

>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>> Since it appears you guys are all conspiring , committing fraud and Racketeering along with the unions, the DNC, the White House, Hillary's campaign, Bernies campaign and most other Democrats to purposely put millions in peril for severe adverse health effects, disabilities, cancer and death, perhaps when Trump is interviewed this Wednesday by Matthews, he can question Chris Matthews about his wife and you guys and why you all appear to be directly involved and directing such conspiracy, fraud and Racketeering.

>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>> How many people will watch any NBC shows when this is public. I suspect there will be lawsuits filed against you guys along with the others that can cost into the billions.

>>>>>>>>>>>>>>> I hope to hear from you guys this morning before sending all the emails I have to you guys to Trump and his campaign so he can question Matthews this Wednesday.

>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>> I look forward to hearing from you this morning.

>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>> Brenda Smith >>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>(b) (6)

>>>>>>>>>>>>>----(b) (6) wrote:

>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>> Steve and all, for years, the DNC, unions, Hillary Clinton and her campaign, the Clinton Foundation, Podesta, Sharpton, and dozens of the other's associated with the Democrats have conspired to knowingly and purposely allow millions of current and former union members, teachers, children and millions more to work with, use and be exposed to NCR paper they knew could cause serious adverse health effects, disabilities, birth defects, cancer and death. They have purposely not given known warnings solely in order to collect and use union dues and other monies for their campaigns and other events.

>>>>>>>>>>>>>>> That includes Al Sharpton who has known about this and conspired with the others to keep this secret solely for his benefit. I can provide untold numbers of emails and other documents to confirm such allegations.

>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>> Now this is also involving Chris Matthews and his wife Kathleen. Kathleen is running for Congress in the 8th district in Maryland. The Maryland Democratic party and Kathleen have been aware of this and also conspired with the other Democrats to keep this secret solely so she could collect and use union dues to get elected. This would mean that Chris Matthews have also been involved in this conspiracy. Since Al Sharpton and now Chris Matthews are conspiring with the DNC , unions , Clinton, Clinton Foundation and others, this now puts NBCUNI in the position of also being defendants in litigation that could involve millions of potential plaintiffs and could cost into the billions in financial losses and would be the end of NBCUNI as a news group.

>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>> If Sharpton, Matthews , unions , you guys etc to make sure the warnings are prepared and related claims resolved, let me know this morning. I am to speak with media that is covering Chris and Kathleen Matthews tomorrow morning and provide copies of hundreds of emails and other data to help prove my allegations.

>>>>>>>>>>>>>>> Investors of NBCUNI will not be happy when these losses could have been avoided.

[illegible]



**Gamble, Nathaniel (ODAG)**

---

**From:** Gamble, Nathaniel (ODAG)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 10, 2017 9:42 AM  
**To:** Rosenstein, Rod (ODAG)  
**Cc:** Murphy, Marcia (ODAG); Crowell, James (ODAG)  
**Subject:** Please Call: Andy McCabe # (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) - He has some updated information

**Rosenstein, Rod (ODAG)**

---

**From:** Rosenstein, Rod (ODAG)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 9, 2017 4:53 PM  
**To:** JCC (JMD)  
**Subject:** Briefing - Homeland Threats

POC: Marcia Murphy, Nathaniel Gamble

Attendees:

ODAG: DAG Rosenstein, Tash Gauhar, Jim Crowell

FBI: Deputy Director Andrew McCabe



**Rosenstein, Rod (ODAG)**

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**From:** Rosenstein, Rod (ODAG)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 9, 2017 4:52 PM  
**To:** Crowell, James (ODAG); Gauhar, Tashina (ODAG); McCabe, Andrew G. (DO) (FBI)  
**Subject:** Briefing - Homeland Threats

POC: Marcia Murphy, Nathaniel Gamble

Attendees:

ODAG: DAG Rosenstein, Tash Gauhar, Jim Crowell

FBI: Deputy Director Andrew McCabe

**Note: This meeting is limited to the invited attendees only. You are not authorized to forward this invitation. If you believe other individuals should be included, please contact the ODAG Front Office.**

**Rosenstein, Rod (ODAG)**

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**From:** Rosenstein, Rod (ODAG)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 9, 2017 4:52 PM  
**To:** Simms, Donna Y. (ODAG); Henderson, Charles V (ODAG)  
**Subject:** Briefing - Homeland Threats

POC: Marcia Murphy, Nathaniel Gamble

Attendees:

ODAG: DAG Rosenstein, Tash Gauhar, Jim Crowell

FBI: Deputy Director Andrew McCabe

**Note: This meeting is limited to the invited attendees only. You are not authorized to forward this invitation. If you believe other individuals should be included, please contact the ODAG Front Office.**

**Terwilliger, Zachary (ODAG)**

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**From:** Terwilliger, Zachary (ODAG)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 9, 2017 10:31 AM  
**To:** Rosenstein, Rod (ODAG)  
**Subject:** FW: FBI Director's testimony - transcript  
**Attachments:** Transcript - Oversight of the FBI.docx

**Terwilliger, Zachary (ODAG)**

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**From:** Terwilliger, Zachary (ODAG)  
**Sent:** Monday, May 08, 2017 5:15 PM  
**To:** Rosenstein, Rod (USAMD); Crowell, James (ODAG) (JMD)  
**Subject:** FW: FBI Director's testimony - transcript  
**Attachments:** Transcript - Oversight of the FBI.docx

Summary is keyed to this transcript.



**Terwilliger, Zachary (ODAG)**

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**From:** Terwilliger, Zachary (ODAG)  
**Sent:** Monday, May 08, 2017 5:13 PM  
**To:** Rosenstein, Rod (ODAG); Crowell, James (ODAG)  
**Subject:** Public Testimony  
**Attachments:** Summary of Public Testimony.pdf

Public Testimony Summary

**Swanson, Matthew L. (ODAG)**

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**From:** Swanson, Matthew L. (ODAG)  
**Sent:** Monday, May 22, 2017 8:58 AM  
**To:** Rosenstein, Rod (ODAG); Crowell, James (ODAG); Terwilliger, Zachary (ODAG); Goldsmith, Andrew (ODAG); Bonilla, Armando (ODAG); Cook, Steven H. (ODAG); Gauhar, Tashina (ODAG); Lan, Iris (ODAG); Raman, Sujit (ODAG); Schools, Scott (ODAG); Troester, Robert J. (ODAG); Frank, Michael (ODAG); Hill, John L. (ODAG); Bumatay, Patrick (ODAG); Barnett, Gary (ODAG); Bressack, Leah (ODAG); Mizelle, Chad (ODAG); Murray, Michael (ODAG); Sheehan, Matthew (ODAG)  
**Subject:** FW: Notification of Records Search to be Conducted in Response to the FOIA, Leopold, OIP No. DOJ-2017-004020 (DAG)  
**Attachments:** 01. Initial Request (5.11.17).pdf

The initial request is attached. Details of the search process can be found below.

Best,  
Matt

---

**From:** Kochurka, Kimberley (OIP)  
**Sent:** Friday, May 19, 2017 4:41 PM  
**To:** Swanson, Matthew L. (ODAG) <mswanson@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
**Cc:** Hibbard, Douglas (OIP) <dhibbard@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** Notification of Records Search to be Conducted in Response to the FOIA, Leopold, OIP No. DOJ-2017-004020 (DAG)

The purpose of this email is to notify you that the records of the below-listed officials will be searched in response to the attached Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request.

The requester, Jason Leopold, is seeking records pertaining to:

- Potential voter fraud in the November 2016 general election, and the May 11, 2017 Executive Order on election integrity.

The officials that will be searched for this request are:

- Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein
- James Crowell
- Zachary Terwilliger
- Andrew Goldsmith
- Armando Bonilla
- Steven Cook
- Tashina Gauhar
- William Hall
- Iris Lan
- Sujit Raman
- Scott Schools
- Robert Troester

OIP-0372

- ROBERT HOESTER
- Michael Frank
- John Hill
- Patrick Bumatay
- Gary Barnett
- Leah Bressack
- Chad Mizelle
- Michael Murray
- Matthew Sheehan

The FOIA requires agencies to conduct a reasonable search in response to FOIA requests. For your information, this search will encompass the email and computer files (e.g. G or H drive) maintained by the officials listed above. We have also initiated a search in the Offices of the Attorney General, Associate Attorney General, Legislative Affairs, Legal Policy, Public Affairs, Information Policy, and of the Departmental Executive Secretariat.

**To the extent officials within your office maintain other types of records, such as text and voice messages, or material maintained within a classified system, that would be responsive to this request but would not be located as a result of OIP's records search, please indicate so in response to this email.** OIP staff will make arrangements to conduct those searches as necessary. Similarly, if your office would not maintain any records responsive to this request or you can readily identify the official(s), be they either current or former employees, that would maintain records responsive to this request, you may indicate so in response to this email.

Please note that the Federal Records Act, as amended in 2014, and DOJ Policy Statement 0801.04 provide that government employees may not use a non-official email account for official business unless the communication is fully captured in a DOJ recordkeeping system – either by copying their official account or forwarding any such messages to their official account within twenty days. Should any records custodians have official records responsive to this FOIA request which are on a non-official account but were not copied into their official email account, those records should be provided to OIP.

If you have any questions concerning this matter, please feel free to call me at 202-616-9712 or by replying to this email.

Attachment

This is a request for records under the Freedom of Information Act ("FOIA"), 5 U.S.C. § 552 and the Privacy Act, 5 U.S.C. § 552a. This request should be considered under both statutes to maximize the release of records.

#### REQUESTER INFORMATION

Name: Jason Leopold

Affiliation: Senior Investigative Reporter/BuzzFeed News

Address (b) (6)

(b) (6)

Email (b) (6)

Phone (b) (6)

#### RECORDS SOUGHT

I request disclosure from the Department of Justice Public Integrity Section, Office of the Attorney General, Office of Legal Counsel, Office of the Deputy Attorney General, Civil Division, Office of Professional Responsibility, Office of Public Affairs, Office of Legislative Affairs, Office of Information Policy, US Attorneys, Office of Legal Policy, Office of the Associate Attorney General, Criminal Division, National Security Division, the following records:

1. Legal opinions, memoranda, findings, factual evidence, studies, audits or advisories concerning actual or potential voter fraud in the November 2016 General Election, including but not limited to documents supporting the President's allegation that millions of votes were fraudulently cast against him.
2. Communications—including but not limited to emails, letters, social-media posts, Twitter direct messages—to, from, or about the presidential transition, the President's staff, or the Vice President's staff addressing actual or potential voter fraud in the November 2016 General Election, including but not limited to documents supporting the President's allegation that millions of votes were fraudulently cast against him.
3. Changes or potential changes to any rules, regulations, guidance, or guidelines contemplated in connection with this investigation.
4. Any and all legal opinions, legal guidance, mentioning or referring to the President's May 11, 2017 executive order on election integrity.
5. Any and all letters, to or from the Office of Legislative Affairs from a member of the House and Senate and a House and Senate Congressional Committee.
6. Any and all emails, letters, memos, from all offices listed above that mentions or refers to "ELECTION INTEGRITY" and "VOTER FRAUD." The date range for this



specific search is November 1, 2016 through the date the search for responsive records is conducted.

Under the FOIA Improvement Act of 2016, agencies must adopt a presumption of disclosure, withholding information “only if . . . disclosure would harm an interest protected by an exemption” or “disclosure is prohibited by law.”

#### EXPEDITED PROCESSING REQUEST

Pursuant to 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(6)(E)(1) and 28 C.F.R. § 16.5(e)(1)(ii), (iv), I request that the DOJ expedite the processing of this request. I certify to be true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief, that there is widespread and exceptional media interest and there exist possible questions concerning the government’s integrity that affect public confidence. There are more than 5 million Google hits on this subject matter less than a day after the firing took place, most of which question the integrity of the action. As discussed above, this matter already has been the subject of widespread media interest and attention, predominantly as a result of the President’s own statements which he has not provided evidence to support. The information sought in this request will meaningfully further public discourse on this issue of national concern.

#### ADDITIONAL INSTRUCTIONS REGARDING REQUEST

Please produce all records with administrative markings and pagination included. Please send a memo (copy to me) to the appropriate units in your office to assure that no records related to this request are destroyed. Please advise of any destruction of records and include the date of and authority for such destruction.

#### FORMAT

I request that any releases stemming from this request be provided to me in digital format (soft-copy) on a compact disk or other like media.

#### FEE CATEGORY AND REQUEST FOR A FEE WAIVER

I am an investigative reporter for BuzzFeed News covering a wide-range of issues, including Guantanamo, national security, counterterrorism, civil liberties, human rights, and open government. Additionally, my reporting has been published in VICE News, The Guardian, The Wall Street Journal, The Financial Times, Salon, CBS Marketwatch, The Los Angeles Times, The Nation, Truthout, Al Jazeera English and Al Jazeera America.

I am willing to pay any reasonable expenses associated with this request, however, as the purpose of the requested disclosure is in full conformity with the statutory requirements for a waiver of fees, I formally request such a waiver. I request a waiver of all costs pursuant to 5 U.S.C. §552(a)(4)(A)(iii) (“Documents shall be furnished without any charge ... if disclosure of the information is in the public interest because it is likely to contribute significantly to public understanding of the operations or activities of the

government and is not primarily in the commercial interest of the requester.”). Disclosure in this case meets the statutory criteria, and a fee waiver would fulfill Congress’s legislative intent in amending FOIA. See *Judicial Watch, Inc. v. Rossotti*, 326 F.3d 1309, 1312 (D.C. Cir. 2003) (“Congress amended FOIA to ensure that it be ‘liberally construed in favor of waivers for noncommercial requesters.’”). I incorporate by reference the explanation and attached materials in the above sections which demonstrates why the requested information is in the public interest.

Under 32 C.F.R. 1900.13(b), “Records will be furnished without charge or at a reduced rate whenever the Agency determines . . . (2) That it is in the public interest because it is likely to contribute significantly to the public understanding of the operations or activities of the United States Government and is not primarily in the commercial interest of the requester.”

