EXHIBIT A

KNIGHT
FIRST AMENDMENT
INSTITUTE
at Columbia University

RAMYA KRISHNAN
Staff Attorney

October 19, 2018

Information and Privacy Coordinator
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, DC 20505

Re: Freedom of Information Act Request
Expedited Processing Requested

To whom it may concern,

The Knight First Amendment Institute at Columbia University ("Knight Institute" or "Institute")[1] submits this request pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act ("FOIA"), 5 U.S.C. § 552, for records relating to the journalist Jamal Khashoggi.

I. Background

When an Intelligence Community ("IC") element acquires information indicating an impending threat of intentional killing, serious bodily injury, or kidnapping directed at a person, Intelligence Community Directive 191 ("Directive 191") requires the element to "warn the intended victim or those responsible for protecting the intended victim, as appropriate."[2] Directive 191 further obligates IC elements to "document and maintain records" on any actions taken pursuant to that duty. Directive 191, § 13.

Jamal Khashoggi, a columnist for the *Washington Post*, is believed to have been killed after entering a Saudi consulate in Istanbul on October 2, 2018.[3] The *Washington Post* reports that, before his disappearance, U.S. intelligence agencies intercepted communications of Saudi officials discussing a plan to

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capture Khashoggi.[4] It is not publicly known, however, whether the U.S. government warned Khashoggi of that threat. The Knight Institute seeks to inform the public about the U.S. government's compliance, or failure to comply, with its duty to warn Khashoggi of any known and impending threats to his safety.

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The Knight Institute seeks the following records:

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Where a document contains information that falls into one or more of the categories described above, we seek the entirety of that document. If processing the entirety of a given document would be unusually burdensome, we ask that you give us an opportunity to narrow our request. Please disclose all segregable portions of otherwise exempt records. *See* 5 U.S.C. § 552(b).

III. Application for Expedited Processing

The Knight Institute requests expedited processing pursuant to 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(6)(E). Obtaining, analyzing, and publicly disseminating information

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about government activity are among the Institute's core activities.[6] Furthermore, the requested records are urgently needed to inform the public about actual or alleged government activity. The disappearance of Jamal Khashoggi is the subject of national attention. Last week, a bipartisan group of 22 senators sent a letter to President Donald Trump expressing concern about the incident and requesting that the President make a determination on the imposition of sanctions on the responsible party within 120 days.[7]

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The Knight Institute requests a waiver of document search, review, and duplication fees on three grounds. First, the disclosure of the requested records is in the public interest and that disclosure is "likely to contribute significantly to the public understanding of the operations or activities of the government and is not primarily in the commercial interest of the requester." 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(4)(A)(iii). Second, the Institute is a "representative of the news media" within the meaning of FOIA and the records are not sought for commercial use. 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(4)(A)(ii)(II). Third, the Institute qualifies as an "educational . . . institution" whose purposes include "scholarly . . . research" and the records are not sought for commercial use. 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(4)(A)(ii)(II).

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Sincerely,

/s/ Ramya Krishnan

Ramya Krishnan
Adi Kamdar
Knight First Amendment Institute at Columbia University
475 Riverside Drive, Suite 302
New York, NY 10115
ramya.krishnan@knightcolumbia.org
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David M. Hardy, Chief
Record/Information Dissemination Section
Records Management Division
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Department of Justice
170 Marcel Drive
Winchester, VA 22602-4483

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FOIA Officer
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9800 Savage Road, Suite 6932
Ft. George G. Meade, MD 20755-6932

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Patricia Gaviria, Director
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ATTN: FOIA/PA
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Washington, D.C. 20511

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FOIA Officer
U.S. Department of State
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A/GIS/IPS/RL
SA-2, Suite 8100
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