

**U.S. District Court  
District of Columbia (Washington, DC)  
CIVIL DOCKET FOR CASE #: 1:19-cv-01492-CJN**

NATIONAL STUDENT LEGAL DEFENSE NETWORK v.  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
Assigned to: Judge Carl J. Nichols  
Cause: 05:552 Freedom of Information Act

Date Filed: 05/22/2019  
Date Terminated: 12/13/2021  
Jury Demand: None  
Nature of Suit: 895 Freedom of  
Information Act  
Jurisdiction: U.S. Government Defendant

**Plaintiff**

**NATIONAL STUDENT LEGAL  
DEFENSE NETWORK**

represented by **Alexander S. Elson**  
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**TERMINATED: 06/30/2021**  
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V.

**Defendant**

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT  
OF EDUCATION**

represented by **Diana Viggiano Valdivia**  
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Date Filed	#	Docket Text
05/22/2019	<u>1</u>	COMPLAINT against U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION ( Filing fee \$ 400 receipt number 0090-6138793) filed by NATIONAL STUDENT LEGAL DEFENSE NETWORK. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Civil Cover Sheet, # <u>2</u> Summons, # <u>3</u> Summons, # <u>4</u> Summons)(McGrath, Daniel) (Entered: 05/22/2019)
05/22/2019	<u>2</u>	LCvR 26.1 CERTIFICATE OF DISCLOSURE of Corporate Affiliations and Financial Interests by NATIONAL STUDENT LEGAL DEFENSE NETWORK (McGrath, Daniel) (Entered: 05/22/2019)
05/22/2019		Case Assigned to Judge James E. Boasberg. (zef, ) (Entered: 05/22/2019)
05/22/2019	<u>3</u>	SUMMONS (3) Issued Electronically as to UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, U.S. Attorney and U.S. Attorney General. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Notice and Consent)(zef, ) (Entered: 05/22/2019)
05/31/2019	<u>4</u>	RETURN OF SERVICE/AFFIDAVIT of Summons and Complaint Executed as to the United States Attorney. Date of Service Upon United States Attorney on 5/22/2019. ( Answer due for ALL FEDERAL DEFENDANTS by 6/21/2019.), RETURN OF SERVICE/AFFIDAVIT of Summons and Complaint Executed on United States Attorney General. Date of Service Upon United States Attorney General 5/28/2019., RETURN OF SERVICE/AFFIDAVIT of Summons and Complaint Executed. UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION served on 5/28/2019 (McGrath, Daniel) (Entered: 05/31/2019)
06/03/2019	<u>5</u>	NOTICE of Appearance by Alexander S. Elson on behalf of NATIONAL STUDENT LEGAL DEFENSE NETWORK (Elson, Alexander) (Entered: 06/03/2019)
06/11/2019	<u>6</u>	NOTICE of Appearance by Eric Rothschild on behalf of All Plaintiffs (Rothschild, Eric) (Entered: 06/11/2019)
06/21/2019	<u>7</u>	NOTICE of Appearance by Diana Viggiano Valdivia on behalf of UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (Valdivia, Diana) (Entered: 06/21/2019)
06/21/2019	<u>8</u>	ANSWER to Complaint by UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION. (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, # <u>9</u> Exhibit I, # <u>10</u> Exhibit K)(Valdivia, Diana) (Entered: 06/21/2019)
06/24/2019		Case directly reassigned to Judge Carl J. Nichols. Judge James E. Boasberg is no longer assigned to the case. (rj) (Entered: 06/24/2019)
08/13/2019		MINUTE ORDER. Before the Court in this Freedom of Information Act case are a Complaint and an Answer. The requirements of Local Civil Rule 16.3 and Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(f) appear to be inapplicable. It is hereby ORDERED that the Parties shall confer and file a Joint Status Report on or before September 11, 2019. The Joint Status Report shall address: (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) for release of the documents requested by Plaintiff; (4) whether a

