From:
To:
Cc:

Subject:
Date:

CRCL

(b) (6)
(b) (6)
FW: COMPLAINS ABOUT THE CUSTOMS

Monday, April 11, 2011 3:03:30 PM

(b) (6)

Please see the message below sent to the CRCL account. Mr. Dirie, a U.S. citizen originally from Somalia alleges that he has repeatedly been subjected to unnecessary and extensive questioning by CBP at various airports (including MSP, HNL, JFK, LAX, and ATL), which he attributes to discrimination and profiling based on his religion and race.

Potential new complaint to add to your bundle of religious questioning complaints?
(b) (6)
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From: (b) (6) [mailto (b) (6)
Sent: Monday, April 11, 2011 6:00 AM
To: CRCL

Subject: COMPLAINS ABOUT THE CUSTOMS

My name is (b) (6) and I am U.S citizen. I work for delta
airline and being traveling overseas back and forth a lot. When I always coming back to the U.S it don't matter which airport I transit to, I always get harassed and discriminated by the officers. There were a lot of incident happened to me that made most of my flights missed and end up spending the whole night at the airport and also get kick out from there after midnight and don't have nowhere else to stay except wait outside till they open the checkpoints. I can't even check in the KIOSK also make me miss my flight because of the line is too long. I always randomly get picked from the line by an officer and let my friends go thru.

In mid February 2011, I was coming from HANEDA AIRPORT to LAX. After I came thru the customs, this officer stopped me and took my passport to check it. When he found out I was from Somalia. First thing he said to me was " did you come from Somalia?" I told him that " Sir, If I did, I would wrote it down where the paper says put down all the countries you went" he looked at me and asked me couple more unnecessary questions.

In march 30, 2011 around 9:00am. I landed in ATLANTA from RIO DE JANEIRO with couple of my friends. When I stepped up to the officer counter

PRIV 11-0292 - 000105

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who checks the passport he asked me couple questions and wrote "BB" on my paper, putted my passport into envelope, and told me to go where they do the luggage check. I could see my friends go thru without going thru what I being thru like always when we fly together. When I told the officer I only got 40 minutes to make my next flight, he told me to sit down. After 20 minutes, the officer I believe he name was CUST called me saying " Big guy, come over here, put your luggage on the belt" He looked at my passport and said " I know you somalian, how did you got your green card" why would he ask me that kind of question when he knows that I got the U.S passport. That sounds like discriminating my religion and my race. That day, I almost missed my flight luckily the flight was delayed.

Its not only those two incidents happened to me. Its more than ten times
in different airports Including, MSP, HNL, JFK, and DTW. They see that I have being coming in and out the states more than ten times and never did anything wrong that would make them hold and delay me from my connection flights. I am U.S citizen and have the same civil rights as the citizens whom born and raced in the states and I shouldn't be treated like a terrorist. I also feel like I am on a watching list because when ever I come to the airport trying to check in thru the KIOSK, it always tells me to go see the agency and my friends who always I travel with don't have that kind of problems. I am Somalian American and my name is start Muslim name doesn't mean I am a terrorist. When I always look at the foreign people who don't have a U.S passport go thru the customs without having any problems that makes me feel like I am not counted as a U.S citizen and what is the benefit of having the passport at all. When I ever I go thru the other foreign countries customs, they respect and treat me nice while the U.S customs treat me like I don't exist to be a U.S. citizen. I would like to see some changes about this because I can't take it no more and I hope you understand the problem I am having.

Thank you for your time

PRIV 11-0292 - 000106

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