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October 20, 2014

VIA CERTIFIED MAIL

Department of Homeland Security Science and Technology Directorate Washington, D.C. 20528 Attn: Katrina Hagan, FOIA Officer/Public Liaison

Re: Freedom of Information Act Request

Dear FOIA Officer,

This letter constitutes a request under the Freedom of Information Act ("FOIA"), 5 U.S.C. § 552, and is submitted on behalf of the Electronic Privacy Information Center ("EPIC").

EPIC seeks records in possession of the Department of Homeland Security ("DHS") regarding the Department's Future Attribute Screening Technology ("FAST") Project.

#### Background

DHS's Science and Technology Directorate ("S&T") is the sponsor of FAST, an ongoing research program, which aims to develop a means to remotely view and analyze a subject by using multiple sensors to measure various physiological markers in order to assess the likelihood that the subject will commit a crime.<sup>1</sup>

EPIC has previously filed two FOIA requests regarding the FAST Program on June 7<sup>th</sup> and August 5<sup>th</sup> of 2011. USA Spending lists 13 transactions since the receipt of its previously requested FOIA documents:

- 1. 9-15-2014; HSHQDC10C00012 / P00018
- 2. 5-27-2014; HSHQDC10C00012 / P00017
- 3. 5-21-2014; HSHQDC10C00012 / P00016
- 4. 1-30-2014; HSHODC10C00012 / P00015
- 5. 12-30-2013; HSHQDC10C00012 / P00006

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Declan McCullagh, *Real Life Minority Report Program Gets A Tryout*, CBS News, Oct. 7, 2011, at http://www.cbsnews.com/news/real-life-minority-report-program-gets-a-try-out/.

- 6. 9-20-2013; HSHQDC10C00012 / P00014
- 7. 7-01-2013; HSHODC10C00012 / P00013
- 8. 12-19-2012; HSHQDC10C00012 / P00012
- 9. 9-24-2012; HSHQDC10C00012 / P00011
- 10. 8-17-2012; HSHQDC10C00012 / P00010
- 11. 6-14-2012; HSHQDC10C00012 / P00009
- 12. 4-30-2012; HSHQDC10C00012 / P00008
- 13. 12-13-2011; HSHQDC10C00012 / P00007

## **Documents Requested**

EPIC requests copies of the following records:

- 1. All Requests for Proposal, contracts, grant allocations, and Statements of Work for performing field-testing operations;
- 2. All technical specifications for data retention from sensors (and combinations of sensors) deployed in field-testing;
- 3. All recordings of any testing of FAST technologies since December 13, 2011;
- 4. All documents related to future field-testing of FAST technologies (including but not limited to Plan of Action and Milestones, Memoranda of Agreement/Understanding, and contracts).

## Request for "News Media" Fee Status

EPIC is a "representative of the news media" for fee waiver purposes.<sup>2</sup> Based on our status as a "news media" requester, we are entitled to receive the requested record with only duplication fees assessed. Further, because disclosure of this information will "contribute significantly to public understanding of the operations or activities of the government," any duplication fees should be waived. It is important for the public to be made aware of and to understand the capabilities and distribution of the FAST Project.

#### Conclusion

Thank you for your consideration of this request. As provided in 5 U.S.C. §552(6)(A)(i), I will anticipate your determination on our request for expedited processing within 20 business days. For questions regarding this request I can be contacted at 202-483-1140 ext. 111 or FOIA@epic.org.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> EPIC v. Department of Defense, 241 F. Supp. 2d 5 (D.D.C. 2003).

Respectfully Submitted,

Taesung Lee

Ginger P. McCall

Director, EPIC Open Government Project