Office of the Principal Legal Advisor

U.S. Department of Homeland Security 500 12th Street, SW Washington, D.C. 20536



April 4, 2018

Kendall Taggart BuzzFeed News 111 E. 18th Street, Newsroom New York, NY 10003

RE: 2018-ICAP-00201, 2017-ICFO-47325

Dear Ms. Taggart:

This is in response to your letter dated March 16, 2018, received March 21, 2018, appealing the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Office's response to your FOIA request, dated September 15, 2017, seeking records pertaining "all written notices to the each ICE field office director of instances when a detainee has been held continuously in segregation" and "all subsequent reviews conducted by the Field Office Director, or his or her staff." Your request sought records from January 1, 2016 to the date of the search.

By electronic correspondence dated September 25, 2017, the ICE FOIA Office acknowledged receipt of your FOIA request, assigned it case number 2017-ICFO-47325, and granted your requests for expedited treatment and a fee waiver. A search of the ICE Office of Enforcement and Removal Operations (ERO) located records responsive to your request. By electronic correspondence dated February 9, 2018, the ICE FOIA Office responded to your status inquiry and advised you that responsive documents were located by the program office(s) and the request was assigned to a program manager for processing.

You have appealed the constructive denial of your FOIA request based upon the ICE FOIA Office not responding to your request within the twenty (20) days provided by statute. In many instances, an agency cannot meet these time limits due to a high volume of requests, resource limitations, and other reasons. Accordingly, this office is remanding your appeal to the ICE FOIA Office so that they may complete the processing of responsive records and provide a direct response to you.

Should you have any questions regarding this appeal remand, please contact ICE at <u>ice-foia@dhs.gov</u>. In the subject line of the email, please include the word "appeal," your appeal number, which is **2018-ICAP-00201**, and the FOIA case number, which is **2017-ICFO-47325**.

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Sincerely,

Erin J. Clifford

Chief

Government Information Law Division ICE Office of the Principal Legal Advisor U.S. Department of Homeland Security