Should my request for a fee waiver be denied, I request that I be categorized as a member of the news media for fee purposes pursuant to 32 C.F.R. 1900.02(h)(3). According to 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(4)(A)(ii), which codified the ruling of *Nat’l Security Archive v. Dep’t of Defense*, 880 F.2d 1381 (D.C. Cir. 1989), the term “a representative of the news media” means any person or entity that gathers information of potential interest to a segment of the public, uses its editorial skills to turn the raw materials into a distinct work, and distributes that work to an audience. This is consistent with the definition provided in 32 C.F.R. 1900.02(h)(3). As the legislative history of FOIA reveals, “It is critical that the phrase ‘representative of the news media’ be broadly interpreted if the act is to work as expected. . . . In fact, any person or organization which regularly publishes or disseminates information to the public . . . should qualify for waivers as a ‘representative of the news media.’” 132 Cong. Rec. S14298 (daily ed. Sept. 30, 1986) (emphasis in original quotation); and 2) “A request by a reporter or other person affiliated with a newspaper, magazine, television or radio station, or other entity that is in the business of publishing or otherwise disseminating information to the public qualifies under this provision.” 132 Cong. Rec. H9463 (Oct. 8, 1986) (emphasis in original quotation)). Therefore, in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act and relevant case law, I, Jason Leopold, should be considered a representative of the news media.

Should my request for a fee waiver be denied, I request that I be categorized as a member of the news media for fee purposes. According to 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(4)(A)(ii), which codified the ruling of *Nat’l Security Archive v. Dep’t of Defense*, 880 F.2d 1381 (D.C. Cir. 1989), the term “a representative of the news media” means any person or entity that gathers information of potential interest to a segment of the public, uses its editorial skills to turn the raw materials into a distinct work, and distributes that work to an audience.

As the legislative history of FOIA reveals, “It is critical that the phrase ‘representative of the news media’ be broadly interpreted if the act is to work as expected. . . . In fact, any

person or organization which regularly publishes or disseminates information to the public . . . should qualify for waivers as a ‘representative of the news media.’” 132 Cong. Rec. S14298 (daily ed. Sept. 30, 1986) (emphasis in original quotation); and 2) “A request by a reporter or other person affiliated with a newspaper, magazine, television or radio station, or other entity that is in the business of publishing or otherwise disseminating information to the public qualifies under this provision.” 132 Cong. Rec. H9463 (Oct. 8, 1986) (emphasis in original quotation)). Therefore, in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act and relevant case law, I, Jason Leopold, should be considered a representative of the news media.

I have the intent and ability to disseminate this significant expansion of public understanding of government operations. The public interest in this significant expansion of public understanding of government operations far outweighs any commercial interest of my own in the requested release. Accordingly, my fee waiver request amply satisfies my request for a fee waiver. Legislative history and judicial authority emphatically support this determination. For these reasons, and based upon their extensive elaboration above, I request a full waiver of fees be granted. I will appeal any denial of my request for a waiver administratively and to the courts if necessary.

**Swanson, Matthew L. (ODAG)**

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**From:** Swanson, Matthew L. (ODAG)  
**Sent:** Monday, May 22, 2017 8:57 AM  
**To:** Rosenstein, Rod (ODAG); Crowell, James (ODAG); Terwilliger, Zachary (ODAG); Goldsmith, Andrew (ODAG); Bonilla, Armando (ODAG); Cook, Steven H. (ODAG); Gauhar, Tashina (ODAG); Lan, Iris (ODAG); Raman, Sujit (ODAG); Schools, Scott (ODAG); Troester, Robert J. (ODAG); Frank, Michael (ODAG); Hill, John L. (ODAG); Bumatay, Patrick (ODAG); Barnett, Gary (ODAG); Bressack, Leah (ODAG); Mizelle, Chad (ODAG); Murray, Michael (ODAG); Sheehan, Matthew (ODAG)  
**Subject:** FW: Notification of Records Search to be Conducted in Response to the FOIA, Berwick, OIP No. DOJ-2017-004170 (DAG)  
**Attachments:** 01. Initial Request (4.21.17).pdf

The initial request is attached. Details of the search process can be found below.

Best,  
Matt

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**From:** Kochurka, Kimberley (OIP)  
**Sent:** Friday, May 19, 2017 3:51 PM  
**To:** Swanson, Matthew L. (ODAG) <mswanson@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
**Cc:** Hibbard, Douglas (OIP) <dhibbard@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** Notification of Records Search to be Conducted in Response to the FOIA, Berwick, OIP No. DOJ-2017-004170 (DAG)

The purpose of this email is to notify you that the records of the below-listed officials will be searched in response to the attached Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request.

The requester, Ben Berwick, is seeking records pertaining to:

- Communications between the Department of Justice and the Heritage Foundation, the Federalist Society, and the Judicial Crisis Network regarding the nomination process for the Supreme Court or other federal courts since November 9, 2016.

The officials that will be searched for this request are:

- Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein
- James Crowell
- Zachary Terwilliger
- Andrew Goldsmith
- Armando Bonilla
- Steven Cook
- Tashina Gauhar
- William Hall
- Iris Lan
- Sujit Raman
- Scott Schools
- Robert Troester

OIP-0378



- Robert Foster
- Michael Frank
- John Hill
- Patrick Bumatay
- Gary Barnett
- Leah Bressack
- Chad Mizelle
- Michael Murray
- Matthew Sheehan

The FOIA requires agencies to conduct a reasonable search in response to FOIA requests. For your information, this search will encompass the email and computer files (e.g. G or H drive) maintained by the officials listed above. We have also initiated a search in the Offices of the Attorney General, Associate Attorney General, Legislative Affairs, Legal Policy, Public Affairs, and of the Departmental Executive Secretariat.

**To the extent officials within your office maintain other types of records, such as text and voice messages, or material maintained within a classified system, that would be responsive to this request but would not be located as a result of OIP's records search, please indicate so in response to this email.** OIP staff will make arrangements to conduct those searches as necessary. Similarly, if your office would not maintain any records responsive to this request or you can readily identify the official(s), be they either current or former employees, that would maintain records responsive to this request, you may indicate so in response to this email.

Please note that the Federal Records Act, as amended in 2014, and DOJ Policy Statement 0801.04 provide that government employees may not use a non-official email account for official business unless the communication is fully captured in a DOJ recordkeeping system – either by copying their official account or forwarding any such messages to their official account within twenty days. Should any records custodians have official records responsive to this FOIA request which are on a non-official account but were not copied into their official email account, those records should be provided to OIP.

If you have any questions concerning this matter, please feel free to call me at 202-616-9712 or by replying to this email.

Attachment

2020 Pennsylvania Ave NW  
#163  
Washington, DC 20006  
Fax: (929) 777-8428  
[INFO@protectdemocracy.org](mailto:INFO@protectdemocracy.org)

**The Protect-  
Democracy  
Project**

**FAX**

RECEIVED

APR 21 2017

Office of Information Policy

To Whom It May Concern:

Please see the enclosed fax transmission from The Protect Democracy Project. If you have questions about the contents of the fax, please contact us at [INFO@protectdemocracy.org](mailto:INFO@protectdemocracy.org) or via phone at (202) 599-0466.

We appreciate your prompt attention to this matter, and look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,



Ian Bassin  
Protect Democracy Project

# **The Protect- Democracy Project**

April 21, 2017

Laurie Day  
Chief, Initial Request Staff  
Office of Information Policy  
Department of Justice, Suite 11050  
1425 New York Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20530-0001  
Phone: (202) 514-FOIA  
Fax: (202) 514-1009

Valerie H. Yancey  
FOIA Officer and Executive Officer  
Office of the Solicitor General  
Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Room  
6627  
Washington, DC 20530-0001  
Phone: (202) 616-9406

**Re: Freedom of Information Act request for communications regarding the judicial nomination process**

**To Whom It May Concern:**

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), 5 U.S.C. § 552, The Protect Democracy Project hereby requests that your office produce within 20 business days the following records (see below for clarity on the types of records sought):

- 1) All records, including but not limited to emails, notes, and memoranda, reflecting, discussing, or otherwise relating to communications between individuals in the Office of the Attorney General, the Office of the Deputy Attorney General, the Office of the Associate Attorney General, the Office of the Solicitor General, the Office of Legal Policy, the Office of Public Affairs, and/or the Office of Legislative Affairs and Leonard Leo Jr. of the Federalist Society, Jim DeMint of the Heritage Foundation, and/or Carrie Severino of the Judicial Crisis Network regarding the nomination process or potential nominees for the Supreme Court or other federal courts. The nomination process includes but is not limited to creating lists of or otherwise proposing potential nominees; interviewing, selecting, and vetting potential nominees; and nominating and/or assisting with confirmation preparation of the nominees.
- 2) All records, including but not limited to emails, notes, and memoranda, reflecting, discussing, including, or otherwise relating to communications between individuals in the Office of the Attorney General, the Office of the Deputy Attorney General, the Office of the Associate Attorney General, the Office of the Solicitor General, the Office of Legal Policy, the Office of Public Affairs, and/or the Office of Legislative Affairs and the Heritage Foundation, the Federalist

2020 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, #163, Washington, DC 20006  
ben.berwick@protectdemocracy.org

OIP-0381

Society, and/or the Judicial Crisis Network regarding the nomination process or potential nominees for the Supreme Court or other federal courts. The nomination process includes but is not limited to creating lists of or otherwise proposing potential nominees; interviewing, selecting, and vetting potential nominees; and nominating and/or assisting with confirmation preparation of the nominees.

- 3) All emails between individuals in the Office of the Attorney General, the Office of the Deputy Attorney General, the Office of the Associate Attorney General, the Office of the Solicitor General, the Office of Legal Policy, the Office of Public Affairs, and/or the Office of Legislative Affairs and any email address containing the email extension @fed-soc.org, @heritage.org, and/or @judicialnetwork.com.
- 4) In addition to the records requested above, we also request records describing the processing of this request, including records sufficient to identify search terms used and locations and custodians searched, and any tracking sheets used to track the processing of this request. If your agency uses FOIA questionnaires or certifications completed by individual custodians or components to determine whether they possess responsive materials or to describe how they conducted searches, we also request any such records prepared in connection with the processing of this request.

The timeframe for this request is November 9, 2016 through the date that searches are conducted for records responsive to this FOIA request.

#### FEE WAIVER

FOIA provides that any fees associated with a request are waived if “disclosure of the information is in the public interest because it is likely to contribute significantly to public understanding of the operations or activities of the government and is not primarily in the commercial interest of the requester.” 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(4)(A)(iii). The core mission of The Protect Democracy Project, a new organization awaiting 501(c)(3) status, is to inform public understanding on operations and activities of the government. This request is submitted in consort with the organization’s mission to gather and disseminate information that is likely to contribute significantly to the public understanding of executive branch operations and activities. The Protect Democracy Project has no commercial interests.

In addition to satisfying the requirements for a waiver of fees associated with the search and processing of records, The Protect Democracy Project is entitled to a waiver of all fees except “reasonable standard charges for document duplication.” 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(4)(A)(ii)(II). Federal law mandates that fees be limited to document duplication costs for any requester that qualifies as a representative of the news media. *Id.* The Protect Democracy Project operates in the tradition of 501(c)(3) good government organizations that qualify under FOIA as “news media organizations.” Like those

2020 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, #163, Washington, DC 20006  
ben.berwick@protectdemocracy.org



organizations, the purpose of The Protect Democracy Project is to “gather information of potential interest to a segment of the public, use its editorial skills to turn the raw materials into distinct work, and distribute that work to an audience.” *Nat’s Sec. Archive v. Dep’t of Defense*, 880 F.2d 1381, 1387 (D.C. Cir. 1989). We intend to give the public access to documents transmitted via FOIA on our website, [www.unitedtoprotectdemocracy.org](http://www.unitedtoprotectdemocracy.org), and to provide information about and analysis of those documents as appropriate.

### RESPONSIVE RECORDS

We ask that all types of records and all record systems be searched to discover records responsive to our request. We seek records in all media and formats. This includes, but is not limited to: agendas, manifests, calendars, schedules, notes, and any prepared documentation for meetings, calls, teleconferences, or other discussions responsive to our request; voicemails; e-mails; e-mail attachments; talking points; faxes; training documents and guides; tables of contents and contents of binders; documents pertaining to instruction and coordination of couriers; and any other materials. However, you need not produce press clippings and news articles that are unaccompanied by any commentary (e.g., an email forwarding a news article with no additional commentary in the email thread).

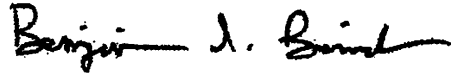
We ask that you search all systems of record, including electronic and paper, in use at your agency, as well as files or emails in the personal custody of your employees, such as personal email accounts, as required by FOIA and to the extent that they are reasonably likely to contain responsive records. The Protect Democracy Project would prefer records in electronic format, saved as PDF documents, and transmitted via email or CD-rom.

If you make a determination that any responsive record, or any segment within a record, is exempt from disclosure, we ask that you provide an index of those records at the time you transmit all other responsive records. In the index, please include a description of the record and the reason for exclusion with respect to each individual exempt record or exempt portion of a record, as provided by *Vaughn v. Rosen*, 484 F.2d 820 (D.C. Cir. 1973), cert. denied, 415 U.S. 977 (1974). When you deem a portion of a record exempt, we ask that the remainder of the record to be provided, as required by 5 U.S.C. § 552(b).

Given the 20-day statutory deadline, we hope to be as helpful as possible in clarifying or answering questions about our request. Please contact me at [FOIA@protectdemocracy.org](mailto:FOIA@protectdemocracy.org) or (202) 599-0466 if you require any additional information. We appreciate your cooperation, and look forward to hearing from you very soon.

2020 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, #163, Washington, DC 20006  
[ben.berwick@protectdemocracy.org](mailto:ben.berwick@protectdemocracy.org)

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ben Berwick".

