

**BRENNAN**  
**CENTER**  
**FOR JUSTICE**

Brennan Center for Justice  
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January 23, 2015

Via Certified Mail and E-Mail

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Attn: FOI/PA Request  
Record/Information Dissemination Section  
170 Marcel Drive  
Winchester, VA 22602-4843

**Re: Freedom of Information Act Request**

To Whom It May Concern:

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 updated and current policy directives pertaining to the FBI's Community Outreach Program (COP).

By way of background, the Brennan Center has already obtained a 2010 policy directive titled "Community Outreach in Field Offices."<sup>1</sup> A recent news article describes an updated version of that directive, citing FBI sources.<sup>2</sup> As reported, a "2013 version" of the document serves as the FBI's "guidelines for community engagement" and requires officers to maintain "appropriate separation of operational and outreach efforts."<sup>3</sup>

The Brennan Center therefore specifically requests:

1. A copy of the above-mentioned 2013 policy directive regarding guidelines for community engagement or community outreach; and
2. Any similar policy directives issued between 2013 and the present.

**Fees**

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<sup>1</sup> FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION, CORPORATE POLICY DIRECTIVE 0634D- COMMUNITY OUTREACH IN FIELD OFFICES, 1 (2010) [hereinafter CPD-0634D] *available at* <http://www.brennancenter.org/sites/default/files/analysis/2010%20FBI%20Outreach%20Directive.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> Cora Currier, *Spies Among Us: How Community Outreach Programs To Muslims Blur Lines Between Outreach and Intelligence*, THE INTERCEPT, Jan. 21, 2015, *available at* <https://firstlook.org/theintercept/2015/01/21/spies-among-us-community-outreach-programs-muslims-blur-lines-outreach-intelligence/>

<sup>3</sup> *Id.*

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, 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, including nine this year alone. 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 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 policy directive identified above relates to programs whose improper functioning would place an undue burden on the civil liberties of law-abiding citizens. This matter continues to be of national importance and debate.<sup>4</sup>

### **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 by email at [michael.price@nyu.edu](mailto:michael.price@nyu.edu) or by phone at (646) 292-8335.

Sincerely,



Michael Price  
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Brennan Center for Justice  
161 Avenue of the Americas, 12th Floor  
[REDACTED]  
(646) 292-8335

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<sup>4</sup> *Id.*