



Evlondo Cooper
Senior Fellow
Checks and Balances Project
1820 N. Fort Myer Drive, Suite 510
Arlington, VA 22209

April 20, 2017

Carlos B. Castillo
General Counsel
Florida International University
11200 S.W. 8th Street, PC 511
Miami, FL 33199
generalcounsel@fiu.edu

RE: Public Records Act Request

Dear Mr. Castillo:

My name is Evlondo Cooper, and I am a Senior Fellow with Checks and Balances Project, a nonpartisan government and industry watchdog blog.

Pursuant to Article I, section 24 of the Florida Constitution, and chapter 119, F.S., I am requesting an opportunity to inspect or obtain copies of public records that relate to Florida International University research into the safety and security of short-term rental markets, including:

- grants, contracts, research proposals and results of preliminary analyses; and
- communications records, including emails, between any representative of the American Hotel & Lodging Association (AHLA) and the staff or faculty of Florida International University concerning the aforementioned research project(s).

This request seeks records created and/or received from January 1, 2014 through today.

My request includes copies of every document related to this matter, regardless of the format in which the information is stored, including electronic records and emails.

If this request is denied in whole or in part, Chapter 119 requires that you indicate the applicable exemption to the Public Records Act. Also, please state with specificity the reasons for your decision, as required by Section 119.07(2)(a).

If you claim an exemption that only applies to a portion of the records, please redact that portion and provide photocopies of the remainder of the records, per Section 119.07(2)(a).

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I agree to pay the actual cost of duplication as defined in Section 119.07(1)(a). However, if you anticipate that the "extensive use" of information technology resources or extensive clerical or supervisory assistance will be necessary to satisfy this request, as defined in Section 119.07(1)(b), please provide us with a written estimate and justification if that cost will exceed \$100.

If access to the records I am requesting will take longer than 14 business days, please contact me at evlondo@checksandbalances.org with information about when I might expect copies or can inspect the requested records.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation with my request. Please contact me with any questions whatsoever. In addition to email, you can reach me by phone at 504-521-7440.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Evlondo Cooper', written in a cursive style.

Evlondo Cooper
Senior Fellow
Checks and Balances Project