

**ERVIN and  
ASSOCIATES**

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*FT-174627* **FAX  
COVER**

To: Ann Aldrich

Date: February 6, 1997

Fax#: 202/619-8365

Pages: 5

From: David Ervin

*(includes this cover page)*

Phone#: 301/469-3422

**COMMENTS:**

Enclosed is a new Freedom of Information Act Request.

*Re: Vice President Gore's Hammer Awards*

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*FL-17462*

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**EXECUTIVE  
SECRETARIAT**

**VIA FACSIMILE TO 202/619-8365**

**February 6, 1997**

**Ms. Ann Aldrich  
Executive Secretariat  
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development  
Executive Secretariat's Office  
451 Seventh Street, SW, Room 10139  
Washington, D.C. 20410**

**Re: Freedom of Information Act Request  
Vice President Gore's Hammer Awards**

**Dear Ms. Aldrich:**

**We understand that HUD was awarded 10 of Vice President Gore's Hammer awards during 1996. Upon reviewing the list of recipients, it struck us that many of these awards went to programs that are plagued by fraud, abuse and contracting corruption. Considering this, we are curious whether there is any actual investigation into a program before granting such praise or whether Vice President Gore hands the awards out merely as publicity sound bytes to give the impression of good government.**

**Under the Freedom of information act, we would like to request the following for each of the five Hammer Awards indicated by an asterisk (\*) on the accompanying list:**


- Any documents or correspondence recommending a particular program for a Hammer Award;**
- Any subsequent correspondence between HUD and Vice President Gore or his staff which would contribute to the deliberative process of deciding whether or not a particular program was worthy of such award; and**
- Any correspondence from Vice President Gore's staff regarding the final determination on whether or not to grant the Hammer Award.**

**In addition to those 5 programs indicated on the attached list, please provide us with the above documentation for any HUD program which was recommended for a Hammer award or considered by Vice President Gore for a Hammer award that was determined not to be worthy.**

FJ-174627

Ervin and Associates agrees to pay all fees associated with this request up to \$50. If the anticipated fees exceed \$50, please call me at (301) 469-3422 so I may have an opportunity to alter our request.

Very truly yours,  
ERVIN and ASSOCIATES, INCORPORATED



David J. Ervin