

**U.S. District Court  
District of Columbia (Washington, DC)  
CIVIL DOCKET FOR CASE #: 1:21-cv-02196-TJK**

WASHINGTON BLADE et al v. U.S. DEPARTMENT OF  
STATE  
Assigned to: Judge Timothy J. Kelly  
Cause: 05:552 Freedom of Information Act

Date Filed: 08/17/2021  
Jury Demand: None  
Nature of Suit: 895 Freedom of  
Information Act  
Jurisdiction: U.S. Government Defendant

**Plaintiff**

**WASHINGTON BLADE**

represented by **Thomas R. Burke**  
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**Plaintiff**

**CHRISTOPHER C. JOHNSON**

represented by **Thomas R. Burke**  
(See above for address)  
*LEAD ATTORNEY*  
*PRO HAC VICE*  
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**Daniel A. Fiedler**  
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**Courtney Turco DeThomas**  
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V.

**Defendant**

## U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE

represented by **Sian Jones**

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Date Filed	#	Docket Text
08/17/2021	<u>1</u>	COMPLAINT FOR INJUNCTIVE AND DECLARATORY RELIEF FOR VIOLATION OF FOIA against U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE, THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE, OFFICE OF THE LEGAL ADVISOR ( Filing fee \$ 402 receipt number ADCDC-8673134) filed by Christopher C Johnson, The Washington Blade. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Exhibit A, # <u>2</u> Exhibit B, # <u>3</u> Exhibit C, # <u>4</u> Exhibit D, # <u>5</u> Exhibit E, # <u>6</u> Exhibit F, # <u>7</u> Exhibit G, # <u>8</u> Exhibit H)(DeThomas, Courtney) (Entered: 08/17/2021)
08/17/2021	<u>2</u>	CIVIL COVER SHEET by Christopher C Johnson, The Washington Blade filed by Christopher C Johnson, The Washington Blade.(DeThomas, Courtney) (Entered: 08/17/2021)
08/17/2021	<u>3</u>	REQUEST FOR SUMMONS TO ISSUE <i>as to U.S. Department of State</i> filed by Christopher C Johnson, The Washington Blade. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Summons as to U.S. Department of Justice, # <u>2</u> Summons as to U.S. Attorney's Office)(DeThomas, Courtney) (Entered: 08/17/2021)
08/17/2021	<u>4</u>	ENTERED IN ERROR..... MOTION for Leave to Appear Pro Hac Vice :Attorney Name- Thomas R. Burke, Filing fee \$ 100, receipt number ADCDC-8675043. Fee Status: Fee Paid. by Christopher C Johnson, The Washington Blade. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Certificate of Good Standing)(Burke, Thomas) Modified on 8/18/2021 (znmw). (Entered: 08/17/2021)
08/18/2021		Case Assigned to Judge Timothy J. Kelly. (zsb) (Entered: 08/18/2021)
08/18/2021	<u>5</u>	SUMMONS (3) Issued Electronically as to U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE, U.S. Attorney and U.S. Attorney General (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Notice and Consent)(adh, ) (Entered: 08/18/2021)
08/18/2021		NOTICE OF ERROR re <u>4</u> Motion for Leave to Appear Pro Hac Vice; emailed to thomasburke@dwt.com, cc'd 3 associated attorneys -- The PDF file you docketed contained errors: 1. Invalid attorney signature, 2. Please refile document, 3. ENTERED IN ERROR; Signature must match PACER login; Sponsoring attorney must refile motion. (znmw, ) (Entered: 08/18/2021)
08/18/2021	<u>6</u>	MOTION for Leave to Appear Pro Hac Vice :Attorney Name- Thomas R. Burke, Filing fee \$ 100, receipt number ADCDC-8677317. Fee Status: Fee Paid. by CHRISTOPHER C. JOHNSON, WASHINGTON BLADE. (DeThomas, Courtney) (Entered: 08/18/2021)
08/18/2021	<u>7</u>	AFFIDAVIT re <u>6</u> MOTION for Leave to Appear Pro Hac Vice :Attorney Name- Thomas R. Burke, Filing fee \$ 100, receipt number ADCDC-8677317. Fee Status: Fee Paid. <i>Thomas R. Burke Certificate of Good Standing</i> by CHRISTOPHER C. JOHNSON, WASHINGTON BLADE. (DeThomas, Courtney) (Entered: 08/18/2021)
08/18/2021		MINUTE ORDER denying Plaintiff's <u>6</u> Motion for Leave to Appear Pro Hac Vice. Local Civil Rule 83.2(d) requires attorneys seeking admission pro hac vice to include in their declaration "the number of times the attorney has been admitted pro hac vice in this Court within the last two years." Attorney Thomas Burke's declaration does not include this information. Therefore, it is hereby ORDERED that Plaintiff's motion is DENIED without prejudice to Plaintiff's refileing a motion that complies with the local rules. Signed by Judge Timothy J. Kelly on 8/18/2021. (lctjk1) (Entered: 08/18/2021)

