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September 24, 2008

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
Freedom of Information Act Office
451 7th Street, SW, Room 10139
Washington, DC 20410-3000

Re: Freedom of Information Act Request - Staffing

Dear Freedom of Information Act Officer:

This request is pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act ("FOIA" or "the Act"), 5 U.S.C. § 552. On behalf of our client, the National Commission on Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity, we request that the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development ("HUD") provide any and all records, documents, and information sufficient to show:

- The number of full time equivalent positions ("FTEs") actually staffed at the Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity at HUD as of January 1 of each year beginning with January 1, 1988, and ending with January 1, 2008.
- Of the positions described above, the number dedicated to enforcement of the Fair Housing Act for each fiscal year, not including staff that engaged solely in enforcement of other civil rights authorities, staff which monitored the FHAP or FHIP program, or staff which provided administrative support.
- For each fiscal year beginning with Fiscal Year 1988 and ending with Fiscal Year 2008, the maximum number of staff authorized to be employed by FHEO ("the ceiling").

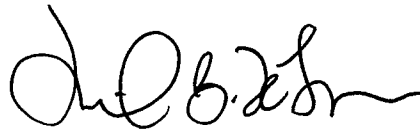
We anticipate that you will respond to the above requests within 20 working days, as specified in the Act. If you believe that is not possible, please contact me by telephone (212-859-8247), and we will attempt to work with you as necessary to facilitate your efforts to comply with the Act in a timely fashion.

If it is determined that any portion of the requested information is exempt from disclosure, we request that, in accordance with 5 U.S.C. § 552(b), all reasonably separable portions of the information or documents requested be provided. It is further requested that all documents or portions thereof for which an exemption is claimed (i) be identified with particularity and (ii) that the rationale supporting the claimed exemption be provided in writing.

The National Commission on Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity is not a commercial use requester, educational institution, or a representative of the news media, and so is an "Other Requester" for purposes of HUD's fees. The National Commission on Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity has submitted nine separate FOIA requests, which should be treated as one request for purposes of fee calculation. The National Commission on Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity agrees to pay all fees that may be incurred in processing these requests, up to a total of \$500. If HUD believes the fees will exceed \$500, please contact me by telephone so that we can discuss with you how we would like to proceed. Once the search and production are complete, please send the bill to us, and it will be paid within one month.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter. If you require any additional information or have questions related to the processing of these requests, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael B. de Leeuw". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "M" and a long, sweeping tail.

Michael B. de Leeuw