		motion for stay is likely under <i>Open America v. Watergate Special Prosecution Force</i> , 547 F.2d 605 (D.C. Cir. 1976); and (5) whether the Parties anticipate summary judgment briefing and, if so, a proposed briefing schedule. Signed by Judge Carl J. Nichols on August 13, 2019. (lccjn1) (Entered: 08/13/2019)
08/14/2019		Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Status Report due by 9/11/2019. (mac) (Entered: 08/14/2019)
09/11/2019	<u>9</u>	Consent MOTION for Extension of Time to <i>File Joint Status Report</i> by UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Text of Proposed Order)(Valdivia, Diana) (Entered: 09/11/2019)
09/12/2019		MINUTE ORDER. Upon consideration of Defendant's Consent Motion for Extension of Time, it is hereby ORDERED that the Parties shall file their Joint Status Report on September 12, 2019. Signed by Judge Carl J. Nichols on September 12, 2019. (lccjn1) (Entered: 09/12/2019)
09/12/2019		Set/Reset Deadlines/Hearings: Joint Status Report due by 9/12/2019. (zcdw) (Entered: 09/12/2019)
09/12/2019	<u>10</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION. (Valdivia, Diana) (Entered: 09/12/2019)
09/13/2019		MINUTE ORDER. In light of the Parties' <u>10</u> Joint Status Report, it is hereby ORDERED that the Parties shall submit an additional Joint Status Report on or before October 10, 2019. Signed by Judge Carl J. Nichols on September 13, 2019. (lccjn1) (Entered: 09/13/2019)
09/13/2019		Set/Reset Deadlines/Hearings: Joint Status Report due by 10/10/2019. (zcdw) (Entered: 09/17/2019)
10/10/2019	<u>11</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION. (Valdivia, Diana) (Entered: 10/10/2019)
10/15/2019		MINUTE ORDER. In light of the Parties' <u>11</u> Joint Status Report, it is hereby ORDERED that the Parties shall file an additional Joint Status Report on or before November 13, 2019. Signed by Judge Carl J. Nichols on October 15, 2019. (lccjn1) (Entered: 10/15/2019)
10/15/2019		Set/Reset Deadlines/Hearings: Joint Status Report due by 11/13/2019. (zcdw) (Entered: 10/17/2019)
11/13/2019	<u>12</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION. (Valdivia, Diana) (Entered: 11/13/2019)
11/14/2019		MINUTE ORDER. In light of the Parties' <u>12</u> Joint Status Report, it is hereby ORDERED that the Parties shall file an additional Joint Status Report on or before January 13, 2020. Signed by Judge Carl J. Nichols on November 14, 2019. (lccjn1) (Entered: 11/14/2019)
11/14/2019		Set/Reset Deadlines/Hearings: Joint Status Report due by 1/13/2020. (zcdw) (Entered: 11/16/2019)
01/13/2020	<u>13</u>	STATUS REPORT by NATIONAL STUDENT LEGAL DEFENSE NETWORK. (McGrath, Daniel) (Entered: 01/13/2020)
01/14/2020		MINUTE ORDER. In light of the Plaintiff's <u>13</u> Joint Status Report, it is hereby ORDERED that the Parties shall file an additional Joint Status Report on or before March 13, 2020. Signed by Judge Carl J. Nichols on January 14, 2020. (lccjn1) (Entered: 01/14/2020)
01/14/2020		Set/Reset Deadlines/Hearings: Joint Status Report due by 3/13/2020.(zcdw) (Entered: 01/15/2020)
02/27/2020	<u>14</u>	STANDING ORDER. Signed by Judge Carl J. Nichols on February 27, 2020. (lccjn1) (Entered: 02/27/2020)
03/13/2020	<u>15</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by NATIONAL STUDENT LEGAL DEFENSE NETWORK. (McGrath, Daniel) (Entered: 03/13/2020)

