



**U.S. Citizenship
and Immigration
Services**

MAK 13 2014

The Honorable Joseph Crowley
Member, U.S. House of Representatives
82-11 37th Avenue, Suite 402
Jackson Heights, NY 11372

Dear Representative Crowley:

We regret the delay in responding your inquiry regarding U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) use of the American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers (AACRAO) Electronic Database for Global Education (EDGE).

At the outset, it is important to note that a foreign worker must meet the applicable statutory and regulatory requirements for the particular nonimmigrant or immigrant benefit requested. For example, the foreign worker may have to meet certain educational requirements to be eligible for the requested benefit.

In this regard, USCIS considers all opinions rendered by an educational credentials evaluator(s) in conjunction with a review of the foreign worker's relevant educational credentials. In the course of adjudication, USCIS may refer to other available credible resource material regarding the equivalency of the educational credentials to college degrees obtained in the United States, such as AACRAO EDGE database.

The opinions expressed in evaluations and resource materials, as well as EDGE, are not binding on USCIS. Additionally, USCIS does not endorse or encourage the use of EDGE over other types of credible resource material regarding the equivalency of the educational credentials to college degrees obtained in the United States.

As to your constituent's request for a copy of the investigative report, the Office of Security, Investigations Division does not respond directly for requests for information. Instead, please have your constituent direct his inquiries to the following link to the USCIS Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) website and follow the directions on how to file a FOIA request:

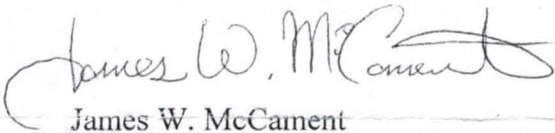
<http://www.dhs.gov/freedom-information-act-and-privacy-act>.

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We hope the information provided is helpful. If we may be of assistance in the future, please let us know.

Sincerely,

FOR THE DIRECTOR

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "James W. McCament". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J" and a prominent flourish at the end.

James W. McCament
Chief