UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



November 26, 2018

Martha Fulford, Esq. National Student Legal Defense Network 1015 15th St. NW, Suite 600 Washington, D.C. 20005

RE: FOIA Request No. 18-02042-F

Dear Ms. Fulford:

This letter is an interim response to the above-cited request for records pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), 5 U.S.C. § 552, dated May 31, 2018. The request was forwarded to the appropriate office(s) to search for documents that may be responsive to your request.

FOIA Request 18-02042-F seeks:

- 1. All documents constituting ACICS's submission of additional evidence in response to [Secretary DeVos' April, 2018 3 Order regarding ACICS's status as a recognized accreditor (hereinafter "April 3 Order")], or which are otherwise being considered by the Department as being submitted by ACICS in response to the April 3 Order.
- 2. All communications between the United States Department of Education, including career and political employees, and any representative of ACICS, including staff, officers, and outside counsel, regarding the submission of documents by ACICS pursuant to the April 3 Order.

Enclosed is a CD containing 336 pages of documents (specifically, Exhibits 73 and 99 of the submission) that are responsive to Item 1 of your request. However, certain information has been withheld according to FOIA Exemption (b)(6), as specified below:¹

• Records or portions of records relating to personal information is exempt pursuant to 5 U.S.C. §552 (b)(6) of the FOIA. Disclosure of this information would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

Because this request is in litigation, if you have questions regarding this response, please contact AUSA Fred Haynes at Fred.haynes@usdoj.gov.

Sincerely,

/s/

Jill Siegelbaum General Attorney

¹ Please be advised that Exhibit 99 contains redactions that were part of the original records submitted to the Department. Redactions asserted by the Department will be marked with the FOIA Exemption upon which the redaction is based.

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Enclosure