08/19/2021	<u>8</u>	MOTION for Leave to Appear Pro Hac Vice :Attorney Name– Thomas R. Burke, Filing fee \$ 100, receipt number ADCDC–8680659. Fee Status: Fee Paid. by CHRISTOPHER C. JOHNSON, WASHINGTON BLADE. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Certificate of Good Standing)(DeThomas, Courtney) (Entered: 08/19/2021)
08/20/2021		MINUTE ORDER granting Plaintiff's <u>8</u> Motion for Leave to Appear Pro Hac Vice. Attorney Thomas R. Burke is hereby admitted pro hac vice to appear in this matter on behalf of Plaintiffs. <b>Counsel should register for e-filing via PACER and file a notice of appearance pursuant to LCvR 83.6(a). Click for instructions.</b> Signed by Judge Timothy J. Kelly on 8/20/2021. (lctjk1) (Entered: 08/20/2021)
08/23/2021	<u>9</u>	NOTICE of Appearance by Thomas R. Burke on behalf of CHRISTOPHER C. JOHNSON, WASHINGTON BLADE (Burke, Thomas) (Entered: 08/23/2021)
09/15/2021	<u>10</u>	RETURN OF SERVICE/AFFIDAVIT of Summons and Complaint Executed as to the United States Attorney. Date of Service Upon United States Attorney on 8/19/2021. Answer due for ALL FEDERAL DEFENDANTS by 9/18/2021. (DeThomas, Courtney) Modified on 9/16/2021 to correct service date (zeg). (Entered: 09/15/2021)
09/15/2021	<u>11</u>	RETURN OF SERVICE/AFFIDAVIT of Summons and Complaint Executed on United States Attorney General. Date of Service Upon United States Attorney General 08/20/2021. (DeThomas, Courtney) (Entered: 09/15/2021)
09/15/2021	<u>12</u>	RETURN OF SERVICE/AFFIDAVIT of Summons and Complaint Executed. U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE served on 8/25/2021 (DeThomas, Courtney) Modified on 9/15/2021 to correct service date (zjf). (Entered: 09/15/2021)
09/20/2021		Set/Reset Deadlines: Answer due by 9/18/2021, (znmw) (Entered: 09/20/2021)
09/20/2021	<u>13</u>	NOTICE of Appearance by Sian Jones on behalf of All Defendants (Jones, Sian) (Entered: 09/20/2021)
09/20/2021	<u>14</u>	ANSWER to Complaint by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE.(Jones, Sian) (Entered: 09/20/2021)
09/21/2021		MINUTE ORDER: It is hereby ORDERED that an initial scheduling conference is set for October 20, 2021, at 2:00pm via teleconference. It is further ORDERED that the parties shall meet, confer, and submit a joint report pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(f) and Local Rule 16.3. The parties shall contact the Courtroom Deputy at (202) 354–3495 at least one business day prior to the hearing to make arrangements to participate. Signed by Judge Timothy J. Kelly on 9/21/2021. (lctjk1) (Entered: 09/21/2021)
09/21/2021		Set/Reset Hearings: Telephonic Initial Scheduling Conference set for 10/20/2021 at 2:00 PM before Judge Timothy J. Kelly. (zkh) (Entered: 09/21/2021)
09/21/2021	<u>15</u>	NOTICE of Appearance by Daniel A. Fiedler on behalf of CHRISTOPHER C. JOHNSON, WASHINGTON BLADE (Fiedler, Daniel) (Entered: 09/21/2021)
10/13/2021	<u>16</u>	MOTION to Clarify <i>Sept 21, 2021 Minute Order</i> by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE. (Jones, Sian) (Entered: 10/13/2021)