

Freedom of Information Request

From: Chelsea Masters
American University, Washington College of Law
4801 Massachusetts Ave., NW Washington, DC 20016

To: Jacqueline B. Caldwell, FOIA Officer
Office of the U.S. Trade Representative
600 17th Street NW, Washington, D.C. 20508

DATE: February 29, 2012

I, Chelsea Masters at American University Washington College of Law, respectfully request, under 5 USC §552, access to (or a copy of) all records regarding any time in which trade associations, coalitions, or individual companies, holding or representing intellectual property rights, have met or corresponded with the Special 301 Committee, member(s) of the Special 301 Committee, or other employees of the USTR regarding information to be published in the 2012 Special 301 report. More specifically, I respectfully request access to (or a copy of) all records pertaining to:

- (1) whether meetings occurred between trade associations, coalitions, or individual companies, holding or representing intellectual property rights, and the Special 301 Committee, member(s) of the Special 301 Committee, or other employees of the USTR regarding information to be published in the 2012 Special 301 report
 - a. which trade associations, coalitions, or individual companies met with the Special 301 Committee, member(s) of the Special 301 Committee, or other employees of the USTR pursuant to compiling information for use in the 2012 Special 301 Report
 - b. the names and group and/or corporate affiliations of those who represented each of the parties in attendance at such meetings
 - c. the times and dates when such meetings occurred
 - d. the topics and minutes from these meetings
- (2) any correspondence between trade associations, coalitions, or individual companies, holding or representing intellectual property rights, and the Special 301 Committee, member(s) of the Special 301 Committee, or other employees of the USTR regarding information to be published in the 2012 Special 301 report
- (3) any discussion relating to how private meetings between trade associations, coalitions, or individual companies, and the Special 301 Committee and/or member(s) of the Special 301 Committee fit within federal law: specifically,
 - a. the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) and/or

Freedom of Information Request

b. the Open Meetings Law (5 USC §552b)

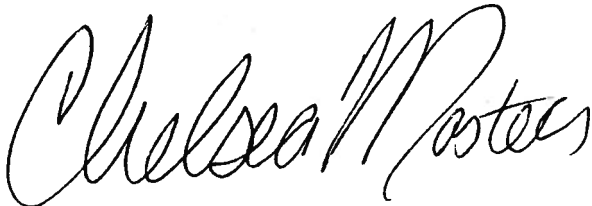
I request a waiver of fees because this inquiry regards information necessary for an ongoing research project at American University Washington College of Law, an educational institution as defined under 15 CFR §2004.9. My interest in these records is not primarily commercial and will be used for research purposes. Likewise, disclosure of the information will contribute significantly to public understanding of the operations or activities of the government because our purpose is to publically and accurately convey how the Special 301 process works in practice. The final product will be disseminated via the web and will likely be used in subsequently published research papers.

I will expect a response within 20 working days as provided by law. If my request is denied in whole or in part, I expect a detailed justification for withholding the records. I also request any segregable portions that are not exempt to be disclosed.

All information should be submitted to:

Chelsea Masters
CO: Program on Information Justice and Intellectual Property
American University, Washington College of Law
4801 Massachusetts Ave., NW Washington, DC 20016
and/or

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Chelsea Masters". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Chelsea" and last name "Masters" clearly legible.

--Chelsea Masters
JD/MA Candidate
American University
Washington College of Law

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20508

March 19, 2012

Ms. Chelsea Masters
American University, Washington College of Law
4801 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20016

Dear Ms. Masters:

The FOIA office has tried to contact you via the email you have provided, however, the email was returned as undeliverable.

Your request for all records related to an extremely broad subject matter does not adequately describe the documents you are seeking and would result in an unreasonable burden on the agency to locate and review all the documents that might be responsive.

Please provide a time period and/or date for the records and re-submit your request to the address below:

Jacqueline B. Caldwell
Office of the U.S. Trade Representative
1724 F St. N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20508

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact the FOIA office at (202) 395-3419

Sincerely,



Jacqueline B. Caldwell
FOIA Officer

Case File# 12031415

Enclosure