

**U.S. District Court  
District of Columbia (Washington, DC)  
CIVIL DOCKET FOR CASE #: 1:20-cv-02044-CRC**

CITIZENS FOR RESPONSIBILITY AND ETHICS IN  
WASHINGTON v. U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
Assigned to: Judge Christopher R. Cooper  
Demand: \$0  
Cause: 05:552 Freedom of Information Act

Date Filed: 07/28/2020  
Date Terminated: 05/17/2022  
Jury Demand: None  
Nature of Suit: 895 Freedom of  
Information Act  
Jurisdiction: U.S. Government Defendant

**Plaintiff**

**CITIZENS FOR RESPONSIBILITY  
AND ETHICS IN WASHINGTON**

represented by **Anne L. Weismann**  
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**ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED**

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**TERMINATED: 04/13/2021**

V.

**Defendant**

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE**

represented by **Daniel Riess**  
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Civil Division, Federal Programs Branch  
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Date Filed	#	Docket Text
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07/28/2020	<u>1</u>	COMPLAINT against U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE ( Filing fee \$ 400 receipt number ADCDC-7392297) filed by CITIZENS FOR RESPONSIBILITY AND ETHICS IN WASHINGTON. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Civil Cover Sheet, # <u>2</u> Summons Attorney General, # <u>3</u> Summons U.S. Attorney, # <u>4</u> Summons U.S. Dep't of State)(Weismann, Anne) (Entered: 07/28/2020)
07/28/2020	<u>2</u>	LCvR 26.1 CERTIFICATE OF DISCLOSURE of Corporate Affiliations and Financial Interests by CITIZENS FOR RESPONSIBILITY AND ETHICS IN WASHINGTON (Weismann, Anne) (Entered: 07/28/2020)
07/28/2020		Case assigned to Judge Christopher R. Cooper. (zmc) (Entered: 07/28/2020)
07/29/2020	<u>3</u>	SUMMONS (3) Issued Electronically as to U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE, U.S. Attorney and U.S. Attorney General (Attachment: # <u>1</u> Notice and Consent)(adh, ) (Entered: 07/29/2020)
08/06/2020	<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 8/3/2020. ( Answer due for ALL FEDERAL DEFENDANTS by 9/2/2020.), RETURN OF SERVICE/AFFIDAVIT of Summons and Complaint Executed. U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE served on 8/3/2020, RETURN OF SERVICE/AFFIDAVIT of Summons and Complaint Executed on United States Attorney General. Date of Service Upon United States Attorney General 8/3/20. (Weismann, Anne) (Entered: 08/06/2020)
08/21/2020	<u>5</u>	NOTICE OF SUBSTITUTION OF COUNSEL by Conor M. Shaw on behalf of CITIZENS FOR RESPONSIBILITY AND ETHICS IN WASHINGTON Substituting for attorney Anne L. Weismann (Shaw, Conor) (Entered: 08/21/2020)
09/02/2020	<u>6</u>	ANSWER to Complaint by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Exhibit 1)(Riess, Daniel) (Entered: 09/02/2020)
09/03/2020		MINUTE ORDER: Before the Court in this FOIA case are a complaint and an answer. It is hereby ORDERED that the parties shall promptly confer and file a joint proposed schedule for briefing or disclosure by September 17, 2020. Signed by Judge Christopher R. Cooper on 09/03/2020. (lccrc3) (Entered: 09/03/2020)
09/03/2020		Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Proposed Briefing Schedule due by 9/17/2020 (lsj) (Entered: 09/03/2020)
09/17/2020	<u>7</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by CITIZENS FOR RESPONSIBILITY AND ETHICS IN WASHINGTON. (Shaw, Conor) (Entered: 09/17/2020)
09/23/2020	<u>8</u>	NOTICE of Appearance by Laura C. Beckerman on behalf of CITIZENS FOR RESPONSIBILITY AND ETHICS IN WASHINGTON (Beckerman, Laura) (Entered: 09/23/2020)
09/25/2020		MINUTE ORDER: Upon consideration of the <u>7</u> Joint Status Report, it is hereby ORDERED that Defendant shall make an initial production of responsive, non-exempt documents on or before October 30, 2020.  It is further ORDERED that the parties shall file a Joint Status Report on or before October 30, 2020. In the Joint Status Report due October 30, 2020, Defendant shall indicate the number of pages it has processed and the number of pages it has produced. If possible, Defendant shall also indicate the total number of potentially responsive documents that have been located and an estimated timetable for completing the production as expeditiously as possible.  Signed by Judge Christopher R. Cooper on 09/25/2020. (lccrc3) (Entered: 09/25/2020)
09/29/2020		Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Status Report due by 10/30/2020 (lsj) (Entered: 09/29/2020)
10/30/2020	<u>9</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE. (Riess, Daniel) (Entered: 10/30/2020)
11/10/2020		MINUTE ORDER: The Court has considered the <u>9</u> Joint Status Report. It is hereby ORDERED that, if they have not done so already, the parties shall promptly meet and confer regarding the scope and methodology of Defendant's search. It is further ORDERED that the parties shall file a further Joint Status Report on or before November 30, 2020. The Joint Status Report due November 30, 2020 shall include a

