Exhibit 53



U.S. Department of Justice

Civil Rights Division

Coordination and Review Section - NWB 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20530

August 14, 2009

VIA ELECTRONIC AND FIRST CLASS MAIL

Robert N. Driscoll Alston & Bird LLP 950 F Street, NW Washington, DC 20004

RE: <u>Investigation of the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office</u>

Dear Mr. Driscoll:

We write to memorialize our recent e-mail exchange regarding our investigation of allegations of national origin discrimination and the denial of services to individuals who are limited English proficient by the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office's (MCSO), and our response to the MCSO's proposed timeline for submission of its position statement.

You will recall that on March 25, 2009, we requested that the MCSO provide a position statement on the allegations and provide the information requested in items 43-51 of the Division's "First Request for Documents and Information." At the MCSO's request, we extended the initial deadline for submitting its position statement until July 1. On August 12, 2009, we received an e-mail from your associate, Laura Sierra, indicating that the MCSO was working on the position statement, but that the statement would not be ready until the first week of October. On August 13, we e-mailed our response in which we indicated our concern with the proposed timeline, and also inquired whether the MCSO would provide us with access to people and documents related to the allegations. In your August 13 reply, you indicated that you would attempt to secure the position statement earlier, if possible, but that the position statement would be presented no later than the first week of October. In response to our inquiry regarding access to persons and documents, we understand your response to be that the MCSO is unwilling provide access at this time.

Given the MCSO's failure to comply with the prior agreed upon timeline and its failure to provide us with access to documents and persons with relevant information, we cannot agree to a further extension until October. We respectfully request that the MCSO submit its position

statement and answers to the questions no later than August 21, and that we be allowed access to MCSO facilities to review documents and interview MCSO personnel and inmates as soon as possible.

In response to your uncertainty in your August 13 e-mail about the reference to national origin issues, please note that the reference was to the allegations concerning discrimination against persons of Hispanic origin with regard to jail visitation as described on page 2 of my March 25 letter to Ms. McCormick. Several of the questions in items 43-51 address those allegations.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at (202) 307-2222 if you would like to discuss any of these matters.

Sincerely,

Merrily a Friedlander Merrily A. Friedlander

Chief

Coordination and Review Section Civil Rights Division

cc:

Shanetta Cutlar

Chief, Special Litigation Section