Ben Berwick

Counsel

The Protect Democracy Project

2020 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, #163, Washington, DC 20006  
[ben.berwick@protectdemocracy.org](mailto:ben.berwick@protectdemocracy.org)

OIP-0384

To view a High Resolution & Color copy of this fax:

1. Go to [www.hellofax.com/HighRes](http://www.hellofax.com/HighRes)

2. Enter Access Code:

e404a02e74

**Swanson, Matthew L. (ODAG)**

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**From:** Swanson, Matthew L. (ODAG)  
**Sent:** Monday, May 22, 2017 8:56 AM  
**To:** Rosenstein, Rod (ODAG); Crowell, James (ODAG); Terwilliger, Zachary (ODAG); Goldsmith, Andrew (ODAG); Ohr, Bruce (ODAG); Bonilla, Armando (ODAG); Cook, Steven H. (ODAG); Gauhar, Tashina (ODAG); Lan, Iris (ODAG); Raman, Sujit (ODAG); Schools, Scott (ODAG); Troester, Robert J. (ODAG); Frank, Michael (ODAG); Hill, John L. (ODAG); Bumatay, Patrick (ODAG); Barnett, Gary (ODAG); Bressack, Leah (ODAG); Mizelle, Chad (ODAG); Murray, Michael (ODAG); Sheehan, Matthew (ODAG); Geise, John (ODAG); Gelber, Alexandra (ODAG); Michalic, Mark (ODAG); Powell, SeLena Y (ODAG)  
**Subject:** FW: Notification of Records Search to be Conducted in Response to the FOIA, Florence, OIP No. DOJ-2017-004128 (DAG)  
**Attachments:** 01. Initial Request (5.11.17).pdf

The initial request is attached. Details of the search process can be found below.

Best,  
Matt

---

**From:** Smith, James M. (OIP)  
**Sent:** Friday, May 19, 2017 3:10 PM  
**To:** Swanson, Matthew L. (ODAG) <mswanson@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
**Cc:** Hibbard, Douglas (OIP) <dhibbard@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** Notification of Records Search to be Conducted in Response to the FOIA, Florence, OIP No. DOJ-2017-004128 (DAG)

Good Afternoon,

The purpose of this email is to notify you that the records of the below-listed officials will be searched in response to the attached Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request.

The requester, Allison Murphy of The Protect Democracy Project, is seeking records pertaining to:

- Funding, budget, personnel, and other resources for the FBI investigation into Russian interference into the 2016 election, since April 11, 2017.

The officials that will be searched for this request are:

- Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein
- James Crowell
- Zachary Terwilliger
- Andrew Goldsmith
- Bruce Ohr
- Armando Bonilla
- Steven Cook
- Tashina Gauhar
- Iris Lan

OIP-0386

- Sujit Raman
- Scott Schools
- Robert Troester
- Michael Frank
- John Hill
- Patrick Bumatay
- Gary Barnett
- Leah Bressack
- Chad Mizelle
- Michael Murray
- Matthew Sheehan
- John Geise
- Alexandra Gelber
- Mark Michalic
- Selena Powell

The FOIA requires agencies to conduct a reasonable search in response to FOIA requests. For your information, this search will encompass the email and computer files (e.g. G or H drive) maintained by the officials listed above. We have also initiated searches of the Offices of the Attorney General and Legislative Affairs, as well as of the Departmental Executive Secretariat.

**To the extent officials within your office maintain other types of records, such as text and voice messages, or material maintained within a classified system, that would be responsive to this request but would not be located as a result of OIP's records search, please indicate so in response to this email.** OIP staff will make arrangements to conduct those searches as necessary. Similarly, if your office would not maintain any records responsive to this request or you can readily identify the official(s), be they either current or former employees, that would maintain records responsive to this request, you may indicate so in response to this email.

Please note that the Federal Records Act, as amended in 2014, and DOJ Policy Statement 0801.04 provide that government employees may not use a non-official email account for official business unless the communication is fully captured in a DOJ recordkeeping system – either by copying their official account or forwarding any such messages to their official account within twenty days. Should any records custodians have official records responsive to this FOIA request which are on a non-official account but were not copied into their official email account, those records should be provided to OIP.

If you have any questions concerning this matter, please feel free to call me at (202) 305-0580 or by replying to this email.

Best,

James Matthew Smith  
 Attorney-Advisor  
 Office of Information Policy  
 U.S. Department of Justice  
 (202) 305-0580



2020 Pennsylvania Ave NW  
#163  
Washington, DC 20006  
Fax: (929) 777-8428  
INFO@protectdemocracy.org

**The Protect-  
Democracy  
Project**

**FAX**

RECEIVED  
MAY 11 2017  
Office of Information Policy

To Whom It May Concern:

Please see the enclosed fax transmission from The Protect Democracy Project. If you have questions about the contents of the fax, please contact us at [INFO@protectdemocracy.org](mailto:INFO@protectdemocracy.org) or via phone at (202) 599-0466.

We appreciate your prompt attention to this matter, and look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,



Ian Bassin  
Protect Democracy Project

OIP-0388



# **The Protect- Democracy Project**

May 11, 2017

Laurie Day  
Chief, Initial Request Staff  
Office of Information Policy  
Department of Justice  
Suite 11050  
1425 New York Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20530-0001  
Tel: (202) 514-FOIA  
Fax: (202) 514-1009

Via Facsimile

Re: Freedom of Information Act

To Whom It May Concern:

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), 5 U.S.C. § 552, The Protect Democracy Project hereby requests that your office produce within 20 business days the following records (see below for clarity on the types of records sought):

1. All records, including but not limited to emails, calendar entries, notes, and memoranda, reflecting, discussing, or otherwise relating to the amount of funds, budget, number of prosecutors, agents, investigators or other personnel, or other resources for the FBI investigation into Russian interference into the 2016 election, including, but not limited to communications:
  - a. from James Comey; or
  - b. to Rod J. Rosenstein.
2. All records, including but not limited to emails, calendar entries, notes, and memoranda, reflecting, discussing, or otherwise relating to amount of funds, budget, number of prosecutors, agents, investigators or other personnel, or other resources for the FBI investigation into Russian interference into the 2016 election, in communications to, from, among, or between:
  - a. Sen. Richard Burr;
  - b. Sen. Mark Warner;
  - c. Any member of the Senate Intelligence Committee or its staff;
  - d. any Member of the House or Senate, or the staff of such Member or House or Senate Committee.

2020 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, #163, Washington, DC 20006  
FOIA@protectdemocracy.org

OIP-0389

The timeframe for this request is April 11 to the present. This request is directed to the Office of the Attorney General and the Office of the Deputy Attorney General.

In addition to the records requested above, we also request records describing the processing of this request, including records sufficient to identify search terms used and locations and custodians searched, and any tracking sheets used to track the processing of this request. If your agency uses FOIA questionnaires or certifications completed by individual custodians or components to determine whether they possess responsive materials or to describe how they conducted searches, we also request any such records prepared in connection with the processing of this request.

### EXPEDITED PROCESSING REQUEST

We request that you expedite the processing of this request pursuant to 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(6)(E) and 28 C.F.R. § 16.5(e)(1)(ii), (iv). This request meets the criteria for expedited processing because there is “[a]n urgency to inform the public about an actual or alleged Federal Government activity, if made by a person who is primarily engaged in disseminating information,” and this request concerns “[a] matter of widespread and exceptional media interest in which there exist possible questions about the government’s integrity that could affect public confidence.” 28 C.F.R. § 16.5(e)(1)(ii), (iv). As explained below in more detail in the section of this request regarding a fee waiver, The Protect Democracy Project intends to disseminate the information obtained in response to this request.

There is no question that President Trump’s firing of FBI Director Comey is a matter of widespread and exceptional media interest. The day that it happened, newspapers across the country, from national to local outlets, reported it on the front page,<sup>1</sup> and such extensive news coverage has continued in the days following. The story has become so widespread because of questions regarding the motives of the President and his Administration in firing Director Comey, and whether it was to interfere with the the possible progress of the investigation Director Comey was leading into collusion between the President’s campaign and Russia to influence the 2016 presidential election. So far, over two hundred Members of Congress,<sup>2</sup> who represent the public, have called for a special prosecutor or independent prosecutor because of questions regarding the government’s integrity that could affect public confidence. The public has a right to learn the Administration’s process for its decision to dismiss the FBI Director, and whether the legal, ethical, and standard policies were followed by the Administration. In

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<sup>1</sup> See Heather Bien, FBI Director James Comey Fired, Newseum, May 10, 2017 (showing photos of 25 newspaper front pages of front page headlines of Comey’s firing, among others on its website in its daily practice to publish the front pages of national newspapers), <http://www.newseum.org/2017/05/10/fbi-director-james-comey-fired/>

<sup>2</sup> How Every Lawmaker Has Reacted to Comey’s Firing So Far, N.Y. Times, accessed May 11, 2017, <https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2017/05/10/us/politics/congress-statements-comey.html> (136 Members of the House and Senate have called for a special prosecutor or similar, and 90 Members of the House and Senate have called for an independent investigation).

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FOIA@protectdemocracy.org

the absence of such information, there is no way for the American people to advise their representatives of the public's view on this matter.

It is therefore incumbent upon the government and urgent for your office to share any responsive records in an expedited fashion because that is only way in a democracy for citizens and other branches of government to assess the actions that have been made.

This request is made all the more urgent by the President's imminent nomination of a new FBI Director, whom the Senate will exercise its constitutional advice and consent power to consider. The public must have an opportunity to understand the circumstances surrounding Director Comey's firing in order to weigh in on his replacement, especially as it regards the ability of the new Director to carry out the ongoing Russia investigation.

Under penalty of perjury, I hereby affirm that the foregoing is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

#### FEE WAIVER

FOIA provides that any fees associated with a request are waived if "disclosure of the information is in the public interest because it is likely to contribute significantly to public understanding of the operations or activities of the government and is not primarily in the commercial interest of the requester." 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(4)(A)(iii). The core mission of The Protect Democracy Project, a new organization awaiting 501(c)(3) status, is to inform public understanding on operations and activities of the government. This request is submitted in consort with the organization's mission to gather and disseminate information that is likely to contribute significantly to the public understanding of executive branch operations and activities. The Protect Democracy Project has no commercial interests.

In addition to satisfying the requirements for a waiver of fees associated with the search and processing of records, The Protect Democracy Project is entitled to a waiver of all fees except "reasonable standard charges for document duplication." 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(4)(A)(ii)(II). Federal law mandates that fees be limited to document duplication costs for any requester that qualifies as a representative of the news media. *Id.* The Protect Democracy Project operates in the tradition of 501(c)(3) good government organizations that qualify under FOIA as "news media organizations." Like those organizations, the purpose of The Protect Democracy Project is to "gather information of potential interest to a segment of the public, use its editorial skills to turn the raw materials into distinct work, and distribute that work to an audience." *Nat's Sec. Archive v. Dep't of Defense*, 880 F.2d 1381, 1387 (D.C. Cir. 1989). We intend to give the public access to documents transmitted via FOIA on our website, [www.unitedtoprotectdemocracy.org](http://www.unitedtoprotectdemocracy.org), and to provide information about and analysis of those documents as appropriate.

#### RESPONSIVE RECORDS

2020 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, #163, Washington, DC 20006  
[FOIA@protectdemocracy.org](mailto:FOIA@protectdemocracy.org)

We ask that all types of records and all record systems be searched to discover records responsive to our request. We seek records in all media and formats. This includes, but is not limited to: agendas, manifests, calendars, schedules, notes, and any prepared documentation for meetings, calls, teleconferences, or other discussions responsive to our request; voicemails; e-mails; e-mail attachments; talking points; faxes; training documents and guides; tables of contents and contents of binders; documents pertaining to instruction and coordination of couriers; and any other materials. However, you need not produce press clippings and news articles that are unaccompanied by any commentary (e.g., an email forwarding a news article with no additional commentary in the email thread).

We ask that you search for records from all components of the offices listed at the Department of Justice that may be reasonably likely to produce responsive results. We also ask that you search all systems of record, including electronic and paper, in use at your agency, as well as files or emails in the personal custody of your employees, such as personal email accounts, as required by FOIA and to the extent that they are reasonably likely to contain responsive records. The Protect Democracy Project would prefer records in electronic format, saved as PDF documents, and transmitted via email or CD-ROM.

If you make a determination that any responsive record, or any segment within a record, is exempt from disclosure, we ask that you provide an index of those records at the time you transmit all other responsive records. In the index, please include a description of the record and the reason for exclusion with respect to each individual exempt record or exempt portion of a record, as provided by *Vaughn v. Rosen*, 484 F.2d 820 (D.C. Cir. 1973), cert. denied, 415 U.S. 977 (1974). When you deem a portion of a record exempt, we ask that the remainder of the record to be provided, as required by 5 U.S.C. § 552(b).

Given the 20-day statutory deadline, we hope to be as helpful as possible in clarifying or answering questions about our request. Please contact me at FOIA@protectdemocracy.org or (202) 599-0466 if you require any additional information. We appreciate your cooperation, and look forward to hearing from you very soon.

Sincerely,

The Protect Democracy Project

2020 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, #163, Washington, DC 20006  
FOIA@protectdemocracy.org

OIP-0392

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13e6b47578



**Swanson, Matthew L. (ODAG)**

---

**From:** Swanson, Matthew L. (ODAG)  
**Sent:** Monday, May 22, 2017 8:55 AM  
**To:** Rosenstein, Rod (ODAG); Crowell, James (ODAG); Terwilliger, Zachary (ODAG); Goldsmith, Andrew (ODAG); Ohr, Bruce (ODAG); Bonilla, Armando (ODAG); Cook, Steven H. (ODAG); Gauhar, Tashina (ODAG); Lan, Iris (ODAG); Raman, Sujit (ODAG); Schools, Scott (ODAG); Troester, Robert J. (ODAG); Frank, Michael (ODAG); Hill, John L. (ODAG); Bumatay, Patrick (ODAG); Barnett, Gary (ODAG); Bressack, Leah (ODAG); Mizelle, Chad (ODAG); Murray, Michael (ODAG); Sheehan, Matthew (ODAG); Geise, John (ODAG); Gelber, Alexandra (ODAG); Michalic, Mark (ODAG); Powell, SeLena Y (ODAG)  
**Subject:** FW: Notification of Records Search to be Conducted in Response to the FOIA, Murphy, OIP No. DOJ-2017-004212 (DAG)  
**Attachments:** 01. Initial Request (5.11.17).pdf

The initial request is attached. Details of the search process can be found below.

Best,  
Matt

---

**From:** Smith, James M. (OIP)  
**Sent:** Friday, May 19, 2017 2:50 PM  
**To:** Swanson, Matthew L. (ODAG) <mswanson@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
**Cc:** Hibbard, Douglas (OIP) <dhibbard@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** Notification of Records Search to be Conducted in Response to the FOIA, Murphy, OIP No. DOJ-2017-004212 (DAG)

Good Afternoon,

The purpose of this email is to notify you that the records of the below-listed officials will be searched in response to the attached Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request.

The requester, Allison Murphy of The Protect Democracy Project, is seeking:

- Communications between the Office of the Deputy Attorney General and the Executive Office of the President that pertain to or include Peter Strzok of the Federal Bureau of Investigation since January 20, 2017.

