June 23, 2015

Via Certified Mail and E-Mail

Dorothy Lee
Office of Justice Programs
Office of the General Counsel
Attention: FOIA Staff
810 7th St., NW
Room 5400
Washington, DC 20531

Re: Freedom of Information Act Request

Dear Ms. Lee:

This is a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request on behalf of the Brennan Center for Justice at NYU School of Law.

The Brennan Center seeks successful grant applications submitted to the Research on Domestic Radicalization and Violent Extremism (DRVE) Program, administered by the Office of Justice Programs (OJP) and the National Institute of Justice (NIJ), for Fiscal Year (FY) 2012, FY 2013, FY 2014, and FY 2015. In addition, the Brennan Center requests all research funded by the DRVE Program in FY 2012, FY 2013, and FY 2014, as well as any materials citing this research.

Specifically, the Brennan Center hereby requests the following records:

1. The successful grant applications for federal funding through the DRVE Program for FY 2012, FY 2013, FY 2014, and FY 2015 (Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CDFA) Number 16.560).¹

a. For FY 2012, NIJ issued a solicitation for research proposals relating to domestic radicalization. It approved the following six projects and awarded a total of $3,053,281:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Awardee</th>
<th>Award Number</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>State</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Fiscal Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Community Policing Strategies To Counter Violent Extremism</td>
<td>Duke University</td>
<td>2012-ZA-BX-0002 (0)</td>
<td>$653,189</td>
<td>NC</td>
<td>Open</td>
<td>2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Empirical Assessment of Domestic Radicalization</td>
<td>University of Maryland</td>
<td>2012-ZA-BX-0005 (0)</td>
<td>$675,027</td>
<td>MD</td>
<td>Open</td>
<td>2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Identity and Framing Theory, Precursor Activities, and the Radicalization Process</td>
<td>University of Arkansas</td>
<td>2012-ZA-BX-0003 (0)</td>
<td>$423,939</td>
<td>AR</td>
<td>Open</td>
<td>2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lone Wolf Terrorism in America: Using Knowledge of Radicalization Pathways to Forge Prevention Strategies</td>
<td>Indiana State University</td>
<td>2012-ZA-BX-0001 (0)</td>
<td>$247,263</td>
<td>IN</td>
<td>Open</td>
<td>2012</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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2 Id.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Title</th>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>Grant No.</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Applicant Type</th>
<th>Award Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The Role of Social Networks in the Evolution of Al Qaeda-inspired Violent Extremism in the United States, 1993-2013</td>
<td>Brandeis University</td>
<td>2012-ZA-BX-0006 (0)</td>
<td>$459,969</td>
<td>MA</td>
<td>Open</td>
<td>2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Understanding Pathways to and away from Violent Radicalization among Resettled Somali Refugees</td>
<td>Children&quot;s Hospital Corporation</td>
<td>2012-ZA-BX-0004 (0)</td>
<td>$593,894</td>
<td>MA</td>
<td>Open</td>
<td>2012</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Brennan Center requests copies of the successful grant applications corresponding to the research projects listed above, including all supporting documentation. The Brennan Center also requests any communications between NIJ and approved applicants regarding modifications to their FY 2012 applications.
b. For FY 2013, NIJ issued a solicitation for research proposals relating to domestic radicalization. It approved the following six projects and awarded a total of $2,714,918:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Awardee</th>
<th>Award Number</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>State</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Fiscal Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Across the Universe? A Comparative Analysis of Violent Radicalization Across Three Offender Types with Implications for Criminal Justice Training and Education</td>
<td>University of Massachusetts Lowell</td>
<td>2013-ZA-BX-0002 (0)</td>
<td>$530,298</td>
<td>MA</td>
<td>Open</td>
