

**U.S. District Court**  
**District of Columbia (Washington, DC)**  
**CIVIL DOCKET FOR CASE #: 1:20-cv-02995-EGS**

JUDICIAL WATCH, INC. v. U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Assigned to: Judge Emmet G. Sullivan  
Cause: 05:552 Freedom of Information Act

Date Filed: 10/19/2020  
Date Terminated: 06/22/2021  
Jury Demand: None  
Nature of Suit: 895 Freedom of Information Act  
Jurisdiction: U.S. Government Defendant

**Plaintiff****JUDICIAL WATCH, INC.**

represented by **Michael Bekesha**  
JUDICIAL WATCH, INC.  
425 Third Street, SW  
Suite 800  
Washington, DC 20024  
(202) 646-5172  
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**ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED**

V.

**Defendant****U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE**

represented by **Darrell C. Valdez**  
U.S. ATTORNEY'S OFFICE FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
555 Fourth Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20530  
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**LEAD ATTORNEY**  
**ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED**

Date Filed	#	Docket Text
10/19/2020	<u>1</u>	COMPLAINT against U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE ( Filing fee \$ 400 receipt number ADCDC-7727800) filed by JUDICIAL WATCH, INC.. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Civil Cover Sheet, # <u>2</u> Summons U.S. Department of Justice, # <u>3</u> Summons U.S. Attorney, # <u>4</u> Summons U.S. Attorney General)(Bekesha, Michael) (Entered: 10/19/2020)
10/19/2020	<u>2</u>	LCvR 26.1 CERTIFICATE OF DISCLOSURE of Corporate Affiliations and Financial Interests by JUDICIAL WATCH, INC. (Bekesha, Michael) (Entered: 10/19/2020)
10/20/2020		Case Assigned to Judge Emmet G. Sullivan. (zmd) (Entered: 10/20/2020)
10/20/2020	<u>3</u>	SUMMONS (3) Issued Electronically as to U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, U.S. Attorney and U.S. Attorney General (Attachment: # <u>1</u> Notice and Consent)(adh, ) (Entered: 10/20/2020)
10/22/2020	<u>4</u>	STANDING ORDER: The parties are directed to read the attached Standing Order Governing Civil Cases Before Judge Emmet G. Sullivan in its entirety upon receipt. The parties are hereby ORDERED to comply with the directives in the attached Standing Order. Signed by Judge Emmet G. Sullivan on 10/22/20. (Attachment: # <u>1</u> Exhibit 1) (mac) (Entered: 10/22/2020)
10/31/2020	<u>5</u>	RETURN OF SERVICE/AFFIDAVIT of Summons and Complaint Executed as to the United States Attorney. Date of Service Upon United States Attorney on 10/30/2020. Answer due for ALL FEDERAL DEFENDANTS by 11/29/2020. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Declaration of David Rothstein)(Bekesha, Michael) (Entered: 10/31/2020)

10/31/2020	<u>6</u>	RETURN OF SERVICE/AFFIDAVIT of Summons and Complaint Executed on United States Attorney General. Date of Service Upon United States Attorney General 10/30/20. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Declaration of David Rothstein)(Bekesha, Michael) (Entered: 10/31/2020)
10/31/2020	<u>7</u>	RETURN OF SERVICE/AFFIDAVIT of Summons and Complaint Executed. U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE served on 10/30/2020 (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Declaration of David Rothstein)(Bekesha, Michael) (Entered: 10/31/2020)
11/30/2020	<u>8</u>	NOTICE of Appearance by Darrell C. Valdez on behalf of U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE (Valdez, Darrell) (Entered: 11/30/2020)
11/30/2020	<u>9</u>	ANSWER to Complaint by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE.(Valdez, Darrell) (Entered: 11/30/2020)
11/30/2020		MINUTE ORDER. Plaintiff brings this action pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), 5 U.S.C. § 552. The parties are directed to meet and confer and propose a joint scheduling order for further proceedings in this case by no later than December 30, 2020. The parties' joint proposed scheduling order shall address the following: (1) The status of plaintiff's FOIA request; (2) The anticipated number of documents responsive to plaintiff's FOIA request; (3) The anticipated date(s), if any, for release of documents responsive to plaintiff's FOIA request; (4) Whether a motion for an Open America stay is likely in this case; (5) Whether a Vaughn index will be required in this case; (6) Whether this case would benefit from referral to a magistrate judge or the District Court Mediation Program for purposes of settlement; and (7) A proposed briefing schedule for dispositive motions, if applicable. If the parties are unable to agree on a joint recommendation, the joint proposed scheduling order shall include each party's individual recommendations. Signed by Judge Emmet G. Sullivan on 11/30/2020. (lcegs2) (Entered: 11/30/2020)
12/01/2020		Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Scheduling Order due by 12/30/2020 (mac) (Entered: 12/01/2020)
12/23/2020	<u>10</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. (Valdez, Darrell) (Entered: 12/23/2020)
12/23/2020		MINUTE ORDER. In view of <u>10</u> parties' joint status report, the parties are directed to file a further joint status report by no later than February 1, 2021. Signed by Judge Emmet G. Sullivan on 12/23/2020. (lcegs2) (Entered: 12/23/2020)
12/23/2020		Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Status Report due by 2/1/2021 (mac) (Entered: 12/23/2020)
01/29/2021	<u>11</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. (Valdez, Darrell) (Entered: 01/29/2021)
02/01/2021		MINUTE ORDER. In view of <u>11</u> parties' joint status report, the parties are directed to file a further joint status report by no later than March 22, 2021. Signed by Judge Emmet G. Sullivan on 2/1/2021. (lcegs2) (Entered: 02/01/2021)
02/01/2021		Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Status Report due by 3/22/2021 (mac) (Entered: 02/01/2021)
03/22/2021	<u>12</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. (Valdez, Darrell) (Entered: 03/22/2021)
03/22/2021		MINUTE ORDER. In view of <u>12</u> Joint Status Report, the parties are directed to file a further joint status report by no later than May 3, 2021. Signed by Judge Emmet G. Sullivan on 3/22/2021.(lcegs2) (Entered: 03/22/2021)
03/23/2021		Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Status Report due by 5/3/2021 (mac) (Entered: 03/23/2021)
05/03/2021	<u>13</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. (Valdez, Darrell) (Entered: 05/03/2021)
05/03/2021		MINUTE ORDER. In view of <u>13</u> Joint Status Report, the parties shall abide by the following schedule: defendant shall file its motion for summary judgment by no later than June 14, 2021; plaintiff shall file its opposition and any cross-motion for summary judgment by no later than July 14, 2021; defendant shall file its reply and opposition by no later than July 30, 2021; and plaintiff shall file its reply by no later

		than August 13, 2021. Signed by Judge Emmet G. Sullivan on 5/3/2021. (lcegs2) (Entered: 05/03/2021)
05/04/2021		Set/Reset Deadlines: Defendant Motion For Summary Judgment due by 6/14/2021. Plaintiff Opposition And Any Cross-Motion For Summary Judgment due by 7/14/2021. Defendant Reply And Opposition due by 7/30/2021. Plaintiff Reply due by 8/13/2021. (mac) (Entered: 05/04/2021)
06/14/2021	<u>14</u>	MOTION for Summary Judgment by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Statement of Facts, # <u>2</u> Declaration Seidel Decl. with Exhibits, # <u>3</u> Text of Proposed Order)(Valdez, Darrell) (Entered: 06/14/2021)
06/21/2021	<u>15</u>	STIPULATION of Dismissal <i>with Prejudice</i> by JUDICIAL WATCH, INC.. (Bekesha, Michael) (Entered: 06/21/2021)