrastructure	Unreserved (including C5, T5, I5, R5)
(Country Name)	#	#	#	#

Number of <u>I-526</u> Petitions <u>Withdrew</u> by Country of Birth by Investment Type

Country of Birth	Rural Area	High Unemployment Area	Infrastructure	Unreserved (including C5, T5, I5, R5)
(Country Name)	#	#	#	#

IIUSA is a 501(c)(6) not-for-profit trade organization comprised of USCIS designated Regional Center members who manage, operate, and promote employment-creating investment into specified regional areas of the United States. As such IIUSA has a vital interest in the information sought in this Freedom of Information Request.

As a trade organization we have no interest in the personal information pertaining to beneficiaries or petitioners. The purpose of this request is to advance and maintain Regional Center industry standards and best practices.

We trust you will find the enclosed in order and sufficient to proceed with this request. I respectfully ask that you conduct a search and forward all records you have on file regarding the above referenced matters to our offices at the address noted on the bottom of the first page.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions at <a href="mailto:ashley.casey@iiusa.org">ashley.casey@iiusa.org</a> or 202-795-9664. Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Oshly (drey

Ashley Sanislo Casey

IIUSA Director of Education & Professional Development

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
National Records Center
P.O. Box 648010
Lee's Summit, MO 64064-8010



February 8, 2024

Ashley Casey 80 M Street SE Suite 100 Washington, DC 20003

### Dear Ashley Casey:

We received your request for information relating to Form I-526 receipts, approvals, denials, and withdrawals by country of birth by investment type (high unemployment, rural, infrastructure, or unreserved) from January 1 through January 31, 2024.

Your request was received in this office on February 7, 2024. We may need to contact you at a later date to discuss the scope of your request.

Your request is being handled under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. § 552). It has been assigned the following control number: EB52024000013. Please cite this number in all future correspondence about your request.

We respond to requests on a first-in, first-out basis and on a multi-track system. Your request has been placed in the complex track (Track 2).

In your request, you seek a fee waiver. Under the Freedom of Information Act's (FOIA) fee waiver standard, 5 U.S.C § 552 (A)(4)(iii), two requirements must be met prior to a grant of a fee waiver. As stated, documents shall be furnished without any charge or at a charge reduced below the fees established, where the requester has demonstrated that:

- (i) disclosure is in the public interest because it is likely to contribute significantly to public understanding of the operations or activities of the government; and
- (ii) disclosure is not primarily in the commercial interest of the requester.

Since you have not met the necessary requirements for a fee waiver, we are denying your fee waiver request.

If you would like to discuss our response before filing an appeal to attempt to resolve your dispute without going through the appeals process, you may contact our USCIS FOIA Public Liaison at U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, National Records Center, FOIA/PA Office, P.O. Box 648010, Lee's Summit, MO 64064-8010, or by email at FOIAPAQuestions@uscis.dhs.gov.

A USCIS FOIA Public Liaison is an agency official to whom FOIA requesters can raise concerns about the service the requester has received from the agency's FOIA Office. USCIS FOIA Public Liaisons are responsible for assisting in reducing delays, increasing transparency, and understanding of the status of requests, and assisting in the resolution of disputes.

If you are unable to resolve your FOIA dispute through our USCIS FOIA Public Liaison, 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 Office of Government Information Services, National Archives and Records Administration, 8601 Adelphi Road-OGIS, College Park, Maryland 20740-6001; email ogis@nara.gov; telephone 202-

EB52024000013 Page 2

741-5770; toll free 877-684-6448; or facsimile 202-741-5769.

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# How to Submit Questions or Changes

EB52024000013

Page 3

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Sincerely,

Jarrod T Panter

Acting Chief FOIA Officer

Freedom of Information Act & Privacy Act Unit

# EXH. 17

Control Number: COW2023001372

FOIA/PA STATUS CHECK <u>DOCUMENT LIBRARY</u>

# Request Details

Request Description Form I-526E receipts, approvals, denials, and withdrawals by country of birth by

investment type (high unemployment, rural, infrastructure, or unreserved) from

May 15, 2022 through February 28, 2023.

Date Submitted 03/02/2023
Request Type FOIA Request

# Request Status

Place in Queue 385 of 781 pending requests

Status Files Requested
Estimated Completion Date 04/10/2023

# COW2023001373

Control Number: COW2023001373

FOIA/PA STATUS CHECK <u>DOCUMENT LIBRARY</u>

# Request Details

Request Description Form I-526 receipts, approvals, denials, and withdrawals by country of birth by

investment type (high unemployment, rural, infrastructure, or unreserved) from

May 15, 2022 through February 28, 2023

Date Submitted 03/02/2023
Request Type FOIA Request

# Request Status

Place in Queue 386 of 781 pending requests

Status Files Requested
Estimated Completion Date 04/10/2023

# COW2023004787

• Partial Denial on 1/29/24 (denial letter)

# COW2023005250

Control Number: COW2023005250

FOIA/PA STATUS CHECK DOCUMENT LIBRARY

# Request Details

Request Description Form I-526E receipts, approvals, denials, and withdrawals by country of birth by

investment type (high unemployment, rural, infrastructure, or unreserved) from

July 1-31, 2023.

