

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**

PUBLIC EMPLOYEES FOR
ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY,

Plaintiff,

v.

BUREAU OF INDIAN EDUCATION

Defendant.

CIVIL ACTION NO. 1:23-cv-2194 (LLA)
(ECF)

JOINT STATUS REPORT

Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility (“Plaintiff”) and the Bureau of Indian Education (“Defendant”) (collectively “the parties”), by and through undersigned counsel, respectfully submit this Joint Status Report in this case under the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. § 552, *et seq.* (“FOIA”). In support hereof, the parties jointly proffer the following:

1. This case stems from Plaintiff’s April 20, 2023 FOIA request for the report concluding Defendant’s 2022 investigation concerning wide-ranging improprieties, ranging from sexual assaults on students to embezzlement and theft of property at Haskell Indian Nations University. *See* ECF No. 1 at 3 ¶ 11.
2. At the time of the last status report, the parties believed to have resolved the merits of the case, and thus they began fee negotiations. In recent days, however, Plaintiff PEER received information that raises questions that may cause the parties to revisit the merits. Thus, unfortunately the parties require more time to assess this new information, and, if a dispute remains, attempt to resolve it.
3. Accordingly, the parties propose that by September 5, 2024, they shall file a stipulation

of settlement and dismissal or, if negotiations are still ongoing, a further status report.

A proposed Order reflecting the requested relief is attached for the Court's consideration, but a Minute Order would be just a welcome if the Court prefers.

August 1, 2024

Respectfully submitted,

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ORDER

After considering this motion, the record herein, and applicable law,

it is this ____ day of _____, 2024, hereby

ORDERED, that the parties' proposal is hereby ADOPTED; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that the parties may file another Joint Status Report or briefing schedule no later than September 5, 2024.

HON. LOREN L. ALIKHAN
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE