

F-2008-01525



AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

WASHINGTON, DC

VIA Regular Mail

UNROW CLINIC

June 24, 2008

Central Intelligence Agency  
Information and Privacy Coordinator  
Washington DC 20505

Re: FOIA Request

FOIA 09 2008

Dear FOIA Officer:

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. § 552, the UNROW Human Rights Impact Litigation Clinic at the Washington College of Law, American University, requests any and all records in any form or format (specifically including e-mail, even if currently only maintained on back-up tapes) from October 2001 onwards relating to, involving, describing or touching upon any and all investigations of civilian contractor involvement in detainee abuse connected to the wars in Iraq and/or Afghanistan, and/or any subsequent referrals of such investigations to the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of Virginia, and/or the disposition, if any, of those investigations.

Most specifically we seek records in any form or format (specifically including e-mail, even if currently only maintained on back-up tapes), including but not limited to those relating to:

1. The persons, agencies, departments, offices or personnel who first received reports of contractor abuse of detainees connected to the wars in Iraq and/or Afghanistan;
2. The conduct of investigations related to the wars in Iraq and/or Afghanistan connected to these claims of abuse, including but not limited to records relating to:
  - a. the assignment of personnel to conduct the investigation,
  - b. the offices for which they worked,
  - c. the evidence they gathered, including witnesses with whom they spoke,
  - d. and the final disposition or referral of these claims;
3. The referral of investigations, cases or claims to the U.S. Department of Justice, including, but not limited to, records relating to:
  - a. offices and personnel involved in the decision to refer the investigations, cases or claims,
  - b. the decision to refer the cases, investigations or claims, and
  - c. agencies, departments or organizations who referred cases, claims, or investigations to the DOJ;

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4. The conduct of investigations of contractor abuse by the DOJ including the assignment of personnel and resources, evidence-gathering abroad, coordination with other offices, departments or agencies, and/or coordination with Iraqi agencies (or those of any other foreign government);
5. The creation, operation and/or contours of operation (whether operating actively in a particular case or area or not) of a detainee abuse task force, as referenced in the statement by Attorney General Ashcroft on June 17, 2004 (copy attached), or any group or body initiated or formed to investigate matters relating to claims of alleged detainee abuse which includes, but is not limited to, records relating to:
  - a. the decision to refer cases to one specific U.S. attorney's office,
  - b. the assignment of personnel to such a force, group or body, including legal advisors, investigators, prosecutors, and
  - c. the jurisdiction and/or mandate of the task force, group or body;
6. Any report of any result of any investigation into claims or allegations of abuse, including, but not limited to, any reports to Congress, outside entities or persons, or other agencies or departments;
7. The conduct of investigations by the task force, including coordination with other departments, agencies, and offices; assignment or reassignment of personnel; indictments of any civilian contractors stemming from allegations of abuse;
8. The dismissal(s) by the task force of any investigations, cases or claims against civilian contractors including records documenting the purpose of the dismissal, the personnel who made the decision to dismiss the investigations, cases or claims;
9. Any indication of involvement by the Attorney General or Office of the Attorney General in the creation and/or operations and/or contour of operations of the task force;
10. Any indication of involvement by the Deputy Attorney General or Office of the Deputy Attorney General in the creation and/or operations and/or contour of operations of the task force;
11. Any indication of involvement by any White House or Executive Office of the President employees in the creation or operation and/or contour of operations of the task force;
12. The nature of abuse claimed or alleged, including any summaries of the kind of claims made and any evidence supporting such claims;

13. Allegations, claims, cases or investigations of contractor abuse of detainees connected with the wars in Iraq and/or Afghanistan that were not referred to the task force in the Eastern District of Virginia;
14. Any review by the State Department, or any of its officials, offices, bureaus or sections, of whether the reported conduct of any civilian contractors towards detainees related to the wars in Iraq and/or Afghanistan was in violation of the law, or of any codes or norms of behavior promulgated by the State Department, or of the terms of their contracts.

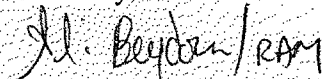
The UNROW Clinic is part of an educational institution – American University's Washington College of Law – and this request is made for a scholarly purpose and not for commercial use. Accordingly, there should be no search fees associated with this request. As to any copy fees, the Clinic is willing to pay any reasonable fees. We reserve, however, the right to request a general public interest fee waiver for information responsive to the request located and disclosed.

If you deny all or any part of this request, you are required, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. §552(b), effective December 31, 2007, to specify each exemption in connection with each item of information withheld which you believe justifies your refusal to release the information.

If you have any questions whatsoever regarding this FOIA request, or believe it would be useful to discuss it in any respect, please telephone the Clinic at (202) 274 4088.

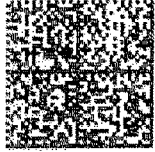
Thank you in advance for your prompt and proper response to this request as required by law.

Sincerely,



Professor Ali Beydoun  
UNROW Human Rights Impact Litigation  
Clinic  
American University  
Washington College of Law

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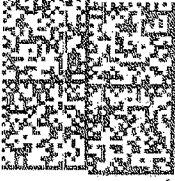


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