03/16/2020		MINUTE ORDER. In light of the Parties' <u>15</u> Joint Status Report, it is hereby ORDERED that the Parties shall file an additional Joint Status Report on or before May 13, 2020, and every sixty days thereafter until Defendant has completed its processing of records potentially responsive to Plaintiff's FOIA request. Signed by Judge Carl J. Nichols on March 16, 2020. (lccjn1) (Entered: 03/16/2020)
05/13/2020	<u>16</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION. (Valdivia, Diana) (Entered: 05/13/2020)
05/14/2020		MINUTE ORDER. In light of the Parties' <u>16</u> Joint Status Report and consistent with the Court's March 16, 2020 Minute Order, it is hereby ORDERED that the Parties shall file an additional Joint Status Report on or before July 13, 2020. Signed by Judge Carl J. Nichols on May 14, 2020. (lccjn1) (Entered: 05/14/2020)
05/14/2020		Set/Reset Deadlines/Hearings: Joint Status Report due by 7/13/2020. (zcdw) (Entered: 05/14/2020)
07/13/2020	<u>17</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION. (Valdivia, Diana) (Entered: 07/13/2020)
07/15/2020		MINUTE ORDER. In light of the Parties' <u>17</u> Joint Status Report and consistent with the Court's March 16, 2020 Minute Order, it is hereby ORDERED that the Parties shall file an additional Joint Status Report on or before September 11, 2020. Signed by Judge Carl J. Nichols on July 15, 2020. (lccjn1) (Entered: 07/15/2020)
07/15/2020		Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Status Report due by 9/11/2020. (zcal) (Entered: 07/15/2020)
09/11/2020	<u>18</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by NATIONAL STUDENT LEGAL DEFENSE NETWORK. (McGrath, Daniel) (Entered: 09/11/2020)
09/16/2020		MINUTE ORDER. In light of the Parties' <u>18</u> Joint Status Report, it is hereby ORDERED that the Parties shall file an additional Joint Status Report on or before November 10, 2020. Signed by Judge Carl J. Nichols on September 16, 2020. (lccjn1) (Entered: 09/16/2020)
09/16/2020		Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Status Report due by 11/10/2020. (zcal) (Entered: 09/17/2020)
11/13/2020	<u>19</u>	Joint MOTION for Extension of Time to File <i>Joint Status Report, Nunc Pro Tunc</i> by UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Text of Proposed Order)(Valdivia, Diana) (Entered: 11/13/2020)
11/13/2020	<u>20</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION. (Valdivia, Diana) (Entered: 11/13/2020)
11/16/2020		MINUTE ORDER. After review of the Parties' <u>19</u> Joint Motion for Extension of Time to File Joint Status Report <i>Nunc Pro Tunc</i> , it is hereby ORDERED that the Motion is GRANTED. Furthermore, after review of the Parties' <u>20</u> Joint Status Report, it is hereby ORDERED that the Parties shall file an additional joint status report by January 11, 2021. Signed by Judge Carl J. Nichols on November 16, 2020. (lccjn1) (Entered: 11/16/2020)
11/16/2020		Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Status Report due by 1/11/2021. (zcal) (Entered: 11/16/2020)
01/11/2021	<u>21</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION. (Valdivia, Diana) (Entered: 01/11/2021)
01/29/2021		MINUTE ORDER. After a review of the Parties' <u>21</u> Joint Status Report, it is hereby ORDERED that the Parties shall file an additional status report by March 12, 2021. Signed by Judge Carl J. Nichols on January 29, 2021. (lccjn1) (Entered: 01/29/2021)
01/29/2021		Set/Reset Deadlines: Status Report due by 3/12/2021. (zcal) (Entered: 01/29/2021)
03/12/2021	<u>22</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION. (Valdivia, Diana) (Entered: 03/12/2021)
04/28/2021	<u>23</u>	NOTICE of Appearance by Sara Kaiser Creighton on behalf of NATIONAL STUDENT LEGAL DEFENSE NETWORK (Creighton, Sara) (Main Document 23

