United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

June 28, 2018

Case No.: F-2017-14346

Caroline M. DeCell
Knight First Amendment Institute at Columbia University
314 Low Library
535 West 116th Street
New York, NY 10027

Dear Ms. DeCell:

In response to your client’s request dated August 7, 2017, under of the Freedom of Information Act (the “FOIA”), 5 U.S.C. § 552, the Department has located 243 responsive documents.\(^1\) After reviewing these documents, we have determined that 90 may be released in full, 126 may be released in part, 16 must be denied in full, and 11 originated with other U.S. Government agencies and have been referred to those agencies for review and direct reply to you.

An enclosure explains the FOIA exemptions and other grounds for withholding material. For the documents withheld in full, we have cited FOIA Exemptions 1, 3, 5, 6, and 7, 5 U.S.C §§ 552(b)(1), (b)(3), (b)(5), (b)(6), and (b)(7)(E). Where we have made excisions, the applicable exemptions are marked on each document. All non-exempt material that is reasonably segregable from the exempt material has been released.

This production completes the processing of your request. If you have any questions, your attorney may contact Ellen Blain, Assistant U.S. Attorney at (212) 637-2743 or ellen.blain@usdoj.gov. Please refer to the associated case number, F-2017-14346, and the civil action number, 1:17-cv-07572, in all communications regarding this case.

Sincerely,

Eric F. Stein, Director
Office of Information Programs and Services

Enclosures: As stated

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\(^1\) The Department initially reported that there were 72 documents, but when the records were ingested into our document review system packages of documents that had been counted as one document were broken up into their component parts, resulting in a greater number of documents. All 1,719 potentially responsive pages have been processed.