UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

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BRENNAN CENTER FOR JUSTICE AT NYU SCHOOL OF LAW, Plaintiff, v. UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, *et al.*,

Defendants.

Civil Action No. 1:20-cv-02674-TJK

Plaintiff and Defendants, by their counsel, respectfully submit this Joint Status Report pursuant to the Court's Minute Order of April 19, 2021.

JOINT STATUS REPORT

Joint Statement of the Parties

The parties jointly provide the following update:

1. In response to Plaintiff's April 13, 2021 letter identifying a number of concerns with Defendants' revised *Vaughn* indices, including entries in which Plaintiff alleges that the government was over-withholding responsive, segregable information under the deliberative process and the presidential communications privileges, Defendants Census Bureau and Commerce Department have released previously undisclosed portions of 60 records that these Defendants had previously withheld in full or in part.

2. On May 17, 2021, counsel for Plaintiff and Defendants met and conferred. Counsel for Defendants represented that his clients will produce 3 additional documents identified in Plaintiff's April 13 letter with limited redactions and will continue to withhold in full 3 other records identified in that letter. The remaining 4 documents identified in Plaintiff's April 13 letter

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for which Defendants have not provided a response are subject to an ongoing inter-agency review process. Defendants will provide a response as to those documents when that review is complete

3. The parties jointly request to file another Joint Status Report in 30 days, on June 16, 2021, to permit Defendants to complete their inter-agency review process.

Dated: May 17, 2021

BRIAN D. NETTER Deputy Assistant Attorney General

ELIZABETH J. SHAPIRO Deputy Director, Federal Program Branch

<u>/s/ Stephen M. Elliott</u> STEPHEN M. ELLIOTT Senior Counsel (PA Bar No. 203986) United State Department of Justice Civil Division, Federal Programs Branch 1100 L St. NW Washington, DC 20005 Tel: (202) 353-0889 Fax: (202) 616-8470 E-mail: stephen.m.elliott@usdoj.gov

Counsel for Defendants

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Patrick J. Carome

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