		joint proposed timetable for completion of production or, if the parties cannot agree, a separate proposed timetable from each party. The Joint Status Report shall also indicate the number of pages Defendant has processed and the number of pages it has produced. Signed by Judge Christopher R. Cooper on 11/10/2020. (lccrc3) (Entered: 11/10/2020)
11/30/2020	<u>10</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE. (Riess, Daniel) (Entered: 11/30/2020)
12/01/2020		MINUTE ORDER: In light of the <u>10</u> Joint Status Report, the parties are hereby ordered to file a further Joint Status Report on or before February 1, 2021. Signed by Judge Christopher R. Cooper on 12/01/2020. (lccrc3) (Entered: 12/01/2020)
02/01/2021	<u>11</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE. (Riess, Daniel) (Entered: 02/01/2021)
02/02/2021		MINUTE ORDER: In light of the <u>11</u> Joint Status Report, the parties are hereby ordered to file a further Joint Status Report on or before March 18, 2021. Signed by Judge Christopher R. Cooper on 02/02/2021. (lccrc3) (Entered: 02/02/2021)
03/17/2021	<u>12</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by CITIZENS FOR RESPONSIBILITY AND ETHICS IN WASHINGTON. (Beckerman, Laura) (Entered: 03/17/2021)
03/17/2021		MINUTE ORDER: In light of the <u>12</u> Joint Status Report, the parties are directed to file their next Joint Status Report on or before April 20, 2021. If any disputes remain, the next Joint Status Report should include a jointly proposed briefing schedule. Signed by Judge Christopher R. Cooper on 03/17/2021. (lccrc3) (Entered: 03/17/2021)
04/13/2021	<u>13</u>	NOTICE OF SUBSTITUTION OF COUNSEL by Anne L. Weismann on behalf of CITIZENS FOR RESPONSIBILITY AND ETHICS IN WASHINGTON Substituting for attorney Laura C. Beckerman (Weismann, Anne) (Entered: 04/13/2021)
04/19/2021	<u>14</u>	NOTICE of Appearance by Anne L. Weismann on behalf of CITIZENS FOR RESPONSIBILITY AND ETHICS IN WASHINGTON (Weismann, Anne) (Entered: 04/19/2021)
04/19/2021	<u>15</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Text of Proposed Order)(Riess, Daniel) (Entered: 04/19/2021)
04/20/2021		MINUTE ORDER: In light of the <u>15</u> Joint Status Report, the Court adopts the following briefing schedule. Defendant shall file its Motion for Summary Judgment on or before May 18, 2021. Plaintiff shall file its response to Defendant's motion for summary judgment, together with its cross-motion for summary judgment, on or before June 18, 2021. Defendant shall file its reply in support of its motion, together with its response to Plaintiff's cross-motion, on or before July 9, 2021. Plaintiff shall file its reply in support of its cross-motion on or before July 26, 2021. So Ordered. Signed by Judge Christopher R. Cooper on 04/20/2021. (lccrc3) (Entered: 04/20/2021)
05/18/2021	<u>16</u>	MOTION for Summary Judgment by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Memorandum in Support, # <u>2</u> Exhibit 1, # <u>3</u> Exhibit 2, # <u>4</u> Statement of Facts, # <u>5</u> Text of Proposed Order)(Riess, Daniel) (Entered: 05/18/2021)
06/18/2021	<u>17</u>	Memorandum in opposition to re <u>16</u> MOTION for Summary Judgment filed by CITIZENS FOR RESPONSIBILITY AND ETHICS IN WASHINGTON. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Exhibit A, # <u>2</u> Exhibit B, # <u>3</u> Statement of Facts Response, # <u>4</u> Text of Proposed Order)(Weismann, Anne) (Entered: 06/18/2021)
06/18/2021	<u>18</u>	Cross MOTION for Summary Judgment by CITIZENS FOR RESPONSIBILITY AND ETHICS IN WASHINGTON. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Memorandum in Support, # <u>2</u> Exhibit A, # <u>3</u> Exhibit B, # <u>4</u> Statement of Facts, # <u>5</u> Text of Proposed Order)(Weismann, Anne) (Entered: 06/18/2021)
07/09/2021	<u>19</u>	Memorandum in opposition to re <u>18</u> Cross MOTION for Summary Judgment filed by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Second Declaration of Eric F Stein, # <u>2</u> Response to Statement of Facts)(Riess, Daniel) (Entered: 07/09/2021)
07/09/2021	<u>20</u>	REPLY to opposition to motion re <u>16</u> MOTION for Summary Judgment filed by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Second Declaration of Eric F Stein)(Riess, Daniel) (Entered: 07/09/2021)

