Mr. Clay Johnson, III  
Chairman  
Presidential Management Committee  
Office of Management and Budget  
Washington, DC 20503  

Dear Mr. Johnson:  

On June 1, 2007, the Attorney General issued a second report to the President pursuant to E.O. 13392. The report stated that each agency that reported a deficiency in meeting one or more milestones in the FOIA Improvement Plan shall submit to the President’s Management Council an updated status report that describes the progress the agency is making in correcting the deficiency or deficiencies.  

Attached are the final milestones and the corresponding corrective actions for your review in accordance with the Department of Justice’s memo to all Chief FOIA Officers.  

If you or a member of your staff has any questions about the above, please contact Hugh Gilmore, Director Disclosure Services at 202-622-0876.  

Sincerely,  

Wesley T. Foster  
Acting Assistant Secretary for Management and  
Chief FOIA Officer  

Attachments
1. Identify the FOIA Improvement Plan area to which your deficient milestone relates.

FINCEN’s deficient milestone relates to backlog reduction.

2. Identify the deficient milestone (including the original target date listed in the agency’s FOIA Improvement Plan).

FINCEN failed to meet the milestone of a 5% reduction in backlog by December 31, 2006; instead a 1.1% increase was noted. FOIA tasks were assigned to one full-time employee who was absent the first three weeks of the fiscal year. This coupled with an increase in FOIA requests were reasons for the setback.

3. Describe the specific steps you have taken to date to correct the deficiency, including the dates by which you completed these steps (this should include every corrective step listed in your FY06 Annual FOIA Report that you have since completed).

Corrective measures taken were to reassign an additional full-time employee devoted to fast track requests and by revising the tracking system to better monitor fast tracks. This was designed to accomplish the 5% goal which was achieved by March 31, 2007. FINCEN has now closed almost 90% of its requests. As of June 30, 2006, FinCEN had an inventory of 69 over aged cases. As of June 30, 2007, FinCEN had an inventory of 7 over aged cases. This is a reduction of 89.9%. FinCEN will continue to strive to reduce the over aged cases by the planned 10% each year.

4. Describe any additional steps that you will be taking in the future to correct the deficiency, including the dates by which you will complete these steps (this should include every corrective step listed in your FY06 Annual FOIA Report that you have not yet completed).

Continued monitoring of the corrective measures and revision of the multi-track system results will be reviewed at the next milestone, September 30, 2007.
1. Identify the FOIA Improvement Plan area to which your deficient milestone relates.

OTS's deficient milestone relates to backlog reduction.

2. Identify the deficient milestone (including the original target date listed in the agency's FOIA Improvement Plan).

As of June 30, 2006, OTS had a backlog of 95 FOIA requests. OTS failed to meet the milestone of a 5% reduction in backlog by December 31, 2006, and instead reported an additional seven backlogged requests (an increase of 7.4%). On March 19, 2007, OTS reduced its backlog to 81 requests (a decrease of 14.7%), and as of June 30, 2007, further reduced its backlog to 74 requests, thus achieving an additional 7.4% reduction in backlog. Altogether, OTS has reduced its backlog from June 30, 2006, to June 30, 2007, by 22.1%.

3. Describe the specific steps you have taken to date to correct the deficiency, including the dates by which you completed these steps (this should include every corrective step listed in your FY06 Annual FOIA Report that you have since completed).

To correct the deficiency, OTS's FOIA staff worked additional hours beyond their normal tours of duty, thus enabling OTS to exceed the 5% reduction in backlog on March 19, 2007. As of July 9, 2007, certain non-FOIA duties were reassigned to other personnel, thus allowing one part-time FOIA staff member to now deal with FOIA matters on a full-time basis.

4. Describe any additional steps that you will be taking in the future to correct the deficiency, including the dates by which you will complete these steps (this should include every corrective step listed in your FY06 Annual FOIA Report that you have not yet completed).

Continued monitoring of progress will be compared with results taken on next milestone. OTS is on target for meeting the milestone of a 10% reduction in backlog by September 30, 2007.