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March 29, 2013

SENT VIA EMAIL

U.S. Department of Education
Office of Management
Regulatory Information Management Services
400 Maryland Avenue, SW, LBJ 2W220
Washington, DC 20202-4536
EDFOIAManager@ed.gov

Re: Freedom of Information Act Request

Dear Chief Information Officer:

On behalf of the National Consumer Law Center, pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), 5 U.S.C. § 552, I hereby request the following records:

Information about Private Collection Agency Contractor Performance Evaluation

- (1) All documents (including memorandum, letters, communications, forms, reports, and other data) used to calculate the Competitive Performance and Continuous Surveillance (CPCS) scores for each Private Collection Agency Contractor for Fiscal Year 2012, including documents and data submitted by each Private Collection Agency to the Department of Education.
- (2) All documents, results, and calculations relating to the ranking of Private Collection Agency Contractors based upon CPCS standing and scores for Fiscal Year 2012, including but not limited to:
 - a. The overall score awarded to each Private Collection Agency Contractor for every Performance Evaluation done in FY 2012;
 - b. The number of points awarded to each Private Collection Agency Contractor in all categories for every Performance Evaluation done in FY 2012; and
 - c. Each Private Collection Agency Contractor's ranking for every Performance Evaluation done in FY 2012.

www.NCLC.org

Boston Headquarters:

7 Winthrop Square
Boston, MA 02110-1245
Phone: 617/542-8010
Fax: 617/542-8028

Washington Office:

1001 Connecticut Ave. NW
Ste. 510
Washington, DC 20036-5528
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- (3) All memorandum, reports, and other documents indicating the amount of any bonuses and/or incentive fees paid to each Private Collection Agency Contractors based upon CPCS standing and scores, or for any other reason in Fiscal Year 2012.

In your response to this request, please specify whether: (1) you are providing all documents responsive to the request; (2) no documents exist that are responsive to the request; or (3) documents exist that are responsive to the request, but you are claiming that some or all of those documents are exempt from disclosure.

If it is your position that some of the requested documents or some portion of any of the requested documents are exempt from disclosure, please provide the nonexempt portions of those records. In addition, if it is your position that records exist that are responsive to this request, but that those records (or portions of those records) are exempt from disclosure, please identify the records that are being withheld and state the basis for the denial for each document being withheld. Also, please identify the person making the decision to deny the request.

The National Consumer Law Center requests that all fees in connection with this FOIA request be waived in accordance with 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(4)(A)(iii), because it does not seek the records for a commercial purpose and disclosure is in the public interest because it is likely to contribute significantly to public understanding of the operations and activities of the government. The National Consumer Law Center, a nonprofit corporation founded in 1969, assists consumers, advocates, and public policy makers nationwide who use the powerful and complex tools of consumer law to ensure justice and fair treatment for all, particularly those whose poverty renders them powerless to demand accountability.

The National Consumer Law Center regularly issues reports, books, and newsletters on consumer issues, including student loan law, which are distributed to consumers, lawyers, academics, and other interested parties. These publications, which are listed on our website, www.nclc.org and www.studentloanborrowerassistance.org, often include information obtained through FOIA. We expect to publish information we receive pursuant to this FOIA request because to do so would contribute significantly to the public's understanding of student loan programs. Please note that your office has previously granted fee waivers for our organization and should have basic information about us on file.

Accordingly, we request that you waive all fees for locating and duplicating the requested records. If, however, a waiver is not granted, then please advise us of the amount of any proposed search and reproduction charges before those activities are carried out.

We will expect a response within 20 working days as provided by law. If you have any questions regarding this request, please contact me at (617) 542-8010.

Thank you very much for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,
/s/
Persis S. Yu