The officials that will be searched for this request are:

- Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein
- James Crowell
- Zachary Terwilliger
- Andrew Goldsmith
- Bruce Ohr
- Armando Bonilla
- Steven Cook
- Tashina Gauhar
- Iris Lan

OIP-0394

- Sujit Raman
- Scott Schools
- Robert Troester
- Michael Frank
- John Hill
- Patrick Bumatay
- Gary Barnett
- Leah Bressack
- Chad Mizelle
- Michael Murray
- Matthew Sheehan
- John Geise
- Alexandra Gelber
- Mark Michalic
- Selena Powell

The FOIA requires agencies to conduct a reasonable search in response to FOIA requests. For your information, this search will encompass the email and computer files (e.g. G or H drive) maintained by the officials listed above. We have also initiated searches of the Office of the Attorney General, as well as of the Departmental Executive Secretariat.

**To the extent officials within your office maintain other types of records, such as text and voice messages, or material maintained within a classified system, that would be responsive to this request but would not be located as a result of OIP's records search, please indicate so in response to this email.** OIP staff will make arrangements to conduct those searches as necessary. Similarly, if your office would not maintain any records responsive to this request or you can readily identify the official(s), be they either current or former employees, that would maintain records responsive to this request, you may indicate so in response to this email.

Please note that the Federal Records Act, as amended in 2014, and DOJ Policy Statement 0801.04 provide that government employees may not use a non-official email account for official business unless the communication is fully captured in a DOJ recordkeeping system – either by copying their official account or forwarding any such messages to their official account within twenty days. Should any records custodians have official records responsive to this FOIA request which are on a non-official account but were not copied into their official email account, those records should be provided to OIP.

If you have any questions concerning this matter, please feel free to call me at (202) 305-0580 or by replying to this email.

Best,

James Matthew Smith  
Attorney-Advisor  
Office of Information Policy  
U.S. Department of Justice  
(202) 305-0580

# **The Protect - Democracy Project**

May 11, 2017

Laurie Day  
Chief, Initial Request Staff  
Office of Information Policy  
Department of Justice  
Suite 11050  
1425 New York Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20530-0001  
Tel: (202) 514-FOIA  
Fax: (202) 514-1009

Via Facsimile

Re: Freedom of Information Act

To Whom It May Concern:

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), 5 U.S.C. § 552, The Protect Democracy Project hereby requests that your office produce within 20 business days the following records (see below for clarity on the types of records sought):

1. All communications, including but not limited to emails, electronic messages, records of phone calls, calendar entries, and notes, between Peter Strzok, Section Chief, and any person with an email address ending in the domain "who.eop.gov" or the private email accounts of any White House employees.
2. In addition to the records requested above, we also request records describing the processing of this request, including records sufficient to identify search terms used and locations and custodians searched, and any tracking sheets used to track the processing of this request. If your agency uses FOIA questionnaires or certifications completed by individual custodians or components to determine whether they possess responsive materials or to describe how they conducted searches, we also request any such records prepared in connection with the processing of this request.

This request is directed towards the Office of the Attorney General and the Office of the Deputy Attorney General. The timeframe for this request is January 20, 2017 through the date that searches are conducted for records responsive to this FOIA request.

2020 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, #163, Washington, DC 20006  
FOIA@protectdemocracy.org

OIP-0396

### EXPEDITED PROCESSING REQUEST

We request that you expedite the processing of this request pursuant to 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(6)(E) and 28 C.F.R. § 16.5(e)(1)(ii), (iv). This request meets the criteria for expedited processing because there is “[a]n urgency to inform the public about an actual or alleged Federal Government activity, if made by a person who is primarily engaged in disseminating information;” and this request concerns “[a] matter of widespread and exceptional media interest in which there exist possible questions about the government’s integrity that could affect public confidence.” 28 C.F.R. § 16.5(e)(1)(ii), (iv). As explained below in more detail in the section of this request regarding a fee waiver, The Protect Democracy Project intends to disseminate the information obtained in response to this request.

There is no question that President Trump’s firing of FBI Director Comey is a matter of widespread and exceptional media interest. The day that it happened, newspapers across the country, from national to local outlets, reported it on the front page,<sup>1</sup> and such extensive news coverage has continued in the days following. The story has become so widespread because of questions regarding the motives of the President and his Administration in firing Director Comey, and whether it was to interfere with the the possible progress of the investigation Director Comey was leading into collusion between the President’s campaign and Russia to influence the 2016 presidential election. So far, over two hundred Members of Congress,<sup>2</sup> who represent the public, have called for a special prosecutor or independent prosecutor because of questions regarding the government’s integrity that could affect public confidence. The public has a right to learn the Administration’s process for its decision to dismiss the FBI Director, and whether the legal, ethical, and standard policies were followed by the Administration. In the absence of such information, there is no way for the American people to advise their representatives of the public’s view on this matter.

It is therefore incumbent upon the government and urgent for your office to share any responsive records in an expedited fashion because that is only way in a democracy for citizens and other branches of government to assess the actions that have been made.

This request is made all the more urgent by the President’s imminent nomination of a new FBI Director, whom the Senate will exercise its constitutional advice and consent power to consider. The public must have an opportunity to understand the circumstances surrounding Director Comey’s firing in order to weigh in on his replacement, especially as it regards the ability of the new Director to carry out the ongoing Russia investigation.

---

<sup>1</sup> See Heather Bien, FBI Director James Comey Fired, Newseum, May 10, 2017 (showing photos of 25 newspaper front pages of front page headlines of Comey’s firing, among others on its website in its daily practice to publish the front pages of national newspapers), <http://www.newseum.org/2017/05/10/fbi-director-james-comey-fired/>

<sup>2</sup> How Every Lawmaker Has Reacted to Comey’s Firing So Far, N.Y. Times, accessed May 11, 2017, <https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2017/05/10/us/politics/congress-statements-comey.html> (136 Members of the House and Senate have called for a special prosecutor or similar, and 90 Members of the House and Senate have called for an independent investigation).

2020 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, #163, Washington, DC 20006  
FOIA@protectdemocracy.org



Under penalty of perjury, I hereby affirm that the foregoing is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

### FEE WAIVER

FOIA provides that any fees associated with a request are waived if “disclosure of the information is in the public interest because it is likely to contribute significantly to public understanding of the operations or activities of the government and is not primarily in the commercial interest of the requester.” 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(4)(A)(iii). The core mission of The Protect Democracy Project, a new organization awaiting 501(c)(3) status, is to inform public understanding on operations and activities of the government. This request is submitted in consort with the organization’s mission to gather and disseminate information that is likely to contribute significantly to the public understanding of executive branch operations and activities. The Protect Democracy Project has no commercial interests.

In addition to satisfying the requirements for a waiver of fees associated with the search and processing of records, The Protect Democracy Project is entitled to a waiver of all fees except “reasonable standard charges for document duplication.” 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(4)(A)(ii)(II). Federal law mandates that fees be limited to document duplication costs for any requester that qualifies as a representative of the news media. *Id.* The Protect Democracy Project operates in the tradition of 501(c)(3) good government organizations that qualify under FOIA as “news media organizations.” Like those organizations, the purpose of The Protect Democracy Project is to “gather information of potential interest to a segment of the public, use its editorial skills to turn the raw materials into distinct work, and distribute that work to an audience.” *Nat’s Sec. Archive v. Dep’t of Defense*, 880 F.2d 1381, 1387 (D.C. Cir. 1989). We intend to give the public access to documents transmitted via FOIA on our website, [www.unitedtoprotectdemocracy.org](http://www.unitedtoprotectdemocracy.org), and to provide information about and analysis of those documents as appropriate.

### RESPONSIVE RECORDS

We ask that all types of records and all record systems be searched to discover records responsive to our request. We seek records in all media and formats. This includes, but is not limited to: agendas, manifests, calendars, schedules, notes, and any prepared documentation for meetings, calls, teleconferences, or other discussions responsive to our request; voicemails; e-mails; e-mail attachments; talking points; faxes; training documents and guides; tables of contents and contents of binders; documents pertaining to instruction and coordination of couriers; and any other materials. However, you need not produce press clippings and news articles that are unaccompanied by any commentary (e.g., an email forwarding a news article with no additional commentary in the email thread).

2020 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, #163, Washington, DC 20006  
[FOIA@protectdemocracy.org](mailto:FOIA@protectdemocracy.org)

We ask that you search for records from all components of the DOJ that may be reasonably likely to produce responsive results, including but not limited to the Office of the Attorney General and the Office of the Deputy Attorney General. We also ask that you search all systems of record, including electronic and paper, in use at your agency, as well as files or emails in the personal custody of your employees, such as personal email accounts, as required by FOIA and to the extent that they are reasonably likely to contain responsive records. The Protect Democracy Project would prefer records in electronic format, saved as PDF documents, and transmitted via email or CD-rom.

If you make a determination that any responsive record, or any segment within a record, is exempt from disclosure, we ask that you provide an index of those records at the time you transmit all other responsive records. In the index, please include a description of the record and the reason for exclusion with respect to each individual exempt record or exempt portion of a record, as provided by *Vaughn v. Rosen*, 484 F.2d 820 (D.C. Cir. 1973), cert. denied, 415 U.S. 977 (1974). When you deem a portion of a record exempt, we ask that the remainder of the record to be provided, as required by 5 U.S.C. § 552(b).

Given the 20-day statutory deadline, we hope to be as helpful as possible in clarifying or answering questions about our request. Please contact me at FOIA@protectdemocracy.org or (202) 599-0466 if you require any additional information. We appreciate your cooperation, and look forward to hearing from you very soon.

Sincerely,

Allison F. Murphy  
Counsel  
The Protect Democracy Project

2020 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, #163, Washington, DC 20006  
FOIA@protectdemocracy.org

OIP-0399



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2020 Pennsylvania Ave NW  
#163  
Washington, DC 20006  
Fax: (929) 777-8428  
INFO@protectdemocracy.org

**The Protect -  
Democracy  
Project**

RECEIVED

MAY 11 2017

Office of Information Policy

**FAX**

To Whom It May Concern:

Please see the enclosed fax transmission from The Protect Democracy Project. If you have questions about the contents of the fax, please contact us at [INFO@protectdemocracy.org](mailto:INFO@protectdemocracy.org) or via phone at (202) 599-0466.

We appreciate your prompt attention to this matter, and look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,



Ian Bassin  
Protect Democracy Project

OIP-0401

**Swanson, Matthew L. (ODAG)**

---

**From:** Swanson, Matthew L. (ODAG)  
**Sent:** Monday, May 22, 2017 8:54 AM  
**To:** Rosenstein, Rod (ODAG); Crowell, James (ODAG); Terwilliger, Zachary (ODAG); Goldsmith, Andrew (ODAG); Ohr, Bruce (ODAG); Bonilla, Armando (ODAG); Cook, Steven H. (ODAG); Gauhar, Tashina (ODAG); Lan, Iris (ODAG); Raman, Sujit (ODAG); Schools, Scott (ODAG); Troester, Robert J. (ODAG); Frank, Michael (ODAG); Hill, John L. (ODAG); Bumatay, Patrick (ODAG); Barnett, Gary (ODAG); Bressack, Leah (ODAG); Mizelle, Chad (ODAG); Murray, Michael (ODAG); Sheehan, Matthew (ODAG); Geise, John (ODAG); Gelber, Alexandra (ODAG); Michalic, Mark (ODAG); Powell, SeLena Y (ODAG)  
**Subject:** FW: Notification of Records Search to be Conducted in Response to the FOIA, Florence, OIP No. DOJ-2017-004001 (DAG)  
**Attachments:** 01. Initial Request (5.10.17) - DAG.PDF

The initial request is attached. Details of the search process can be found below.

Best,  
Matt

---

**From:** Smith, James M. (OIP)  
**Sent:** Friday, May 19, 2017 2:11 PM  
**To:** Swanson, Matthew L. (ODAG) <mswanson@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
**Cc:** Hibbard, Douglas (OIP) <dhibbard@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** Notification of Records Search to be Conducted in Response to the FOIA, Florence, OIP No. DOJ-2017-004001 (DAG)

Good Afternoon,

The purpose of this email is to notify you that the records of the below-listed officials will be searched in response to the attached Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request.

The requester, AJ Vicens of Mother Jones, is seeking:

- Communications from the Federal Bureau of Investigation to the Department of Justice related to funding for its investigations regarding Russian interference into American politics
- Date Range: January 20, 2017 – May 10, 2017

The officials that will be searched for this request are:

- Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein
- James Crowell
- Zachary Terwilliger
- Andrew Goldsmith
- Bruce Ohr
- Armando Bonilla
- Steven Cook
- Tashina Gauhar
- Iris Lan

OIP-0402

- Sujit Raman
- Scott Schools
- Robert Troester
- Michael Frank
- John Hill
- Patrick Bumatay
- Gary Barnett
- Leah Bressack
- Chad Mizelle
- Michael Murray
- Matthew Sheehan
- John Geise
- Alexandra Gelber
- Mark Michalic
- Selenia Powell

The FOIA requires agencies to conduct a reasonable search in response to FOIA requests. For your information, this search will encompass the email and computer files (e.g. G or H drive) maintained by the officials listed above. We have also initiated searches of the Office of the Attorney General, as well as of the Departmental Executive Secretariat.

**To the extent officials within your office maintain other types of records, such as text and voice messages, or material maintained within a classified system, that would be responsive to this request but would not be located as a result of OIP's records search, please indicate so in response to this email.** OIP staff will make arrangements to conduct those searches as necessary. Similarly, if your office would not maintain any records responsive to this request or you can readily identify the official(s), be they either current or former employees, that would maintain records responsive to this request, you may indicate so in response to this email.

Please note that the Federal Records Act, as amended in 2014, and DOJ Policy Statement 0801.04 provide that government employees may not use a non-official email account for official business unless the communication is fully captured in a DOJ recordkeeping system – either by copying their official account or forwarding any such messages to their official account within twenty days. Should any records custodians have official records responsive to this FOIA request which are on a non-official account but were not copied into their official email account, those records should be provided to OIP.

If you have any questions concerning this matter, please feel free to call me at (202) 305-0580 or by replying to this email.

