

# Freedom of Information Request

February 29, 2012

From: Michael Palmedo  
American University, Washington College of Law  
4801 Massachusetts Ave., NW Washington, DC 20016

To: Office of Information Programs and Services  
A/GIS/IPS/RL  
U. S. Department of State  
Washington, D.C. 20522-8100

I, Michael Palmedo, a researcher at American University Washington College of Law, respectfully request, under 5 USC §552, access to (or a copy of) all records regarding Circular 175 memoranda related to the Anti Counterfeiting Trade Agreement (ACTA) and subsequent legal memoranda. More specifically, I respectfully request :

- (1) access to (or a copy of) all records pertaining to any Circular 175 memorandum pertaining to ACTA including any attachments or exhibits included with the Circular 175 Memoranda. In short, I would like:
  - a copy of the memo,
  - the accompanying Memorandum of Law,
  - and *all* subsequently related documents.
  
- (2) if no such Circular 175 memorandum exists pertaining to ACTA, I would like access to (or a copy of) the statement from the Office of the Legal Advisor at the State Department as to why ACTA does not qualify as an “international agreement” under 22 CFR 181.3 and/or any other statement related to why the State Department does not have a Circular 175 on ACTA

I request a waiver of fees because this inquiry regards information necessary for an ongoing research project at American University Washington College of Law, an educational institution as defined under 22 CFR §171.11(m) and (n). My interest in these records is not primarily commercial and will be used for research purposes. Likewise, disclosure of the information will contribute significantly to public understanding of the government’s operations or activities because we intend to use the research to convey accurate facts related to ACTA’s ratification process. The final product will be disseminated via the web and will likely be used in subsequently published research papers.

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I will expect a response within 20 working days as provided by law. If my request is denied in whole or in part, I expect a detailed justification for withholding the records. I also request any segregable portions that are not exempt to be disclosed.

All information should be submitted to:

Michael Palmedo  
American University, Washington College of Law  
4801 Massachusetts Ave., NW Washington, DC 20016  
and/or  
mpalmedo@wcl.american.edu.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Mike Palmedo