		replaced on 4/30/2021) (zeg). (Entered: 04/28/2021)
04/29/2021	<u>24</u>	NOTICE OF WITHDRAWAL OF APPEARANCE as to NATIONAL STUDENT LEGAL DEFENSE NETWORK. Attorney Daniel Alexander McGrath terminated. (McGrath, Daniel) (Entered: 04/29/2021)
05/11/2021	<u>25</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION. (Valdivia, Diana) (Entered: 05/11/2021)
06/14/2021	<u>26</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by NATIONAL STUDENT LEGAL DEFENSE NETWORK. (Creighton, Sara) (Entered: 06/14/2021)
06/23/2021		MINUTE ORDER. After review of the Parties' <u>26</u> Joint Status Report, it is hereby ORDERED that the Parties shall file an additional joint status report by July 14, 2021. Signed by Judge Carl J. Nichols on June 23, 2021. (lccjn1) (Entered: 06/23/2021)
06/23/2021		Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Status Report due by 7/14/2021. (zcal) (Entered: 06/24/2021)
06/30/2021	<u>27</u>	NOTICE of Appearance by Emma Lewis on behalf of NATIONAL STUDENT LEGAL DEFENSE NETWORK (Lewis, Emma) (Main Document 27 replaced on 7/2/2021) (zeg). (Entered: 06/30/2021)
06/30/2021	<u>28</u>	NOTICE OF WITHDRAWAL OF APPEARANCE as to NATIONAL STUDENT LEGAL DEFENSE NETWORK. Attorney Sara Kaiser Creighton terminated. (Creighton, Sara) (Entered: 06/30/2021)
07/14/2021	<u>29</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION. (Valdivia, Diana) (Entered: 07/14/2021)
08/30/2021		MINUTE ORDER. After review of the Parties' <u>29</u> Joint Status Report, it is hereby ORDERED that the parties shall file an additional joint status report by August 31, 2021. Signed by Judge Carl J. Nichols on August 30, 2021. (lccjn1) (Entered: 08/30/2021)
08/30/2021		Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Status Report due by 8/31/2021. (zcal) (Entered: 09/01/2021)
08/31/2021	<u>30</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by NATIONAL STUDENT LEGAL DEFENSE NETWORK. (Lewis, Emma) (Entered: 08/31/2021)
10/12/2021	<u>31</u>	Consent MOTION for Extension of Time to <i>file Joint Status Report</i> by UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Text of Proposed Order)(Valdivia, Diana) (Entered: 10/12/2021)
10/13/2021		MINUTE ORDER. Upon consideration of Defendants' <u>31</u> Consent Motion for an Extension of Time, it is ORDERED that the Motion is GRANTED. It is further ORDERED that the Parties shall file an additional joint status report by November 11, 2021, unless the case has been dismissed prior to that date. Signed by Judge Carl J. Nichols on October 13, 2021. (lccjn1) (Entered: 10/13/2021)
10/13/2021		Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Status Report due by 11/11/2021. (zcal) (Entered: 10/14/2021)
11/11/2021	<u>32</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by NATIONAL STUDENT LEGAL DEFENSE NETWORK. (Lewis, Emma) (Entered: 11/11/2021)
11/15/2021		MINUTE ORDER. Upon review of the <u>32</u> Joint Status Report, it is ORDERED the Parties shall file another joint status report on or before December 10, 2021, if the case has not been dismissed prior to that date. Signed by Judge Carl J. Nichols on November 15, 2021. (lccjn1) (Entered: 11/15/2021)
11/15/2021		Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Status Report due by 12/10/2021. (zcal) (Entered: 11/16/2021)
12/10/2021	<u>33</u>	STIPULATION of Dismissal by UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION. (Valdivia, Diana) (Entered: 12/10/2021)