



U.S. Department of Justice

Office of Legislative Affairs

Office of the Assistant Attorney General

Washington, D.C. 20530

July 1, 2016

The Honorable Charles E. Grassley
Chairman
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman:

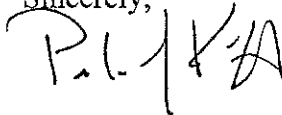
This responds to your letter to the Attorney General and the United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Virginia dated June 2, 2016, regarding *United States v. Lazar*, 1:14-CR-213 (EDVA), a criminal case currently pending in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia.

The Department of Justice (the Department) takes seriously its obligations to provide rights and services to crime victims under the Crime Victims' Rights Act, 18 U.S.C. § 3771, and the Victims' Rights and Restitution Act, 42 U.S.C. § 10607. In this case, the United States Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of Virginia, the Department's Computer Crime and Intellectual Property Section, and federal agents are using their best efforts to identify victims and provide them with their legally mandated rights and services. This effort has included conducting interviews, including interviews of the defendant following his guilty plea, as well as reviewing records and other available evidence. Because new information continues to become available, the process of identifying victims remains ongoing. Approximately 100 victims have been identified to date and entered into the Department's Victim Notification System, which is the method by which we provide victims with all mandated notices. Some of these individuals have contacted the United States Attorney's Office and conferred with a prosecutor or victim-witness specialist about the case.

Consistent with the Crime Victim's Rights Act, which specifies that victims' privacy must be respected, the Department does not comment on the identity of particular victims or the manner and content of their communications with the Department, except as required by law and for law enforcement purposes, such as the naming of specific victims in a bill of particulars. Moreover, consistent with its longstanding policy, the Department does not discuss ongoing matters, a policy which is intended to protect the effectiveness and integrity of the criminal justice process, as well as the privacy interests of third parties.

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We hope this information is helpful. Please do not hesitate to contact this office if we may provide additional assistance regarding this or any other matter.

Sincerely,


Peter J. Kadzik
Assistant Attorney General

cc: The Honorable Patrick J. Leahy
Ranking Member