

U.S. Department of Justice

Office of Information Policy

Telephone: (202) 514-3642

Washington, D.C. 20530

APR 2 0 2011

Laura Rotolo, Esq. ACLU of Massachusetts 3rd Floor 211 Congress Street Boston, MA 02110 Re: Appeal Nos. 2010-1465, 2010-1750,

2010-1751 & 2010-1753

Request Nos. 1141751, 1141755,

1141753 & 1141752

ADW:MTC

Dear Ms. Rotolo:

You appealed from the action of the Federal Bureau of Investigation on your requests for access to records pertaining to the locations, personnel composition, and participants in the Joint Terrorism Task Force.

The Freedom of Information Act provides for disclosure of many agency records. At the same time, Congress included in the FOIA nine exemptions from disclosure that provide protection for important interests such as personal privacy, privileged communications, and certain law enforcement activities. After carefully considering your appeals, I am affirming the FBI's action on your requests. The FBI properly withheld certain information that is protected from disclosure under the FOIA pursuant to 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(7)(E). This provision concerns records or information compiled for law enforcement purposes the release of which would disclose techniques and procedures for law enforcement investigations or prosecutions.

Please be advised that this Office's decision was taken only after a full review of this matter. Your appeals were assigned to an attorney with this Office who thoroughly reviewed and analyzed your appeals, your underlying requests, and the actions of the FBI in response to your requests.

If you are dissatisfied with my action on your appeals, the FOIA permits you to file a lawsuit in federal district court in accordance with 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(4)(B).

For your information, the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) offers mediation services to resolve disputes between FOIA requesters and Federal agencies as a non-exclusive alternative to litigation. Using OGIS services does not affect your right to pursue litigation. The contact information for OGIS is as follows: Office of Government Information Services, National Archives and Records Administration, Room 2510, 8601 Adelphi Road,

College Park, Maryland 20740-6001; e-mail at ogis@nara.gov; telephone at 301-837-1996; toll free at 1-877-684-6448; or facsimile at 301-837-0348.

Sincerely,

Janice Galli McLeod Associate Director