Best,

James Matthew Smith  
Attorney-Advisor  
Office of Information Policy  
U.S. Department of Justice  
(202) 305-0580



**Request Details**  
**Request Type : FOIA**

**Status :** Assignment Determination **Due Date :** 06/08/2017



**Request Details**

Tracking Number : DOJ-2017-004001	Submitted Date : 05/10/2017
Requester : AJ Vicens	Perfected Date : 05/10/2017
Organization : Mother Jones	Last Assigned Date : 05/11/2017
Requester Has Account : Yes	Fee Limit : \$25.00
Email Address : avicens@motherjones.com	Request Track : Complex
Phone Number : (b) (6)	Due Date : 06/08/2017
Fax Number : N/A	Assigned To : James Smith (Department of Justice - Office of Information Policy)
Address : 1319 F Street NW Suite 810	Last Assigned By : Douglas Hibbard (Department of Justice - Office of Information Policy)
City : Washington	
State/Province : DC	
Zip Code/Postal Code : 20004	

**Submission Details**

**Request Handling**

Requester Info Available to No the Public :	Request Perfected : Yes
Request Track : Complex	Perfected Date : 05/10/2017
Fee Category :	Acknowledgement Sent Date:
Fee Waiver Requested: Yes	Unusual Circumstances ? : No
Fee Waiver Status: Pending Decision	5 Day Notifications: No
Expedited Processing Yes Requested :	Litigation : No
Expedited Processing Status : Pending Decision	* Litigation Court Docket Number: <input type="text"/>

**Request Description**

Short Description : N/A

Copies of any communications from the FBI to DOJ related to funding for its investigation(s) regarding Russia, Russian interference into American politics, and contacts between business and political associates and Russia, covering the date-range of January 20 through May 10.

Description Available to the No Public :	Has Description Been No Modified?	0/2000
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**Additional Information**

Litigation Counsel Name : N/A  
Litigation Case Number : N/A  
Litigation Contact N/A Information :  
Sub-Office : Office of the Deputy Attorney General

**Attached Supporting Files**

Attachments Available to the No

Public :

Attached File	Type	Size (MB)	Remove
<a href="#">02. Expedition Acknowledgment (5.19.17).pdf</a>	PDF	0.03	

#### Case File

Direct URL : <https://localhost:8443/foia/action/public/view/request/812f83cf>

#### Case Details

Type of Case :

Fiscal Year : 2017

Total Days Pending : 7

Received Date : 05/11/2017

Clock Initially Started On : 05/10/2017





## Assigned Tasks

Outcome ▾	Assigned To ▾	Assigned By ▾	Creation Date ▾	Due Date ▾	Closed Date ▾	Notification	Detail
Pending	James Smith	Douglas Hibbard	05/10/2017	05/10/2017 			

*Description :* Fee Waiver Task

*Comments :* I request a waiver of any applicable fees. The requested information about FBI resource requests will give insight into how these investigations are being handled. Thus, disclosure of the requested information to me is in the public interest, and is likely to contribute significantly to public understanding of the activities of the government. Given that Mother Jones is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, the requested documents are not primarily in my commercial interest.

Pending	James Smith	Douglas Hibbard	05/10/2017	05/20/2017 		
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*Description :* Expedited Processing Task

*Comments :* I certify that my statements concerning the need for expedited processing are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief. As a reporter, I work for an nonprofit journalism organization primarily engaged in disseminating information and my request concerns a matter of compelling need. The issue of resource requests for FBI investigation(s) related to Russian meddling in the 2016 election is of widespread and exceptional media interest in which there exist possible questions about the government's integrity which affect public confidence.

**Swanson, Matthew L. (ODAG)**

---

**From:** Swanson, Matthew L. (ODAG)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 17, 2017 12:24 PM  
**To:** Rosenstein, Rod (ODAG); Crowell, James (ODAG); Terwilliger, Zachary (ODAG); Goldsmith, Andrew (ODAG); Ohr, Bruce (ODAG); Bonilla, Armando (ODAG); Cook, Steven H. (ODAG); Gauhar, Tashina (ODAG); Lan, Iris (ODAG); Raman, Sujit (ODAG); Schools, Scott (ODAG); Troester, Robert J. (ODAG); Frank, Michael (ODAG); Hill, John L. (ODAG); Bumatay, Patrick (ODAG); Barnett, Gary (ODAG); Bressack, Leah (ODAG); Mizelle, Chad (ODAG); Murray, Michael (ODAG); Sheehan, Matthew (ODAG); Geise, John (ODAG); Gelber, Alexandra (ODAG); Michalic, Mark (ODAG); Powell, SeLena Y (ODAG)  
**Subject:** FW: Notification of Records Search to be Conducted in Response to the FOIA, Florence, OIP No. DOJ-2017-003800 (DAG)  
**Attachments:** 01. Initial Request (4.19.17).pdf

The initial request is attached. Details of the search process can be found below.

Best,  
Matt

---

**From:** Smith, James M. (OIP)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 17, 2017 12:21 PM  
**To:** Swanson, Matthew L. (ODAG) <mswanson@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
**Cc:** Hibbard, Douglas (OIP) <dhibbard@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** Notification of Records Search to be Conducted in Response to the FOIA, Florence, OIP No. DOJ-2017-003800 (DAG)

Good Afternoon,

The purpose of this email is to notify you that the records of the below-listed officials will be searched in response to the attached Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request.

The requester, Justin Florence of The Protect Democracy Project, is seeking records pertaining to:

- The statutory debt limit since January 20, 2017.

The officials that will be searched for this request are:

- Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein
- James Crowell
- Zachary Terwilliger
- Andrew Goldsmith
- Bruce Ohr
- Armando Bonilla
- Steven Cook
- Tashina Gauhar
- Iris Lan
- Sujit Raman
- Scott Schools

OIP-0407

- Scott Schools
- Robert Troester
- Michael Frank
- John Hill
- Patrick Bumatay
- Gary Barnett
- Leah Bressack
- Chad Mizelle
- Michael Murray
- Matthew Sheehan
- John Geise
- Alexandra Gelber
- Mark Michalic
- Selena Powell

The FOIA requires agencies to conduct a reasonable search in response to FOIA requests. For your information, this search will encompass the email and computer files (e.g. G or H drive) maintained by the officials listed above. We have also initiated searches of the Offices of the Attorney General, Legislative Affairs, Legal Policy, and Public Affairs, as well as of the Departmental Executive Secretariat.

**To the extent officials within your office maintain other types of records, such as text and voice messages, or material maintained within a classified system, that would be responsive to this request but would not be located as a result of OIP's records search, please indicate so in response to this email.** OIP staff will make arrangements to conduct those searches as necessary. Similarly, if your office would not maintain any records responsive to this request or you can readily identify the official(s), be they either current or former employees, that would maintain records responsive to this request, you may indicate so in response to this email.

Please note that the Federal Records Act, as amended in 2014, and DOJ Policy Statement 0801.04 provide that government employees may not use a non-official email account for official business unless the communication is fully captured in a DOJ recordkeeping system – either by copying their official account or forwarding any such messages to their official account within twenty days. Should any records custodians have official records responsive to this FOIA request which are on a non-official account but were not copied into their official email account, those records should be provided to OIP.

If you have any questions concerning this matter, please feel free to call me at (202) 305-0580 or by replying to this email.

Best,

James Matthew Smith  
Attorney-Advisor  
Office of Information Policy  
U.S. Department of Justice  
(202) 305-0580



# The Protect- Democracy Project

April 19, 2017

Laurie Day  
Chief, Initial Request Staff  
Office of Information Policy  
Department of Justice  
Suite 11050  
1425 New York Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20530-0001  
Phone: (202) 514-FOIA  
Fax: (202) 514-1009

RECEIVED

APR 19 2017

Office of Information Policy

Re: Freedom of Information Act Request

To Whom It May Concern:

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), 5 U.S.C. § 552, The Protect Democracy Project hereby requests that your office produce within 20 business days the following records (see below for clarity on the types of records sought):

1. Any and all records, including but not limited to emails, notes, and memoranda, reflecting, discussing, or otherwise relating to requests or legislative proposals, formal or informal, made by the Administration to Congress to raise, suspend, or eliminate the statutory debt limit.
2. Any and all records, including but not limited to emails, notes, and memoranda, reflecting, discussing, or otherwise relating to communications between the Administration and members of Congress, congressional staff, congressional committees, or the Congressional Budget Office concerning or referencing the statutory debt limit.
3. Any and all records, including but not limited to emails, notes, and memoranda, reflecting, discussing, or otherwise relating to the consequences to the United States economy and/or government and/or national security in the event that the United States defaulted on its obligations because of the statutory debt limit.
4. Any and all records, including but not limited to emails, notes, and memoranda, reflecting, discussing, or otherwise relating to legal authorities available to the Executive Branch to prevent the United States from defaulting on its obligations

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FOIA@protectdemocracy.org

OIP-0409

in the event that Congress does not raise, suspend, or eliminate the statutory debt limit.

5. Any and all records, including but not limited to emails, notes, and memoranda, reflecting, discussing, or otherwise relating to communications regarding the statutory debt limit between or among the Justice Department and

- a. The Social Security Administration;
- b. The Department of Defense Military Retirement Fund;
- c. The Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association (SIFMA);
- d. Blackrock;
- e. Vanguard Asset Management;
- f. Fidelity Investments;
- g. BNY Mellon;
- h. J.P. Morgan;
- i. Goldman Sachs.

6. In addition to the records requested above, we also request records describing the processing of this request, including records sufficient to identify search terms used and locations and custodians searched, and any tracking sheets used to track the processing of this request. If your agency uses FOIA questionnaires or certifications completed by individual custodians or components to determine whether they possess responsive materials or to describe how they conducted searches, we also request any such records prepared in connection with the processing of this request.

The timeframe for this request is January 20, 2017 through the date that searches are conducted for records responsive to this FOIA request.

#### FEE WAIVER

FOIA provides that any fees associated with a request are waived if "disclosure of the information is in the public interest because it is likely to contribute significantly to public understanding of the operations or activities of the government and is not primarily in the commercial interest of the requester." 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(4)(A)(iii). The core mission of The Protect Democracy Project, a new organization awaiting 501(c)(3) status, is to inform public understanding on operations and activities of the government. This request is submitted in consort with the organization's mission to gather and disseminate information that is likely to contribute significantly to the public understanding of executive branch operations and activities. The Protect Democracy Project has no commercial interests.

In addition to satisfying the requirements for a waiver of fees associated with the search and processing of records, The Protect Democracy Project is entitled to a waiver

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FOIA@protectdemocracy.org

of all fees except “reasonable standard charges for document duplication.” 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(4)(A)(ii)(II). Federal law mandates that fees be limited to document duplication costs for any requester that qualifies as a representative of the news media. *Id.* The Protect Democracy Project operates in the tradition of 501(c)(3) good government organizations that qualify under FOIA as “news media organizations.” Like those organizations, the purpose of The Protect Democracy Project is to “gather information of potential interest to a segment of the public, use its editorial skills to turn the raw materials into distinct work, and distribute that work to an audience.” *Nat’s Sec. Archive v. Dep’t of Defense*, 880 F.2d 1381, 1387 (D.C. Cir. 1989). We intend to give the public access to documents transmitted via FOIA on our website, [www.protectdemocracy.org](http://www.protectdemocracy.org), and to provide information about and analysis of those documents as appropriate.

### RESPONSIVE RECORDS

We ask that all types of records and all record systems be searched to discover records responsive to our request. We seek records in all medium and format. This includes, but is not limited to: agendas, manifests, calendars, schedules, notes, and any prepared documentation for meetings, calls, teleconferences, or other discussions responsive to our request; voicemails; e-mails; e-mail attachments; talking points; faxes; training documents and guides; tables of contents and contents of binders; documents pertaining to instruction and coordination of couriers; and any other materials. However, you need not produce press clippings and news articles that are unaccompanied by any commentary (e.g., an email forwarding a news article with no additional commentary in the email thread).

We ask that you search for records from all components of the Justice Department that may be reasonably likely to produce responsive results, including but not limited to the Office of the Attorney General, Office of the Deputy Attorney General, Office of Legal Counsel, Office of Legal Policy, Office of Public Affairs, and Office of Legislative Affairs. We also ask that you search all systems of record, including electronic and paper, in use at your agency, as well as files or emails in the personal custody of your employees, such as personal email accounts, as required by FOIA and to the extent that they are reasonably likely to contain responsive records. The Protect Democracy Project would prefer records in electronic format, saved as PDF documents, and transmitted via email or CD-ROM.

If you make a determination that any responsive record, or any segment within a record, is exempt from disclosure, we ask that you provide an index of those records at the time you transmit all other responsive records. In the index, please include a description of the record and the reason for exclusion with respect to each individual exempt record or exempt portion of a record, as provided by *Vaughn v. Rosen*, 484 F.2d 820 (D.C. Cir. 1973), cert. denied, 415 U.S. 977 (1974). When you deem a portion of a record exempt, we ask that the remainder of the record to be provided, as required by 5 U.S.C. § 552(b).

2020 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, #163, Washington, DC 20006  
[FOIA@protectdemocracy.org](mailto:FOIA@protectdemocracy.org)



Given the 20-day statutory deadline, we hope to be as helpful as possible in clarifying or answering questions about our request. Please contact me at FOIA@protectdemocracy.org or (202) 599-0466 if you require any additional information. We appreciate your cooperation, and look forward to hearing from you very soon.

Sincerely,

/s/ Justin Florence

Justin Florence  
Legal Director  
The Protect Democracy Project  
justin.florence@protectdemocracy.org

2020 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, #163, Washington, DC 20006  
FOIA@protectdemocracy.org

OIP-0412

To view a High Resolution & Color copy of this fax:

1. Go to [www.hellofax.com/HighRes](http://www.hellofax.com/HighRes)

2. Enter Access Code:

47b5e0f8aa

**Swanson, Matthew L. (ODAG)**

---

**From:** Swanson, Matthew L. (ODAG)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 17, 2017 12:15 PM  
**To:** Rosenstein, Rod (ODAG); Crowell, James (ODAG); Terwilliger, Zachary (ODAG); Goldsmith, Andrew (ODAG); Ohr, Bruce (ODAG); Bonilla, Armando (ODAG); Cook, Steven H. (ODAG); Gauhar, Tashina (ODAG); Lan, Iris (ODAG); Raman, Sujit (ODAG); Schools, Scott (ODAG); Troester, Robert J. (ODAG); Frank, Michael (ODAG); Hill, John L. (ODAG); Bumatay, Patrick (ODAG); Barnett, Gary (ODAG); Bressack, Leah (ODAG); Mizelle, Chad (ODAG); Murray, Michael (ODAG); Sheehan, Matthew (ODAG); Geise, John (ODAG); Gelber, Alexandra (ODAG); Michalic, Mark (ODAG); Powell, SeLena Y (ODAG)  
**Subject:** FW: Notification of Records Search to be Conducted in Response to the FOIA, Florence, OIP No. DOJ-2017-003731 (DAG)  
**Attachments:** 01. Initial Request (4.25.17).pdf

The initial request is attached. Details of the search process can be found below.