Date Submitted 08/02/2023
Request Type FOIA Request

# Request Status

Place in Queue 461 of 781 pending requests

Status Files Requested
Estimated Completion Date 09/11/2023

Note: This is an estimated date based on average processing times. Availability of records and complexity of request may effect completion date.

# COW2023005255

Control Number: COW2023005255

FOIA/PA STATUS CHECK <u>DOCUMENT LIBRARY</u>

### Request Details

Request Description Form I-526 receipts, approvals, denials, and withdrawals by country of birth by

investment type (high unemployment, rural, infrastructure, or unreserved) from

July 1-31, 2023.

Date Submitted 08/02/2023
Request Type FOIA Request

# Request Status

Place in Queue 464 of 781 pending requests

Status Files Requested
Estimated Completion Date 09/11/2023

Note: This is an estimated date based on average processing times. Availability of records and complexity of request may effect completion date.

Control Number: COW2023006076

FOIA/PA STATUS CHECK <u>DOCUMENT LIBRARY</u>

# Request Details

Request Description Form I-526E receipts, approvals, denials, and withdrawals by country of birth by

investment type (high unemployment, rural, infrastructure, or unreserved) from

August 1-31, 2023.

Date Submitted 09/06/2023
Request Type FOIA Request

# Request Status

Place in Queue 477 of 781 pending requests

Status Files Requested
Estimated Completion Date 10/16/2023

Note: This is an estimated date based on average processing times. Availability of records and complexity of request may effect completion date.

# COW2023006077

Control Number: COW2023006077

FOIA/PA STATUS CHECK <u>DOCUMENT LIBRARY</u>

# Request Details

Request Description Form I-526 receipts, approvals, denials, and withdrawals by country of birth by

investment type (high unemployment, rural, infrastructure, or unreserved) from

August 1-31, 2023.

Date Submitted 09/06/2023
Request Type FOIA Request

# Request Status

Place in Queue 478 of 781 pending requests

Status Files Requested
Estimated Completion Date 10/16/2023

Control Number: COW2023007578

FOIA/PA STATUS CHECK <u>DOCUMENT LIBRARY</u>

Request Details

Request Description Form I-526E receipts, approvals, denials, and withdrawals by country of birth by

investment type (high unemployment, rural, infrastructure, or unreserved) from

September 1 through October 31, 2023.

Date Submitted 11/03/2023

Request Type FOIA Request

Request Status

Place in Queue 509 of 781 pending requests

Status Files Requested
Estimated Completion Date 12/14/2023

COW2023007579

Control Number: COW2023007579

FOIA/PA STATUS CHECK <u>DOCUMENT LIBRARY</u>

Request Details

Request Description 1. Form I-526 receipts, approvals, denials, and withdrawals by country of birth

by investment type (high unemployment, rural, infrastructure, or unreserved)

from September 1 through October 31, 2023.

Date Submitted 11/03/2023
Request Type FOIA Request

Request Status

Place in Queue 510 of 781 pending requests

Status Files Requested
Estimated Completion Date 12/14/2023

# OPQ2023000032

Control Number: OPQ2023000032

FOIA/PA STATUS CHECK <u>DOCUMENT LIBRARY</u>

# Request Details

Request Description PLEASE READ ATTACHED DOCUMENT FOR THE FULL SCOPE OF THIS

REQUEST. Form I-526E receipts, approvals, denials, and withdrawals by country of birth by investment type (high unemployment, rural, infrastructure, or

unreserved) from November 1-30, 2023.

unreserved) from November 1-

Date Submitted 12/05/2023
Request Type FOIA Request

# Request Status

Place in Queue 203 of 213 pending requests

Status Files Requested
Estimated Completion Date 09/09/2026

# OPQ2023000033

Control Number: OPQ2023000033

FOIA/PA STATUS CHECK DOCUMENT LIBRARY

# Request Details

Request Description PLEASE READ ATTACHED DOCUMENT FOR THE FULL SCOPE OF THIS

REQUEST. Form I-526 receipts, approvals, denials, and withdrawals by country of birth by investment type (high unemployment, rural, infrastructure, or

unreserved) from November 1-30, 2023.

Date Submitted 12/05/2023

Request Type FOIA Request

# Request Status

Place in Queue 204 of 213 pending requests

Status Files Requested
Estimated Completion Date 09/09/2026

Control Number: COW2024000133

FOIA/PA STATUS CHECK <u>DOCUMENT LIBRARY</u>

# Request Details

Request Description Form I-526E receipts, approvals, denials, and withdrawals by country of birth by

investment type (high unemployment, rural, infrastructure, or unreserved) from

December 1 through December 31, 2023.

Date Submitted 01/04/2024

Request Type FOIA Request

# Request Status

Place in Queue 578 of 781 pending requests

Status Files Requested
Estimated Completion Date 02/13/2024

# COW2024000234

Control Number: COW2024000134

FOIA/PA STATUS CHECK <u>DOCUMENT LIBRARY</u>

# Request Details

Request Description Form I-526 receipts, approvals, denials, and withdrawals by country of birth by

investment type (high unemployment, rural, infrastructure, or unreserved) from

December 1 through December 31, 2023.

Date Submitted 01/04/2024

Request Type FOIA Request

# Request Status

Place in Queue 579 of 781 pending requests

Status Files Requested
Estimated Completion Date 02/13/2024

# EB52024000010

Denied on 2.7.24 (Denial in email)

# EB52024000013

