



January 4, 2018

Via Electronic Mail

Dorothy Lee
Government Information Specialist
Office of Justice Programs
U.S. Department of Justice
Room 5400
810 7th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20531
Email: FOIAOJP@usdoj.gov

RE: Freedom of Information Act Request

Dear Ms. Lee:

On behalf of the American Civil Liberties Union and American Civil Liberties Union Foundation, The Leadership on Civil and Human Rights and The Leadership Conference Education Fund, and the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, Inc. (LDF), we request the inspection and copying of certain public records under the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. §552, concerning steps taken by the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) to implement the Deaths in Custody Reporting Act of 2013 (DCRA).

Please be advised that “document” means notes, reports, memoranda, letters, correspondence, recordings or any writing of any kind whatsoever, e-mail messages and correspondence, drawings, graphs, charts, photographs, tape recordings, video footage, diaries, appointment books, calendars, telephone records, telephone messages, computer records and any other data from which information can be obtained including originals, non-identical copies and drafts.

We request the following categories of documents.

1. Any and all documents pertaining to guidance, recommendations, directions, or instructions sent by DOJ to states or the heads of federal law enforcement agencies concerning reporting or compliance obligations under DCRA.
2. Any and all documents pertaining to data collection instruments, surveys, or forms sent by DOJ to states or the heads of federal law enforcement agencies in furtherance of reporting or compliance obligations under DCRA.

3. Any and all documents that have been received by DOJ from states or the heads of federal law enforcement agencies that contain data responsive to reporting or compliance obligations under DCRA, including, but not limited to, raw data and quarterly summaries.
4. Any and all documents generated by DOJ interpreting, analyzing, or summarizing data received by states or the heads of federal law enforcement agencies in response to reporting or compliance obligations under DCRA.
5. Any and all correspondence between DOJ and states or the heads of federal law enforcement agencies concerning reporting or compliance obligations under DCRA.
6. Any and all documents generated by DOJ pertaining to compliance and ineligibility standards, guidelines, or rules in furtherance of DCRA.
7. Any and all documents indicating the identity of states, the heads of federal law enforcement agencies, or any law enforcement agency that has failed to comply, either partially or entirely, with DCRA.

We seek your response no later than 20 business days after receipt of this request. If necessary, please provide the information on a rolling basis, especially if some of the requested information must be retrieved from other components of DOJ.

Additionally, please provide the requested information in an electronic format that is searchable and analyzable. Please also provide any individual computer records or scanned documents in a searchable format such as Microsoft Word or searchable Adobe Acrobat pdf., and any data and statistical information in a format that is searchable and analyzable, such as a txt. or .csv file or an excel spreadsheet. Documents and data extracts should include necessary variable definitions and descriptions to facilitate understanding and analysis.

We request the entire record containing the responsive information. Accordingly, we seek each document in its entirety; please do not redact portions of any record as “non-responsive” or “out of scope.”

If it is your position that responsive records exist, but those records or portions of those records are exempt from disclosure, please identify the records that are being withheld and state the basis for the denial for each record being withheld. Please provide the nonexempt portions of the records.

Request for Waiver or Limitation of Fees

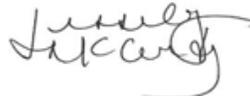
We respectfully request a waiver of all fees associated with this request, because we are 501(c)(3) non-profit organizations, do not seek the records for a commercial purpose, and disclosure of the records is in the public interest as it will contribute significantly to the public's understanding of steps taken by DOJ to implement DCRA. If OJP declines our request for a waiver, we agree to pay the \$25 FOIA processing fee and request an invoice detailing additional reasonable standard charges prior to fulfilling this request.

Please do not hesitate to contact Sonia Gill Hernandez, Policy Counsel, Policing Reform Campaign at LDF, at sgill@naacpldf.org or 202-682-1300 with any questions regarding this request.

Sincerely yours,



Kristine Lucius
Executive Vice President
The Leadership Conference on Civil and
Human Rights and The Leadership
Conference Education Fund



Jesselyn McCurdy
Deputy Director
Washington Legislative Office
American Civil Liberties Union and
American Civil Liberties Union
Foundation



Sonia Gill Hernandez
Policy Counsel
Policing Reform Campaign
NAACP Legal Defense and Educational
Fund, Inc.