<td>2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evaluating the Federal CVE Initiative</td>
<td>Duke University</td>
<td>2013-ZA-BX-0004 (0)</td>
<td>$246,493</td>
<td>NC</td>
<td>Open</td>
<td>2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evaluation of a Multi-Faceted, U.S. Community-Based Muslim-Led CVE Program</td>
<td>University of Massachusetts Lowell</td>
<td>2013-ZA-BX-0003 (0)</td>
<td>$525,020</td>
<td>MA</td>
<td>Open</td>
<td>2013</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Title</th>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>Grant Number</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>State</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prisoner Recollections: The Role of Internet Use and Real-Life Networks in the Early Radicalization of Islamist Terrorist Offenders</td>
<td>Brandeis University</td>
<td>2013-ZA-BX-0005 (0)</td>
<td>$148,941</td>
<td>MA</td>
<td>Open</td>
<td>2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sequencing Terrorists’ Precursor Behaviors: A Crime Specific Analysis</td>
<td>University of Arkansas</td>
<td>2013-ZA-BX-0001 (0)</td>
<td>$470,383</td>
<td>AR</td>
<td>Open</td>
<td>2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transnational Crimes among Somali-Americans: Convergences of Radicalization and Trafficking</td>
<td>The Board of Trustees of the University of Illinois</td>
<td>2013-ZA-BX-0008 (0)</td>
<td>$793,783</td>
<td>IL</td>
<td>Open</td>
<td>2013</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Brennan Center requests copies of the successful grant applications corresponding to the research projects listed above, including all supporting documentation. The Brennan Center also requests any communications between NIJ and approved applicants regarding modifications to their FY 2013 applications.
c. For FY 2014, NIJ issued a solicitation for research proposals related to domestic radicalization. It approved the following six projects and awarded a total of $3,139,545:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Awardee</th>
<th>Award Number</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>State</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Fiscal Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A Comparative Study of Violent Extremism and Gangs</td>
<td>University of Maryland</td>
<td>2014-ZA-BX-0002 (0)</td>
<td>$639,736</td>
<td>MD</td>
<td>Open</td>
<td>2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>An Assessment of Extremist Groups Use of Web Forums, Social Media, and Technology to Enculturate and Radicalize Individuals to Violence</td>
<td>Michigan State University</td>
<td>2014-ZA-BX-0004 (0)</td>
<td>$585,719</td>
<td>MI</td>
<td>Open</td>
<td>2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Empirical Assessment of Domestic Disengagement and Deradicalization (EAD3)</td>
<td>University of Maryland</td>
<td>2014-ZA-BX-0003 (0)</td>
<td>$620,545</td>
<td>MD</td>
<td>Open</td>
<td>2014</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gang Affiliation and Radicalization to Violent Extremism within Somali-American Communities</th>
<th>Children's Hospital Corporation</th>
<th>2014-ZA-BX-0001 (0)</th>
<th>$331,241</th>
<th>MA</th>
<th>Open</th>
<th>2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Radicalization on the Internet: Virtual Extremism in the US from 2012-2017</td>
<td>Arkansas State University</td>
<td>2014-ZA-BX-0014 (0)</td>
<td>$261,503</td>
<td>AR</td>
<td>Open</td>
<td>2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research and Evaluation on Domestic Radicalization to Violent Extremism: Research to Support Exit USA</td>
<td>Research Triangle Institute</td>
<td>2014-ZA-BX-0005 (0)</td>
<td>$700,801</td>
<td>NC</td>
<td>Open</td>
<td>2014</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Brennan Center requests copies of the successful grant applications corresponding to the research projects listed above, including all supporting documentation. The Brennan Center also requests any communications between NIJ and approved applicants regarding modifications to their FY 2014 applications.

d. For FY 2015, NIJ issued a solicitation for research proposals related to domestic radicalization. The Brennan Center requests copies of the successful grant applications, including all supporting documentation. The Brennan Center also requests any communications between NIJ and approved applicants regarding modifications to their FY 2015 applications.

