

**BRANY SBER IRB**

**DATE:** 10/29/2019  
**TO:** Gerard Toal, PhD  
**CC:** Gela Merabishvili, PhD, [commercialirb@vt.edu](mailto:commercialirb@vt.edu)  
**FROM:** Raffaella Hart, MS, CIP, BRANY SBER IRB (IRB00010793)

**SUBMISSION TYPE:** SBER-Initial Review  
**PROTOCOL NUMBER:** 19-036-568 / VT #19-406  
**STUDY TITLE:** The Politics of Border Walls

**IRB ACTION:** **EXEMPT**

**DETERMINATION DATE:** 10/25/2019  
**ANNUAL REPORT DUE:** 10/25/2019  
**REVIEW TYPE:** Exempt

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Thank you for your submission for the above-referenced study.

**1. BRANY SBER IRB Determination**

BRANY SBER IRB has determined your submission is **exempt from IRB review under category # 2**, as detailed in 45 CFR 46.104(d) and BRANY's Standard Operating Procedures (category excerpted below).

(2) Research that only includes interactions involving educational tests (cognitive, diagnostic, aptitude, achievement), survey procedures, interview procedures, or observation of public behavior (including visual or auditory recording) with the following criterion met:

(ii) Any disclosure of the human subjects' responses outside the research would not reasonably place the subjects at risk of criminal or civil liability or be damaging to the subjects' financial standing, employability, educational advancement, or reputation; **or**

\*This determination requires that all procedures and activities are performed in accordance with relevant state and local law (including tribal law, when applicable).

**2. Documents Acknowledged with this Submission**

- a. 19-036 Toal SBER Study Application xForm (2019-08-14)
- b. Abstract (revised) (BRANY stamp 10/29/19)
- c. IRB-19-406-Research Protocol (HRP 503) revised 10/07/19 (BRANY stamp 10/29/19)
- d. Interview questions revised 10/07/19 (BRANY stamp 10/29/19)
- e. Informed Consent Form (Version A)

*Modifications are in accord with those required by the IRB, and were incorporated as indicated in the enclosed redlined version.*

**3. Provisions of BRANY SBER IRB's Determination**

Although this study has been determined to be exempt for further IRB review, any proposed changes to the research must be reviewed by the BRANY SBER IRB prior to implementation. The BRANY SBER IRB will evaluate the proposed change(s) and determine whether the activity remains exempt.

**4. Study Personnel**

The following study personnel have provided the required evidence of training in human subjects protection and conflict of interest disclosures, and therefore may participate in the conduct of this activity.

- a. Gerard Toal, PhD
- b. Gela Merabishvili

**5. IRB Approval Period and Expiration of IRB Approval:**

Research that has been determined to be exempt from BRANY SBER IRB review is not subject to continuing review. However, BRANY SBER IRB requires you complete an annual report, or notify the IRB if the study is completed before then.

**Your Exempt Annual Report to BRANY SBER IRB is due on 10/25/2019.** BRANY IRB requires you "check in" at least annually to ensure your study status is up to date, and your study remains in compliance. If your research is completed before then, you must submit a notification of study closure to BRANY SBER IRB (submit via xForm in IRBManager).

If you have any questions or require any additional information, please call me at 516-470-6909 or send an email to me at [rhart@brany.com](mailto:rhart@brany.com). Thank you.