

April 10, 2017

Salam Al-Marayati President Muslim Public Affairs Council 3010 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 217 Los Angeles, California 90010

Dear Mr. Al-Marayati:

Thank you for your January 31, 2017 letter.

Following the implementation of Executive Order (E.O.) 13769 entitled, "Protecting the Nation from Foreign Terrorist Entry into the United States" (January 27, 2017), the Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties (CRCL) was alerted to concerns from stakeholders, including the receipt of formal complaints, alleging civil rights and civil liberties violations related to the E.O.

While CRCL has opened complaints based upon these allegations, pursuant to statute and DHS policy, CRCL must forward the complaint allegations to the DHS Office of Inspector General (OIG) for review, and OIG has the right of first refusal. In this case, OIG has publicly announced an investigation into the implementation of E.O. 13769. CRCL anticipates initiating an investigation into any civil rights and civil liberties issues that have not been addressed once OIG investigation concludes.

Your letter requests regular reports to Congress regarding these issues. Pursuant to E.O. 13780, also entitled "Protecting the Nation from Foreign Terrorist Entry Into the United States" (March 6, 2017), section 2(g), the Secretary of State and the Secretary of Homeland Security are directed to submit reports to the President every 30 days, for 150 days, regarding the implementation of E.O. 13780 (although these reports are currently enjoined by the courts). If these reports are submitted at some point in the future, I expect CRCL to have an appropriate role, should those reports address the concerns noted in your letter.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> See Office of Inspector General, Press Release, "Inspector General Announces Review of Implementation of Executive Order" (Feb. 1, 2017), available at https://www.oig.dhs.gov/assets/pr/217/oigpr-020217.pdf.

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Thank you for your continued partnership with the Department, including your membership in our Faith-based Security and Communications Advisory Committee, and your regular participation and leadership in our community engagement events. We look forward to continuing to work with you as we work together to keep our country safe. Should you wish to discuss this further, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

John F. Kelly