2. The research products produced through the DRVE program for FY 2012, FY 2013, and FY 2014.

a. According to the FY 2012, FY 2013, and FY 2014 Solicitations for Applications, the primary objective of the DRVE Program is to produce research studies providing insight on domestic radicalization and developing empirical bases upon which to

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implement policies for countering violent extremism. Additionally, grant recipients are required to submit the following information to determine performance measures:

- A final report providing a comprehensive overview of the project and a detailed description of the project design, data, and methods; a full presentation of scientific findings; and a thorough discussion of the implications of the project findings for criminal justice practice and policy in the United States
- Quarterly financial reports, semi-annual progress reports, and a final progress report
- If applicable, every data set that was collected, acquired, or modified in conjunction with the project
- If applicable, citation to report(s)/document(s)

The Brennan Center requests all research studies produced by the eighteen projects funded for FY 2012, FY 2013, and FY 2014, including any documentation of the performance measures listed above.

3. Any OJP documents or communications that cite or reference the research products produced through the DRVE program for FY 2012, FY 2013, and FY 2014.

Fees

The Brennan Center is exempt from search and review fees as a noncommercial scientific institution, an educational institution, and a representative of the news media. 28 C.F.R. § 16.11(c)-(d). The Brennan Center is a non-profit, non-partisan public policy and law institute at the NYU School of Law that conducts research and disseminates to the public information about issues affecting justice and democracy. It is engaged in social science research and therefore meets the definition of a noncommercial scientific institution entitled to a waiver of search and review fees. In addition, the Brennan Center’s affiliation with NYU Law School (which is plainly an educational institution) means that the Center is exempt from review or search charges. Finally, the Brennan Center qualifies for a waiver as a representative of the news media under 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(4)(A)(ii)(II) based on its track record of publishing reports and papers.

In addition, as a noncommercial requester acting in the public interest, the Brennan Center is eligible for a waiver of duplication fees, or at the very least, a reduction of these fees under § 552(a)(4)(A)(ii)(II). For the same reason, we are entitled to the first 100 duplicated pages free of

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9 FY 2012 SOLICITATION FOR APPLICATIONS, supra note 1, at 6; FY 2013 SOLICITATION FOR APPLICATIONS, supra note 3, at 6; FY 2014 SOLICITATION FOR APPLICATIONS, supra note 5, at 7; FY 2015 SOLICITATION FOR APPLICATIONS, supra note 7, at 7.
10 FY 2012 SOLICITATION FOR APPLICATIONS, supra note 1, at 8; FY 2013 SOLICITATION FOR APPLICATIONS, supra note 3, at 10; FY 2014 SOLICITATION FOR APPLICATIONS, supra note 5, at 11; FY 2015 SOLICITATION FOR APPLICATIONS, supra note 7, at 29.
charge, 28 C.F.R. § 16.11(d)(3)(i), and to a waiver or reduction of any remaining duplication costs under 28 C.F.R. § 16.11(k).

**Expedited Processing**

Please provide expedited processing pursuant to 28 C.F.R. § 16.5(d)(1). The criteria for expedited processing are satisfied because there is an “urgency to inform the public about an actual or alleged federal government activity,” id. § 16.5(d)(1)(ii), and the Brennan Center is primarily involved in disseminating information to the public. In this case, the grant program identified above provides funding for research targeted toward preventing acts of domestic terrorism by using a “countering violent extremism” approach, which continues to be a subject of national importance and debate.\(^1\)

**Response Requested in 10 days**

Your attention to this request is appreciated, and I will anticipate your determination of our request within ten (10) calendar days pursuant to 28 C.F.R. 16.5(d)(4). Should you have any questions regarding this request, please contact me at your earliest convenience via e-mail at michael.price@nyu.edu or by telephone at (646) 292-8335.

Sincerely,

Michael Price  
Counsel, Liberty & National Security Program  
Brennan Center for Justice at NYU Law  
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New York, NY 10013  
michael.price@nyu.edu  
(646) 292-8335

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