BENJAMIN N. CARDOZO SCHOOL OF LAW . YESHIVA UNIVERSITY

IMMIGRATION JUSTICE CLINIC

(212) 790-0895 FAX (212) 790-0256

Peter L. Markowitz Assistant Clinical Professor of Law Director, Immigration Justice Clinic

Bridget Kessler Clinical Teaching Fellow

April 21, 2010

Vania T. Lockett Associate Director, Disclosure & FOIA Operations Privacy Office, Mailstop 0655 Department of Homeland Security 245 Murray Lane, SW Arlington, VA 20598-0655

Re: **DHS/OS/PRIV 10-0385** 

Dear Ms. Lockett,

This letter is in response to your letter dated March 18, 2010 (attached), in which you request advance payment of \$6,494.00 for the search and duplication costs related to our pending FOIA request submitted February 3, 2010. However, as you are aware, we requested a fee waiver, which was denied by the ICE FOIA office in a letter dated February 23, 2010, received by fax on March 9, 2010 (attached). We appealed the denial of our fee waiver request by a letter to the Associate General Counsel of DHS dated March 15, 2010 (attached).

We are currently awaiting a determination on our pending appeal of ICE's wrongful denial of our fee waiver request. Our position is that we are not obligated to make any advance payment until receiving said determination. Under no circumstance should you consider our request withdrawn while our timely appeal of the fee waiver issue is still pending.

Sincerely

Bridget Kessler

Clinical Teaching Fellow Cardozo School of Law Immigration Justice Clinic

55 Fifth Avenue New York, NY 10003 Phone: (212) 790-0213

On behalf of the Requesters