Best,  
Matt

---

**From:** Smith, James M. (OIP)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 17, 2017 12:08 PM  
**To:** Swanson, Matthew L. (ODAG) <mswanson@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
**Cc:** Hibbard, Douglas (OIP) <dhibbard@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** Notification of Records Search to be Conducted in Response to the FOIA, Florence, OIP No. DOJ-2017-003731 (DAG)

Good Afternoon,

The purpose of this email is to notify you that the records of the below-listed officials will be searched in response to the attached Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request.

The requester, Justin Florence of The Protect Democracy Project, is seeking records pertaining to:

- Neomi Rao since January 1, 2005; and
- Center for the Study of the Administrative State since January 1, 2015.

The officials that will be searched for this request are:

- Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein
- James Crowell
- Zachary Terwilliger
- Andrew Goldsmith
- Bruce Ohr
- Armando Bonilla
- Steven Cook
- Tashina Gauhar
- Iris Lan
- Sujit Raman

OIP-0414

- ~~Supervisor~~
- Scott Schools
- Robert Troester
- Michael Frank
- John Hill
- Patrick Bumatay
- Gary Barnett
- Leah Bressack
- Chad Mizelle
- Michael Murray
- Matthew Sheehan
- John Geise
- Alexandra Gelber
- Mark Michalic
- Selena Powell

The FOIA requires agencies to conduct a reasonable search in response to FOIA requests. For your information, this search will encompass the email and computer files (e.g. G or H drive) maintained by the officials listed above. We have also initiated searches of the Offices of the Attorney General and Legal Policy, and of the Departmental Executive Secretariat.

**To the extent officials within your office maintain other types of records, such as text and voice messages, or material maintained within a classified system, that would be responsive to this request but would not be located as a result of OIP's records search, please indicate so in response to this email.** OIP staff will make arrangements to conduct those searches as necessary. Similarly, if your office would not maintain any records responsive to this request or you can readily identify the official(s), be they either current or former employees, that would maintain records responsive to this request, you may indicate so in response to this email.

Please note that the Federal Records Act, as amended in 2014, and DOJ Policy Statement 0801.04 provide that government employees may not use a non-official email account for official business unless the communication is fully captured in a DOJ recordkeeping system – either by copying their official account or forwarding any such messages to their official account within twenty days. Should any records custodians have official records responsive to this FOIA request which are on a non-official account but were not copied into their official email account, those records should be provided to OIP.

If you have any questions concerning this matter, please feel free to call me at (202) 305-0580 or by replying to this email.

Best,

James Matthew Smith  
Attorney-Advisor  
Office of Information Policy  
U.S. Department of Justice  
(202) 305-0580



# **The Protect- Democracy Project**

April 25, 2017

Laurie Day  
Chief, Initial Request Staff  
Office of Information Policy  
Department of Justice  
Suite 11050  
1425 New York Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20530-0001  
Phone: (202) 514-FOIA  
Fax: (202) 514-1009

Re: Freedom of Information Act Request

To Whom It May Concern:

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), 5 U.S.C. § 552, The Protect Democracy Project hereby requests that your office produce within 20 business days the following records (see below for clarity on the types of records sought):

1. Any and all records, including but not limited to emails and memoranda, reflecting, discussing, or otherwise relating to communications to or from Neomi Rao or Professor Rao, including but not limited to the email addresses: [nrao@gmu.edu](mailto:nrao@gmu.edu), [neomi.rao@gmail.com](mailto:neomi.rao@gmail.com), [neomi.rao@who.eop.gov](mailto:neomi.rao@who.eop.gov), and [nrao@who.eop.gov](mailto:nrao@who.eop.gov). The timeframe for this request is 2005 through the date that searches are conducted for records responsive to this FOIA request.
2. Any and all records, including but not limited to emails and memoranda, reflecting, discussing, or otherwise relating to the "Center for the Study of the Administrative State." The timeframe for this request is 2015 through the date that searches are conducted for records responsive to this FOIA request.
3. In addition to the records requested above, we also request records describing the processing of this request, including records sufficient to identify search terms used and locations and custodians searched, and any tracking sheets used to track the processing of this request. If your agency uses FOIA questionnaires or certifications completed by individual custodians or components to determine whether they possess responsive materials or to describe how they conducted searches, we also request any such records prepared in connection with the processing of this request.

2020 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, #163, Washington, DC 20006  
[justin.florence@protectdemocracy.org](mailto:justin.florence@protectdemocracy.org)

### FEE WAIVER

FOIA provides that any fees associated with a request are waived if “disclosure of the information is in the public interest because it is likely to contribute significantly to public understanding of the operations or activities of the government and is not primarily in the commercial interest of the requester.” 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(4)(A)(iii). The core mission of The Protect Democracy Project, a new organization awaiting 501(c)(3) status, is to inform public understanding on operations and activities of the government. This request is submitted in consort with the organization’s mission to gather and disseminate information that is likely to contribute significantly to the public understanding of executive branch operations and activities. The Protect Democracy Project has no commercial interests.

In addition to satisfying the requirements for a waiver of fees associated with the search and processing of records, The Protect Democracy Project is entitled to a waiver of all fees except “reasonable standard charges for document duplication.” 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(4)(A)(ii)(II). Federal law mandates that fees be limited to document duplication costs for any requester that qualifies as a representative of the news media. *Id.* The Protect Democracy Project operates in the tradition of 501(c)(3) good government organizations that qualify under FOIA as “news media organizations.” Like those organizations, the purpose of The Protect Democracy Project is to “gather information of potential interest to a segment of the public, use its editorial skills to turn the raw materials into distinct work, and distribute that work to an audience.” *Nat’s Sec. Archive v. Dep’t of Defense*, 880 F.2d 1381, 1387 (D.C. Cir. 1989). We intend to give the public access to documents transmitted via FOIA on our website, [www.unitedtoprotectdemocracy.org](http://www.unitedtoprotectdemocracy.org), and to provide information about and analysis of those documents as appropriate.

### RESPONSIVE RECORDS

We ask that all types of records and all record systems be searched to discover records responsive to our request. We seek records in all media and formats. This includes, but is not limited to: agendas, manifests, calendars, schedules, notes, and any prepared documentation for meetings, calls, teleconferences, or other discussions responsive to our request; voicemails; e-mails; e-mail attachments; talking points; faxes; training documents and guides; tables of contents and contents of binders; documents pertaining to instruction and coordination of couriers; and any other materials. However, you need not produce press clippings and news articles that are unaccompanied by any commentary (e.g., an email forwarding a news article with no additional commentary in the email thread).

We ask that you search for records from all components of the Department that may be reasonably likely to produce responsive results, including but not limited to the

2020 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, #163, Washington, DC 20006  
[justin.florence@protectdemocracy.org](mailto:justin.florence@protectdemocracy.org)



Office of the Attorney General, Office of the Deputy Attorney General, Office of Legal Counsel, and Office of Legal Policy. We also ask that you search all systems of record, including electronic and paper, in use at your agency, as well as files or emails in the personal custody of your employees, such as personal email accounts, as required by FOIA and to the extent that they are reasonably likely to contain responsive records. The Protect Democracy Project would prefer records in electronic format, saved as PDF documents, and transmitted via email or CD-ROM.

If you make a determination that any responsive record, or any segment within a record, is exempt from disclosure, we ask that you provide an index of those records at the time you transmit all other responsive records. In the index, please include a description of the record and the reason for exclusion with respect to each individual exempt record or exempt portion of a record, as provided by *Vaughn v. Rosen*, 484 F.2d 820 (D.C. Cir. 1973), cert. denied, 415 U.S. 977 (1974). When you deem a portion of a record exempt, we ask that the remainder of the record to be provided, as required by 5 U.S.C. § 552(b).

Given the 20-day statutory deadline, we hope to be as helpful as possible in clarifying or answering questions about our request. Please contact me at FOIA@protectdemocracy.org or (202) 599-0466 if you require any additional information. We appreciate your cooperation, and look forward to hearing from you very soon.

Sincerely,  
/s/ Justin Florence  
Legal Director  
The Protect Democracy Project

2020 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, #163, Washington, DC 20006  
justin.florence@protectdemocracy.org

2020 Pennsylvania Ave NW  
#163  
Washington, DC 20006  
Fax: (929) 777-8428  
INFO@protectdemocracy.org

**The Protect-  
Democracy  
Project**

RECEIVED

APR 25 2017

Office of Information Policy

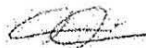
**FAX**

To Whom It May Concern:

Please see the enclosed fax transmission from The Protect Democracy Project. If you have questions about the contents of the fax, please contact us at [INFO@protectdemocracy.org](mailto:INFO@protectdemocracy.org) or via phone at (202) 599-0466.

We appreciate your prompt attention to this matter, and look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,



Ian Bassin  
Protect Democracy Project

**Abi Sodipo**

---

**From:** Abi Sodipo  
**Sent:** Friday, May 12, 2017 10:43 AM  
**To:** Rosenstein, Rod (USAMD)  
**Subject:** Request for the Department of Justice to honor the United States' Obligation under the Convention on Torture by investigating ongoing acts of cruel & inhuman treatment that are cognizable as torture

Dear Mr. Rosenstein,

I am writing to request the kind intervention of the United States Department of Justice in an ongoing crime that incorporates acts of cruel & inhuman treatment that is cognizable as torture.

I have reported the matter to law enforcement agencies and public officials with oversight responsibility for justice at all levels of government (including, the Director of the FBI, District Attorneys and State Attorney Generals) as well as the Assistant Secretary of State for Democracy and Human Rights who was responsible for the US' commitment to honor the UN Convention on Torture, the former Secretary of State (Hilary Clinton), The US Permanent Representative at the UN all to no avail.

The appearance that there is participation by law enforcement officials in the crime or at the minimum willfully suppressing the investigation of same runs contrary to the most cherished values of the country and should be a source of deep concern for those charged with upholding the nation's laws.

The perpetrators have made reprehensible comments such as "You are our Slave" and "We will show you what Jews suffered in Nazi Germany".

There should be no place for unlawful vigilante action against innocent, vulnerable individuals or State sanctioned persecution in the US.

I am suffering terribly from the effects of the crime targeted at my person and fear long term irreparable damage to my health if it permitted to continue, I would appreciate the kind use of your good offices to ensure an investigation is launched into the matter with a view to ending my ordeal and bringing the perpetrators of this terrible crime to justice.

Thanks in advance for your urgent action.

Yours Sincerely,  
Abi Sodipo.

---

**From:** (b)(6)  
**Sent:** Monday, July 18, 2016 11:07 AM  
**To:** james.comey@ic.fbi.gov  
**Subject:** All Black Lives Should Matter - Request for the Federal Bureau of Investigations to honor the United States' Obligation under the Convention on Torture and demonstrate that Black Lives Truly Matter

OIP-0420



Dear Director Comey,

I am the victim of ongoing cruel and inhuman treatment that is cognizable as torture, I have reported the issue to law enforcement officials at the local, county, state and federal levels and despite the fact the US has affirmed its commitment to fulfilling its obligation under the UN Convention Against Torture and stated it will eliminate torture in all its forms from all territories within its jurisdiction absolutely nothing has been done to protect me from the perpetrators of this heinous crime. (I am lawfully present in the United States of America and in proper immigration status).

The culprits appear to be using sound over ultrasound technology (<https://holosonics.com/content/6Technology>) to deliver electronic noise that causes debilitating exhaustion and is being used to clinically raise my stress levels. They continuously abuse & revile me and have also openly boasted that they will ruin my health variously preferring Stroke, Depression and Alzheimer's disease as their affliction of choice. (The electronic noise is used to cause sleep/rest deprivation which induces exhaustion and raises stress levels).

Sound over Ultrasound technology makes sound highly directional and difficult to record even with omni-directional microphones, if the location of the source of the sound is not known ahead of time and that location changes the task is made even more challenging, I have however been able to make a few recordings and provided it to law enforcement agencies but they have refused to perform any meaningful investigation.

Law enforcement officers appear to be willfully suppressing the investigation of the crime, in an instance, I was almost hit by an AC Transit bus while protected by light in the pedestrian crossing, and contacted the bus company who initially said they had located the bus in question as well as a video of the incident captured by the on-board camera on the bus, when I asked for a copy of the video they stopped responding to me, I reported the matter to the Lieutenant at the Alameda County Sheriff's office to whom my report of harassment by electronic noise had been referred, he did not obtain the video or investigate the matter and instead summarily declared that I had not been in danger. (The electronic noise had been used to bother me while riding on AC Transit buses on my way to and from work and I hoped that an investigation might identify a link between the driver and the unknown perpetrators of the ongoing crime).

I have no doubt that law enforcement officers are aware the crime is ongoing, on one occasion when I went to report the matter at the FBI field office in San Francisco, the female agent, a blond (unfortunately the agents do not give their names) used one of disparaging terms (DES) the perpetrators use to refer to me (DES is short for Desperate, Destitute and Destined for Destruction) but field office refused to investigate the crime.

The crime started in the midst of a litigation under the civil rights act, in which the chief executive of a former employer had been verbally abusive and called me delusional (I do not suffer from such an ailment) and the attorneys for the defendant had later tried to characterize me as such my asserting in a brief that the plaintiff (myself) is mentally upset, the actions of the perpetrators of the crime commenced after that particular brief was filed by the attorneys for the defendant and have continued since even though identities of the specific individuals used have changed over time (The identities of the perpetrators have changed from Caucasian to African American, then Africans and later Nigerians in an apparent attempt to avoid its being characterized as a hate based crime).



The perpetrators have also targeted me at the premises or subsequent employers where I have worked but the authorities to whom I have reported the crime have done absolutely nothing to protect me.

