May 29, 2009

Carl Malamud
1005 Gravenstein Highway North
Sebastopol, CA 95472

Dear Carl Malamud:

We received your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request on May 28, 2009. You are specifically requesting copies of the following information:

- Any memorandum or budgetary documents that detail the total amount actually spent or the amount budgeted to be spent by Citizenship and Immigration Services to access the PACER system run by the Administrative Office of the Courts. The timeframe for your request is from 2000 to the present, as well as budget items for future fiscal periods.
- Any agreements, contracts, or memoranda of understanding between Citizenship and Immigration Services and the Administrative Office of the Courts governing access to the PACER system by Citizenship and Immigration Services staff.
- Any memoranda or other documents from Citizenship and Immigration Services management to Citizenship and Immigration Services lawyers asking them to curtail, limit, or otherwise ration their use of the PACER system due to cost considerations.
- Any contracts, memoranda, or budgetary materials detailing the specific agreements and amount of money spent by Citizenship and Immigration Services with commercial legal information providers such as Thomson WestLaw or the ReedElsevier LexisNexis service.

Your request is being handled under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. § 552). It has been assigned the following control number: NRC2009029809. Please cite this number in any further inquiry about this request.

You have asked to be recognized as a representative of the media and requested to waiver of duplication fees because the disclosure of the information is in the public interest. Your request is being held in abeyance at this time.

Additionally, we respond to requests on a first-in, first-out basis and on a multi-track system. This is to inform you that your request has been placed in the complex track. If you wish to narrow the scope or modify your request, please contact this office.

This office is now able to offer you the option of having your records copied to a Compact Disc (CD) for use on your personal computer. This option is an alternative to paper copies. The CD is readable on all computers through the use of Adobe Acrobat software. A version of Adobe Acrobat will be included on the CD. Your records can be viewed on your computer screen and can be printed onto paper. Only records 15 pages or more are eligible for CD printing.
You may check the status of your FOIA request online, at www.uscis.gov. Go to the “Freedom of Information Act” link at the bottom of the web page and then click on “FOIA Request Status Check” listed under the “Related Links” and follow the instructions. If you have any questions concerning your pending FOIA/PA request, please address them to this office, Attention: FOIA/PA Officer, or call us at 816-350-5570, or fax any FOIA/PA related correspondence to 816-350-5785.

Sincerely,

[T. Diane Cejka]
Director