Holding off on sending to Margo, unless you think I should

Let's open and add to the complaint.

Thanks,

jeff

Thanks, This is great.

If Jeff approves, Compliance will open complaints into these allegations and add them to the overarching religious questioning investigation.

As we discussed, contact information for these individuals would be helpful – we can send information to complainants c/o NGOs if they prefer, and we do accept anonymous complaints (though they are difficult to investigate). I know it can be hard to push a submission form on people, and certainly people don't have to fill out this form in order to file a complaint, but I thought the form might be helpful to the Engagement Team as a list of details that are useful for Compliance staff to have when completing an investigation (e.g., how/who to contact if we have follow-up questions, where do we send close letters, etc.).
Below are some of the cases we have come in contact. We will continue to add to the bucket your are creating. Let me know if there is need for additional information on these individuals:

- a Portland, Maine, resident, complained that while returning from an overseas trip on November 17, 2009, CPB Officers at Logan Airport detained him and confiscated his electric equipment including cameras and phones. He states that he was held for more than four hours and was asked questions related to his religious practices including how often he prays and what mosque he attends. This individual alleges that he was denied use of bathroom while in secondary screening and some of his belongings were mailed to his home after a month.

- a Portland-Maine, Resident, alleges that upon returning to the country through Boston Logan Airport in August 2009 he was detained along with his son, 15 years old, and held for over four hours. Religious questions included the mosque he attended and how often he prayed were asked.

- A Portland resident of Somali origin, claims on September 05, 2009, that she along with her children were detained for hours at Boston Airport by CPB officers and were asked inappropriate questions. Her son was asked whether the number on his basketball jersey was a reference to a verse in the Quran. She also claims that she was denied to respond to her diabetic daughter’s cries. Other questions included why she purchased clothing items in Egypt, why she did not marry while she was overseas since other Somali women get married when they go abroad and why she was not fasting that particular day. She said CPB did not provide interpretation while she was interrogated and her son was told to “shut up stupid” when he tried to interpret for her.

FYI – we received allegations via the ACLU this summer and opened a complaint. It is
already included in the docs.

From: (b) (6) [mailto](b) (6)
Sent: Tuesday, March 29, 2011 1:10 PM
To: (b) (6) (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Shora, Kareem
Subject: RE: Names/Dates

We were asked to collect all issues re: Boston Logan, so I've decided these between TSA and CBP accordingly. Hopefully can get you his cases shortly.

Thanks,
(b) (6)

TSA:

- (b) (6) a Massachusetts resident, who flies out of Boston Logan International Airport is concerned that as an individual with disabilities (has two complete knee replacements which will set off metal detector and due to cancer wears a prosthetic breast), she will be unfairly treated by TSA. She does not want to use the AIT because as a cancer survivor, she is afraid of the radiation levels, but also is concerned about the lack of information publically available regarding the pat-down procedures. She reports that she was asked to unzip her pants in a public area at Boston Airport several years ago and due to this traumatic experience is wary of pat-downs. CRCL contacted by ACLU-MA re: this issue on January 11, 2011, notified TSA OCRL.

TSA and CBP (though no religious questioning alleged):

- (b) (6) Muslim community member. States that while departing a flight from Boston Logan airport, he is delayed and asked questions such as where he is going and how much money he is carrying. Added that his luggage is always checked thoroughly. TSA allegedly once instructed him to hold his hands against a wall and spread eagle his legs and then patted him down. In June and in September 2009 after returning from Pakistan, he states that CBP officers escorted him to secondary, he noticed that the holding room was filled with Muslims and Hispanics. His electronics including cell phone, laptop, camera all were allegedly taken away and then returned after data from each device was downloaded. States he has gone through these experiences six times and each time TSA and CBP are allegedly becoming “bolder and harsher.” Instructed to use DHS TRIP.

CBP:

- (b) (6) Somali community member who is a US Citizen. States that he is always stopped and held before he boards a flight at Boston Logan International Airport. Also states that he is repeatedly sent to secondary screening while entering Boston POE from overseas. CBP has asked him questions about what tribe he belongs to and about his Muslim faith. CRCL contacted by ACLU-MA regarding this issue on 10/18/2011 and instructed to use DHS TRIP.
• Somali community member who is a US Citizen and has been a member of the US National Track and Field Team and the 2008 US Olympic team. States that he was always delayed while traveling secondary screening by TSA and CBP. Has gone through DHS TRIP.
  o TSA has allegedly subject him to dog sniffing and strip searches, and he says he has repeatedly been delayed and often missed flights. States that in front of teammates, he felt like he was singled out and “treated like a criminal.”
  o Says he also has had significant problems while re-entering the US. CBP allegedly routinely asks him questions such as what tribe he belongs to (to which he states he responds that he is American), what mosque he prays at, how often he prays, and whether family members are religious. His states that his electronic items are taken and their contents are copied.
  o In late November 2009, he says he entered the US after visiting his wife who resides in Egypt in order to be present for the birth of his child and was detained by CBP. CBP allegedly took his camera, looked at his photos, and asked why his newborn son was white. The photos also contained pictures of his wife not wearing her usual hijab and he states he was upset that a male CBP agent was looking at her pictures. He states he was then allowed to leave, but his passport was held.
  o In April 2010, he states he traveled to Egypt to see his wife and child and on his return to Boston, CBP again detained him. When he asked to speak to a supervisor he was allegedly yelled at by a woman with a dog and told to sit down. He states his computer, camera, cell phone, ipod were taken away and returned after contents were copied and downloaded.

From: (b) (6) 
Sent: Tuesday, March 29, 2011 12:55 PM 
To: (b) (6) 
Subject: Names/Dates

Could you please send me your list?

From: (b) (6) 
Sent: Tuesday, March 29, 2011 12:53 PM 
To: (b) (6) 
Cc: Blumberg, Jeffrey; Kessler, Tamara; Shora, Kareem
Subject: RE: Names/Dates

(b) (6) – I've included 3-4 individuals on the list. (b) has the more important cases though from Somali community members.

(b) - would you please let (b) (6) know when you expect to have your input completed?

Thanks,
(b) (6)
You said last week (?) you were collecting names/dates from individuals who have experienced inappropriate religious questioning at Logan and in Lewiston. Do you have an ETA? I'm sure Margo would like to add them to the big bucket of complaints.

Many thanks!