I am suffering terribly as a result of the crime targeted at my person and I fear I will suffer irreparable long term damage to my health. The FBI has urged members of the African American community to show restraint in the matter of the killing of young Africans/ African Americans by law enforcement agents asking them to trust that the rule of law will ensure that justice is done in such matters. I am calling on you to use your good offices as the Director of the FBI to fulfill that promise and launch an immediate investigation into the ongoing crime targeted at my person with a view to ending my ordeal and bringing the perpetrators, their sponsors, collaborators and protectors to justice.

Thanks in advance for your kind assistance.

Yours Sincerely,  
Abi Sodipo.

---

From: (b)(6)  
To: loretta.lynn@usdoj.gov  
Subject: FW: Request for the Department of Justice to honor the United States' Obligation under the Convention on Torture  
Date: Thu, 30 Apr 2015 04:57:16 -0700

Dear Ms. Lynch,

I forwarded the enclosed email message on November 26, 2014 and followed up on December 15, 2014 but did not get a response.

The crime I reported to you is still ongoing. I understand you have assumed office as the Attorney General of the United States of America and would appreciate if you would kindly use your good offices to initiate an investigation into the matter in compliance with the nation's obligation under the Convention Against Torture.

There should be no place for state sanctioned persecution in the United States of America.

A high resolution imaging scan (MRI/UltraSound) should ascertain the existence or otherwise of an unlawful implant and I would like such a scan to be performed under the supervision of the Department of Justice.

I fear the crime targeted at my person will cause long term irreparable damage to my health if permitted to continue and would appreciate if you would take urgent action on the matter.

Thanks in advance for your prompt action.

Yours Sincerely,  
Abi Sodipo.

---

From: (b)(6)

To: loretta.lynch@usdoj.gov

Subject: FW: Request for the Department of Justice to honor the United States' Obligation under the Convention on Torture

Date: Mon, 15 Dec 2014 05:35:17 -0800

Dear Ms. Lynch,

I forwarded the enclosed email message to request an investigation into an ongoing crime that is cognizable as torture/cruel and inhuman treatment but I have not yet received a response.

I fear I will suffer irreparable damage to my health if the crime is permitted to continue and would appreciate your urgent assistance.

Yours Sincerely,  
Abi Sodipo.

---

From: (b)(6)

To: loretta.lynch@usdoj.gov

Subject: Request for your intervention in a case of long term sleep/rest deprivation that is cognizable as torture/cruel and inhuman treatment

Date: Wed, 26 Nov 2014 08:31:27 -0800

Dear Ms. Lynch,

I am writing to request your kind intervention in a case of prolonged sleep/rest deprivation that is cognizable as torture or cruel and inhuman punishment.

I am requesting an investigation of the use of unlawful medical implants and unlawful medical experimentation regarding the use of micro-miniature microphones/transducers to deliver debilitating electronically generated noise for the purpose of depriving the subject of sleep and other harmful purposes.

The noise is applied to clinically raise my stress levels and will cause long term irreparable damage to my health if permitted to continue.

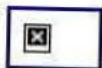
The United States recently committed to banning the use of torture in all areas under its jurisdiction and I would like my request for an investigation to be viewed within this context. The acts targeted at my person are inhuman and contrary to international law.

I am requesting the conduct of a scientific examination and diagnostic scans under the auspices of the US Government to determine if I have been unlawfully implanted with sensors/transducers.

I fear I will suffer irreparable damage to my health if the acts of sleep deprivation to which I am being subjected is permitted to continue and would appreciate your immediate intervention.

Yours Sincerely,  
Abiodun Sodipo.





Virus-free. [www.avast.com](http://www.avast.com)

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Rod

Rosenstein

Rod.Rosenstein5@usdoj.gov

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PC Software Token V3.0 or later

iPhone

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**Rosenstein, Rod (USAMD)**

---

**From:** Rosenstein, Rod (USAMD)  
**Sent:** Monday, May 22, 2017 10:42 PM  
**To:** Miller, Jan Paul  
**Subject:** Re: Still current

Sorry I missed this message. Busy couple of weeks! Please let me know if you still want to talk.

*\*Please delete [Rod.Rosenstein@usdoj.gov](mailto:Rod.Rosenstein@usdoj.gov) from your contacts and use my new DOJ email address instead: [Rod.Rosenstein5@usdoj.gov](mailto:Rod.Rosenstein5@usdoj.gov).*

On May 9, 2017, at 10:39 AM, Miller, Jan Paul <[JMiller@thompsoncoburn.com](mailto:JMiller@thompsoncoburn.com)> wrote:

Rod,

Is this still your email address. And, if so, can you spare a couple of minutes to talk?

I hope all is going well in your new position. I wish you all the best and am so happy that you are DAG. The country is better off as a result.

Jan

Jan Paul Miller  
Sent from my iPhone  
(b)(6)

---

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**Rosenstein, Rod (ODAG)**

---

**From:** Rosenstein, Rod (ODAG)  
**Sent:** Monday, May 22, 2017 4:30 PM  
**To:** Andrew Radding  
**Subject:** Re: Great article

Thanks.

Sent from my iPhone

On May 22, 2017, at 4:21 PM, Andrew Radding <[ARadding@adelberg.com](mailto:ARadding@adelberg.com)> wrote:

Told you it would be a good weekend.

Article showed the human side for a change.

Wish I'd been at the party. (b)(6)

Keep the smile on your face and remember who and what you are dealing with on the other side.

The Prez. Is doing himself proud overseas! People will pay attention to that. Will see the politicians making noise for what they are eventually.

Andy

**James Trusty**

---

**From:** James Trusty  
**Sent:** Friday, May 19, 2017 2:47 PM  
**To:** Rosenstein, Rod (USAMD)

Sunday NY Times is writing a piece on you. My part was favorable, if reluctant.

Best,  
Jim



**James M. Trusty** Member

1717 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Suite 650 | Washington, DC 20006-2004

☎ (202)524-4176 | [jtrusty@ifrahlaw.com](mailto:jtrusty@ifrahlaw.com) | [ifrahlaw.com](http://ifrahlaw.com)



**Murphy, Marcia (ODAG)**

---

**From:** Murphy, Marcia (ODAG)  
**Sent:** Friday, May 19, 2017 8:54 AM  
**To:** Rosenstein, Rod (ODAG)  
**Subject:** I'm with you in spirit

Sorry I'm not there today, but I am with you in spirit. This is just politics- nothing personal so don't let them get to you.

**Rosenstein, Rod (ODAG)**

---

**From:** Rosenstein, Rod (ODAG)  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 18, 2017 10:55 AM  
**To:** Cole, James M.  
**Subject:** RE: Well Done

Thanks.

---

**From:** Cole, James M. [mailto:jcole@sidley.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 18, 2017 8:50 AM  
**To:** Rosenstein, Rod (ODAG) <rrosenstein@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** Well Done

Best choice you could have made.

Jim

James M. Cole  
Partner  
Sidley Austin LLP  
1501 K Street NW  
Washington, D.C. 20005  
202-736-8246

\*\*\*\*\*  
\*\*\*\*\*

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immediately.

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**Benson Legg**

---

**From:** Benson Legg  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 18, 2017 8:58 AM  
**To:** Rosenstein, Rod (USAMD)  
**Subject:** Completely agree with Judge Star

I am proud of you.

Ben Legg

**Rosenstein, Rod (USAMD)**

---

**From:** Rosenstein, Rod (USAMD)  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 18, 2017 6:13 AM  
**To:** Filip, Mark  
**Subject:** Re: Good luck tomorrow at the Senate. I owe you a call -- will call Friday when you are clear of the hearing. Hang in there. Best, Mark.

Thanks.

*\*Please delete [Rod.Rosenstein@usdoj.gov](mailto:Rod.Rosenstein@usdoj.gov) from your contacts and use my new DOJ email address instead: [Rod.Rosenstein5@usdoj.gov](mailto:Rod.Rosenstein5@usdoj.gov).*

On May 18, 2017, at 12:22 AM, Filip, Mark <[mark.filip@kirkland.com](mailto:mark.filip@kirkland.com)> wrote:

Mark Filip, P.C.

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KIRKLAND & ELLIS LLP  
300 North LaSalle, Chicago, IL 60654  
T +1 312 862 2192

---

[mark.filip@kirkland.com](mailto:mark.filip@kirkland.com)

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**Brown, Mary Patrice**

---

**From:** Brown, Mary Patrice  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 17, 2017 7:31 PM  
**To:** Rosenstein, Rod (ODAG)  
**Subject:** Re: Where do I sign up?

Proud to know you.

Sent from my iPhone

> On May 17, 2017, at 6:52 PM, Rosenstein, Rod (ODAG) <Rod.Rosenstein5@usdoj.gov> wrote:

>

> You would have to call him!

>

> -----Original Message-----

> From: Brown, Mary Patrice [mailto:mpbrown@omm.com]

> Sent: Wednesday, May 17, 2017 6:35 PM

> To: Rosenstein, Rod (ODAG) <rrosenstein@jmd.usdoj.gov>

> Subject: Where do I sign up?

>

> To help Bob.

>

> Sent from my iPhone

>

>



**Brown, Mary Patrice**

---

**From:** Brown, Mary Patrice  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 17, 2017 7:08 PM  
**To:** Rosenstein, Rod (ODAG)  
**Subject:** Re: Where do I sign up?



Sent from my iPhone

> On May 17, 2017, at 6:52 PM, Rosenstein, Rod (ODAG) <Rod.Rosenstein5@usdoj.gov> wrote:

>

> You would have to call him!

>

> -----Original Message-----

> From: Brown, Mary Patrice [mailto:mpbrown@omm.com]

> Sent: Wednesday, May 17, 2017 6:35 PM

> To: Rosenstein, Rod (ODAG) <rosenstein@jmd.usdoj.gov>

> Subject: Where do I sign up?

>

> To help Bob.

>

> Sent from my iPhone

>

>

**Crowell, James (ODAG)**

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**From:** Crowell, James (ODAG)  
**Sent:** Sunday, May 21, 2017 1:54 PM  
**To:** Rosenstein, Rod (ODAG)  
**Cc:** Terwilliger, Zachary (ODAG); Schools, Scott (ODAG)  
**Subject:** Re: Document Preservation Requests re Russia

Scott Schools received the FBI preservation request and is handling dissemination.

Sent from my iPhone

On May 21, 2017, at 1:33 PM, Rosenstein, Rod (ODAG) <[rosenstein@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:rosenstein@jmd.usdoj.gov)> wrote:

I have a letter in my box from the Senate dated May 11. I know you also got one from the FBI.  
Have you advised everybody who may have responsive records?

Horwitz, Sari

---

**From:** Horwitz, Sari  
**Sent:** Friday, May 19, 2017 11:24 AM  
**To:** Rosenstein, Rod (ODAG)  
**Subject:** Story

Rod,

As a courtesy, I just wanted to give you a heads up that the Post will be reporting today that the law enforcement investigation into possible coordination between Russia and the Trump campaign is reaching into the White House, as a member of Trump's current inner circle is now a significant person of interest in the probe.

Sari

OIP-0439

(b) (6)

**From:** (b) (6)  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 18, 2017 7:30 AM  
**To:** Rosenstein, Rod (USAMD)  
**Subject:** Corruption to Russian Officials and proceeds arriving to the USA and Canada

The below might be of your interest.

--

Securely sent with Tutanota. Claim your encrypted mailbox today!

<https://tutanota.com>

I would like to bring to your attention a very interesting case which last year became the "corruption scandal of the year" in Siberia, Russia.

This is the story of an alleged former protegee of famous Mafia Lord "Ded Hassan". Upon Mr Hassan's death, Mr Shchukin's position in Siberia became weaker and he had to carry on, in a more directly manner, conducting a number of presumed illegal activities ( theft of companies with the help of high rank public officials among others ).

Is is well known in Siberia that Mr Shchukin, either directly or indirectly ( through his daughter Elena Shchukina and her husband Mr Ildar Uzbekoz ) own several businesses in the USA: real estate in Miami or New York, investments in the biodiesel industry through the Canadian subsidiary of Luxembourg based Einer Energy ( Bioversel, Einer Energy Canada ) and through some of the many BV companies under control of the family ( Buely Consulting, Yuvia Holdinds, Orense Limited, etc )

In June 2016, allegedly with the help of the Director of Russian Anti-Corruption unit in Siberia ( Mr Sergey Kalinkin ), Mr Shchukin and his accomplices attempted to extort assets worth over USD 15,000,0000 in Kemerovo, Russia.

The mechanism was the same as in previous occasions, first some public media noise against the legitimate owners of the assets ( ie: delay on salary payments, high prices of sold products, lack of investments into the local communities etc ). Such structure was implemented for the theft of assets such as Razrez Inskoy of Gramoteinskaya Mine among others.

As part of the Razrez Inskoy extortion, Mr Shchukin was first deprived from freedom ( prison ) for few days, but later on he was transferred to house arrest.

During this time, as per the public media, Mr Shchukin has confessed to have bribed the Chief of Anti-corruption in Siberia, Mr Kalinkin, in order for him to act in favour of Mr Schukin.

OIP-0440



<http://thewhistleblowers.info/russia-senior-policeman-under-arrest-for-extortion-facing-new-criminal-charge>

<https://en.crimerussia.com/corruption/businessman-shchukin-gifts-ex-head-of-kemerovo-icr-kalinkin-expensive-cars>

In the past, it is believed that Mr Shchukin had to request favours at even higher level, to the very same Governor of the Kemerovo Province Mr Aman Tuleev.

Below you can see a video where the very own Governor announces publicly Mr Shchukin would become the new owner of 2 coal mines, and the Governor announces he will take them away from UK based Lehram Capital and hand them over to his old friend Mr Shchukin.

<https://en.crimerussia.com/raidergrabs/rescuer-or-raider-of-gramoteinskaya-mine-in-kuzbass>

This crime was even reported by The Guardian, however the Russian authorities decided to look away and ignore such criminal act, specially when the highest rank public official in Siberia was directly involved.

[www.theguardian.com/business/2015/dec/13/battle-coal-mine-russian-billionaire-uk-lehram](http://www.theguardian.com/business/2015/dec/13/battle-coal-mine-russian-billionaire-uk-lehram)

It is interesting to know how one of the directors of the British company was put in prison due to an expired passport; 2 days after the video where the Governor announced the "new owner" of the assets was Mr Schukin, the director of the British company was taken out of prison for 3 hours to the Governor's office where he was forced to sign documents transferring the assets to Cypriot companies controlled by Mr Shchukin ( ie Cyrith Holdings, Forcena Limited, Bryankee, etc ). The same expired passport for which the person was sent to prison, was also used to validate the transaction; unbelievable!!

