



UNITED STATES COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS

624 NINTH STREET, NW, WASHINGTON, DC 20425

www.usccr.gov

July 30, 2008

Mr. Kent Talbert
General Counsel
U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue, SW
Room 6E300
Washington, DC 20202

Dear Mr. Talbert:

I am writing to you in my official capacity as the Staff Director for the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights (the Commission). The Commission has instructed me to request that DOE grant access to members of the Commission (or to Commission personnel I designate) to certain documents maintained by DOE as specified below. We will be happy to inspect the documents on your premises.

The documents to which we seek access were ordered by Secretary Spellings from the Council of the Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar of the American Bar Association (the "Council") in a letter dated June 20, 2007. According to that letter, these documents include the following:

- a. Any and all site evaluation reports of any school;
- b. Any and all training, retreat, or workshop materials provided to the Council ensuring compliance with the Criteria for Recognition;
- c. Any and all training, retreat, or workshop materials provided to the Accreditation Committee ensuring compliance with the Criteria for Recognition;
- d. Any and all training, retreat, or workshop materials provided to the Council's site team evaluators ensuring compliance with the Criteria for Recognition;
- e. Any and all studies, determinations, conclusions, transcripts, memoranda, and/or recommendations as to whether a school complies, or does not comply, with the Council's standards;
- f. Minutes, agendas, and transcripts of any and all meetings of the Council;
- g. Minutes, agendas, and transcripts of any and all meetings of the Accreditation Committee;
- h. Minutes, agendas, and transcripts of any and all meetings of the Executive Committee of the Council.

As your are aware, pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1975 b(e), "All federal agencies shall cooperate fully with the Commission to the end that it may effectively carry out its functions and duties."

The U.S. Commission on Civil Rights appreciates your cooperation in this matter. We would appreciate an early response and access to these documents by August 11, 2008.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Martin Dannenfelser". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Martin Dannenfelser
Staff Director