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December 2, 2019

Ms. Michelle C. Curry
Department of Justice
Executive Office for Immigration Review
5107 Leesburg Pike, Suite 2600
Falls Church, VA 22041
michelle.curry@usdoj.gov

Dear Ms. Curry:

The National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) has become aware of a potential unauthorized disposition of Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR) records. The potential unauthorized disposition is based on an allegation made by the Transactional Records Access Clearinghouse (TRAC) at Syracuse University in the enclosed letter from TRAC Co-Directors, dated November 4, 2019, sent to EOIR Director James McHenry, and reported on by several media outlets.

Based on their data collection and analysis gathered via information released by EOIR under the FOIA, TRAC describes the potential deletion of records pertaining to Immigration Court cases. NARA's focus is not with data released or withheld from release based upon the appropriate application of the FOIA exemptions. Our focus is ensuring that the master file records are being properly maintained according to an approved records schedule and that no unauthorized disposition of federal records has occurred.

As the Records Officer for EOIR, NARA requests that you investigate this allegation of potential unauthorized disposition and submit a report to NARA within 30 calendar days. If an unauthorized disposition has occurred, please submit a report compliant with 36 CFR 1230.14. If no unauthorized disposition has occurred, please identify how the master file records are managed and accessible, including the applicable records control schedule item and a description of any electronic information system in which they are maintained.

Your attention to this matter is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

LAURENCE BREWER
Chief Records Officer
for the U.S. Government

Laurece N. Breweg

cc jeanette.plante@usdoj.gov