Mr Shchukin is still under house arrest, however it is said that he will be released on 13th August 2017.

With this email I would like to kindly request you to initiate an investigation of all the facts above. I believe the USA is still one of the few remaining forums genuinely trying to eradicate Global corruption of Snr Public Officials and the laundering of the proceeds obtained from such activities.

Finally, and possibly a clear sign on how this person is, few months ago a 23 years old employee at one of his mining companies in Siberia suffered a life-changing accident, for which he is going to be unable to live on his own without the help of third parties. Instead of assuming the guilt and get the company to pay a disability pension to this employee, Mr Shchukin decided to transfer the assets from this company to a different company and bankrupt the legal entity who hired the injured employee in order to avoid any liability for the accident of this employee which will be disabled for the rest of his life and to avoid any future claim to affect any of the assets originally under control of the company.



I beg you to look into this person.

All the above is simply a minuscule portion of all the activities this person has done to his own benefit without caring about anyone else apart from himself. It is presumed he is trying to hide all his assets by transferring them to his son in law ( Mr Ildar Uzbekov ) and / or entities associated with his wife Mrs Evgenia Shchukina and his daughter ( Mrs Elena Shchukina / Elena Uzbekova )

Have a nice day

XXXXXXXXXXXX

**Rosenstein, Rod (ODAG)**

---

**From:** Rosenstein, Rod (ODAG)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 16, 2017 12:51 AM  
**To:** Ramer, Sam (OLA)  
**Cc:** Tyson, Jill C. (OLA)  
**Subject:** Re: Ryan

Thank you! Keep rowing.

On May 16, 2017, at 12:20 AM, Ramer, Sam (OLA) <[sramer@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:sramer@jmd.usdoj.gov)> wrote:

"The daily newspapers and endless talk shows are not the verdict of history." Excellent.

Sent from my iPhone

On May 16, 2017, at 12:15 AM, Tyson, Jill C. (OLA) <[jctyson@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jctyson@jmd.usdoj.gov)> wrote:

DAG Rosenstein:

This is perfect. We are lucky to have you at the helm.

-JCT

Jill C. Tyson

On May 15, 2017, at 11:59 PM, Rosenstein, Rod (ODAG)  
<[rrosenstein@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:rrosenstein@jmd.usdoj.gov)> wrote:

<http://www.baltimoresun.com/news/maryland/politics/bs-md-rod-rostein-20170516-story.html>

On May 15, 2017, at 4:17 PM, Ramer, Sam (OLA)  
<[sramer@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:sramer@jmd.usdoj.gov)> wrote:

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

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**From:** Rosenstein, Rod (ODAG)  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2017 3:55 PM  
**To:** Ramer, Sam (OLA) <[sramer@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:sramer@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Tyson, Jill C. (OLA) <[jctyson@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jctyson@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Crowell, James (ODAG) <[jcrowell@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jcrowell@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Terwilliger, Zachary (ODAG) <[zterwilliger@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:zterwilliger@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
**Subject:** Ryan

<http://www.politico.com/2017/05/15/news-politics>

OIP-0443

<http://www.ponacusa.com/2017/02/12/nancy-pelosi-backed-paul-ryan-major-corner-russia-scandal.html>

(b) (5)

**Rosenstein, Rod (ODAG)**

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**From:** Rosenstein, Rod (ODAG)  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2017 4:19 PM  
**To:** Ramer, Sam (OLA)  
**Cc:** Tyson, Jill C. (OLA); Crowell, James (ODAG); Terwilliger, Zachary (ODAG)  
**Subject:** Re: Ryan

OK

On May 15, 2017, at 4:17 PM, Ramer, Sam (OLA) <[sramer@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:sramer@jmd.usdoj.gov)> wrote:

(b) (5) . (b) (5)

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**From:** Rosenstein, Rod (ODAG)  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2017 3:55 PM  
**To:** Ramer, Sam (OLA) <[sramer@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:sramer@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Tyson, Jill C. (OLA) <[jctyson@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jctyson@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Crowell, James (ODAG) <[jcrowell@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jcrowell@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Terwilliger, Zachary (ODAG) <[zterwilliger@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:zterwilliger@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
**Subject:** Ryan

<http://www.politicususa.com/2017/05/15/nancy-pelosi-backed-paul-ryan-major-corner-russia-scandal.html>

(b) (5)

**Walters Beth**

---

**From:** Walters Beth  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 11, 2017 9:31 AM  
**To:** Rosenstein, Rod (USAMD)  
**Subject:** Independent counsel

Dear Mr. Rosenstein,

As you know — probably especially of you experience this past week — it is absolutely essential that you create an independent counsel with an adequate and skilled staff to investigate Russian involvement inner 2016 election, plus related issues.

It is the one way we can stop this frightening erosion of what has been the base foundation of Americann existence.

Peace,  
Beth Walters

OIP-0446



**Alison Moore**

---

**From:** Alison Moore  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 11, 2017 8:54 AM  
**To:** Rosenstein, Rod (USAMD)  
**Subject:** appoint independent prosecutor to investigate Russia

I am sure you read today's open letter to you in the New York Times editorial pages.

Please do not let your integrity be exploited by this administration!

Appoint a special counsel to investigate the Trump family's and campaign's and administration's ties to Russia.

Thank you,  
Alison Moore  
Brookline, MA

OIP-0447

diane maye

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**From:** diane maye  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 11, 2017 7:23 AM  
**To:** Rosenstein, Rod (USAMD)

Dear Sir:

It is time for you to stand up for your country and appoint an independent prosecutor to investigate Donald Trump and his campaign's involvement with Russia. Please do your duty.

Sincerely,

Diane Maye

Sent from my iPad

OIP-0448

**Delany-Shabazz, Robin (OJP)**

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**From:** Delany-Shabazz, Robin (OJP)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 9, 2017 5:32 PM  
**To:** Rosenstein, Rod (ODAG)  
**Subject:** RE: Welcome Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein

Good day Mr. Rosenstein:

Just wanted to add my congratulations and welcome to main Justice!

I had the pleasure of working very briefly with you on the AG's Federal Sentencing and Corrections Policy Working Group in 2009. As a LEAP detailee that year to CRM/OPL, I provided support for the initiative and your role as the co-chair of the issue team on federal cocaine sentencing policy.

I was impressed by your leadership – you helped ensure that your issue team was first to complete its examination of federal policy and prepare an options/recommendations paper for consideration. Looking forward to your stewardship and impact on the Department's work in your new role.

Regards,

Robin

**Robin Delany-Shabazz**

Associate Administrator, State and Community Development

202-307-9963

[robin.delany-shabazz@usdoj.gov](mailto:robin.delany-shabazz@usdoj.gov)

Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention



*The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention envisions a nation where all children are healthy, educated and free from violence. If they come in contact with the juvenile justice system, the contact should be rare, fair and beneficial to them.*

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**From:** Laws, Lawrence (OJP) [mailto:Lawrence.Laws@ojp.usdoj.gov]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 09, 2017 11:06 AM  
**Subject:** FW: Welcome Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein

The following message is being forwarded on behalf of The Attorney General.

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**From:** The Attorney General  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 09, 2017 10:03 AM  
**To:** The Attorney General (b) (6) >

OIP-0449



**Subject:** Welcome Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein

I am thrilled to have our outstanding Deputy Attorney General, Rod Rosenstein, on board and hard at work helping lead our Department. Rod, the 37<sup>th</sup> Deputy Attorney General, has devoted most of his career to public service. Before becoming Deputy Attorney General, he was the United States Attorney for the District of Maryland for 12 years, where he served on the Attorney General's Advisory Committee and continued to personally litigate cases in the U.S. District Court and in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit. And prior to his service as the United States Attorney for the District of Maryland, Rod was an Assistant United States Attorney and also served in the Office of the Deputy Attorney General. He is a graduate of the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania and Harvard Law School, and he is a true professional who has earned great respect wherever he has served.

I am excited about the many initiatives the Department already has undertaken, and there are many more to come. To carry out the President's commitment to combat violent crime and restore public safety, we have established a Task Force on Crime Reduction and Public Safety. It includes crime reduction experts from throughout the Department, and it is evaluating everything we are doing at the federal level. We have issued a memorandum to all federal prosecutors, making clear that prosecuting violent criminals is a high priority and directing them to work closely with their federal, state, local and tribal law enforcement partners to target the most violent offenders in each district. Rod already has been busy this past week meeting with many of our components and co-chairing an important meeting on strategies to take down MS-13.

Along with our partners at the Department of Homeland Security, we are also carrying out the President's promise to secure our borders and restore a lawful system of immigration. And we are working to make sure the brave men and women of law enforcement understand that our nation supports their noble work and has the back of all honest and honorable law enforcement officers.

In just the past few months, the Department has achieved significant victories across the spectrum of our law enforcement priorities. To name just a few:

- You brought to justice one of the men who took part in the 2010 murder of Border Patrol Agent Brian Terry;
- You brought the first-ever case against a doctor for female genital mutilation;
- You dismantled a three-state, international heroin trafficking network, charging three brothers who had reentered the country after having been previously convicted of felony drug crimes and deported;
- You charged a man in Israel as part of an investigation spanning multiple continents for violent threats against Jewish communities across our country;
- You brought indictments against four defendants, including two officers of the Russian Federal Security Service (FSB), for computer hacking, economic espionage, and other offenses in connection with a conspiracy to access Yahoo's network and steal the contents of at least 500 million email accounts;
- You received a combined penalty of over a billion dollars—including the largest criminal fine ever in connection with an IEEPA prosecution—through a joint effort with the Department of Commerce and Department of Treasury in a settlement for allegations of U.S. sanctions violations.

This is just the beginning. In all that we do, the Department of Justice will be guided by a clear sense of

purpose: We will maintain public safety; we will uphold the Constitution and enforce our nation's laws; we will seek the highest level of productivity and professionalism; and we will ensure equal justice for all Americans.

Rod is a leader, a manager, and has the experience and judgment to help our Department reach high levels of excellence. Please join me in formally welcoming Rod to our efforts. I hope many of you will get the chance to meet him during the days to come.

Thank you for all that you do as we continue this work together.

Jefferson B. Sessions III

Attorney General



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**Thimmesch, Bill (JMD)**

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**From:** Thimmesch, Bill (JMD)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 9, 2017 10:23 AM  
**To:** Rosenstein, Rod (ODAG)  
**Subject:** FW: Welcome Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein

Mr. Rosenstein,

My congratulations on your appointment as the new Deputy Attorney General at the Department of Justice. I look forward to meeting you tomorrow afternoon for the Leadership Excellence and Achievement Program (LEAP) executive briefing of our action learning team's effort to reduce and streamline mandatory training for United States Attorneys and Litigators.

DOJ (through our Learning and Workforce Development office in JMD) is also leading a federal government effort to establish a community of practice for using "action learning" to develop leaders and solve problems across the federal government. I appreciate the trust that the DAG's office has given our leadership program participants to use this process to reduce the burden of mandatory training on attorneys at the DOJ. Best,

Bill Thimmesch

(more information about action learning in leadership development)  
<http://wial.org/action-learning/library/>

Bill Thimmesch  
Program Manager, Leadership and  
Executive Development/ LEAP  
Justice Management Division  
Office Phone: 202/616-0869  
Mobi (b) (6)  
E-Mail: [Bill.Thimmesch@usdoj.gov](mailto:Bill.Thimmesch@usdoj.gov)  
*My top 5 Strengths: Achiever; Woo; Communication; Input; Learner StrengthsFinder 2.0*

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**O'Reilly, Charles A. (TAX)**

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**From:** O'Reilly, Charles A. (TAX)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 09, 2017 10:07 AM  
**To:** Rosenstein, Rod (ODAG)  
**Subject:** FW: Welcome Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein

Welcome back to Main Justice.

Chuck O'Reilly

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**Crowell, James (ODAG)**

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**From:** Crowell, James (ODAG)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 9, 2017 8:09 AM  
**To:** Rosenstein, Rod (ODAG)  
**Subject:** FW: Summary of Yates' testimony  
**Attachments:** Summary of Yates Testimony 5.8.17.docx

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**From:** Ramer, Sam (OLA)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 9, 2017 12:04 AM  
**To:** Crowell, James (ODAG) <[jcrowell@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jcrowell@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Summary of Yates' testimony

Jim-

Sorry about that. Attached this time.

Sam

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**From:** Crowell, James (ODAG)  
**Sent:** Monday, May 8, 2017 10:29 PM  
**To:** Ramer, Sam (OLA) <[sramer@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:sramer@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Summary of Yates' testimony

No attachment.

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**From:** Ramer, Sam (OLA)  
**Sent:** Monday, May 8, 2017 8:14 PM  
**To:** Crowell, James (ODAG) <[jcrowell@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jcrowell@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
**Subject:** Summary of Yates' testimony

Jim-

Attached is a summary of Yates' testimony from today's hearing. Please let me know if the format works for you. Also, please let me know if you would like me to start sending these to the DAG directly.

Thanks,

Sam



**Brian White**

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**From:** Brian White  
**Sent:** Friday, May 12, 2017 3:29 AM  
**To:** Rosenstein, Rod (USAMD)  
**Subject:** appoint an independent prosecutor

Dear Mr Rosenstein:

Please appoint an independent prosecutor to oversee the ongoing investigation of Russian meddling in the 2016 election.

Any other course of action will lead to grave suspicions of a cover-up at the highest levels.

Sincerely,  
Brian White

(b) (6)

OIP-0467

**Nayback, Kyle (USANM)**

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**From:** Nayback, Kyle (USANM)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 9, 2017 10:39 AM  
**To:** Rosenstein, Rod (ODAG)  
**Subject:** FW: Welcome Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein

Congratulations Deputy Attorney General Rosenstein! I have heard a lot of nice things about you from my former supervisor Tracy Toulou – I used to be a Deputy Director in the Office of Tribal Justice. Please let me know if you ever need an Indian Country information from the District of New Mexico.

kyle

Kyle T. Nayback  
Supervisory Assistant U.S. Attorney  
Indian Country Crimes Section  
U.S. Attorney's Office  
District of New Mexico  
505-224-1401

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