

# **EXHIBIT 17**

**Seth Watkins**

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**From:** OIP-NoReply <OIP-NoReply@usdoj.gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 19, 2015 2:02 PM  
**To:** Seth Watkins  
**Subject:** FOIA appeal received  
**Attachments:** 16.00612.pdf

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**U.S. Department of Justice**

Office of Information Policy

Telephone: (202) 514-3642

Washington, D.C. 20530

November 18, 2015

Mr. Seth Watkins  
Adduci, Mastriani & Schaumberg LLP  
1133 Connecticut Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20036  
watkins@adduci.com

Re: Request No. 1338949

Dear Mr. Watkins:

This is to advise you that your administrative appeal from the action of the Federal Bureau of Investigation was received by this Office on November 16, 2015.

The Office of Information Policy has the responsibility of adjudicating such appeals. In an attempt to afford each appellant equal and impartial treatment, we have adopted a general practice of assigning appeals in the approximate order of receipt. Your appeal has been assigned number **AP-2016-00612**. Please mention this number in any future correspondence to this Office regarding this matter. Please note that if you provide an e-mail address or another electronic means of communication with your request or appeal, this Office may respond to your appeal electronically even if you submitted your appeal to this Office via regular U.S. Mail.

We will notify you of the decision on your appeal as soon as we can. If you have any questions about the status of your appeal, you may contact me at the number above. If you have submitted your appeal through this Office's online electronic appeal portal, you may also obtain an update on the status of your appeal by logging into your portal account.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Priscilla Jones".

Priscilla Jones  
Supervisory Administrative Specialist