07/19/2021	<u>21</u>	Unopposed MOTION for Extension of Time to File Response/Reply as to <u>18</u> Cross MOTION for Summary Judgment by CITIZENS FOR RESPONSIBILITY AND ETHICS IN WASHINGTON. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Text of Proposed Order)(Weismann, Anne) (Entered: 07/19/2021)
07/19/2021		MINUTE ORDER granting <u>21</u> Motion for Extension of Time to File Reply. Plaintiff's reply in support of its cross-motion for summary judgment shall be due August 2, 2021. Signed by Judge Christopher R. Cooper on 07/19/2021. (lccrc3) (Entered: 07/19/2021)
07/29/2021	<u>22</u>	REPLY to opposition to motion re <u>18</u> Cross MOTION for Summary Judgment filed by CITIZENS FOR RESPONSIBILITY AND ETHICS IN WASHINGTON. (Weismann, Anne) (Entered: 07/29/2021)
02/11/2022	<u>23</u>	ORDER denying Defendant's <u>16</u> Motion for Summary Judgment; granting in part and denying in part Plaintiff's <u>18</u> Motion for Summary Judgment. See full Order and accompanying Memorandum Opinion for details. Signed by Judge Christopher R. Cooper on 2/11/2022. (lccrc2) (Entered: 02/11/2022)
02/11/2022	<u>24</u>	MEMORANDUM OPINION re <u>23</u> ORDER denying Defendant's <u>16</u> Motion for Summary Judgment and granting in part and denying in part Plaintiff's <u>18</u> Motion for Summary Judgment. Signed by Judge Christopher R. Cooper on 2/11/2022. (lccrc2) (Entered: 02/11/2022)
02/24/2022	<u>25</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Text of Proposed Order)(Riess, Daniel) (Entered: 02/24/2022)
03/01/2022		MINUTE ORDER: In light of the <u>25</u> Joint Status Report, the Court adopts the following briefing schedule. Defendant shall file its renewed motion for summary judgment on or before April 8, 2022. Plaintiff shall file its response to Defendant's renewed motion for summary judgment, together with any renewed cross-motion for summary judgment, on or before April 29, 2022. Defendant shall file its reply in support of its motion, together with its response to Plaintiff's cross-motion, on or before May 20, 2022. Plaintiff shall file its reply in support of any cross-motion on or before June 3, 2022. So ordered by Judge Christopher R. Cooper on 3/1/2022. (lccrc2) (Entered: 03/01/2022)
04/05/2022	<u>26</u>	Joint MOTION for Extension of Time to File <i>Renewed Summary Judgment Briefing</i> by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Text of Proposed Order)(Riess, Daniel) (Entered: 04/05/2022)
04/07/2022		MINUTE ORDER granting <u>26</u> Joint Motion for Extension of Time. The following deadlines shall apply: Defendant shall file its renewed motion for summary judgment or a notice of dismissal on or before May 13, 2022. If necessary, Plaintiff shall file its response to Defendant's renewed motion for summary judgment, together with any renewed cross-motion for summary judgment, on or before June 3, 2022. Defendant shall file its reply in support of its motion, together with its response to Plaintiff's cross-motion, on or before June 24, 2022. Plaintiff shall file its reply in support of any cross-motion on or before July 8, 2022. Signed by Judge Christopher R. Cooper on 4/7/2022. (lccrc2) (Entered: 04/07/2022)
05/12/2022	<u>27</u>	Joint MOTION for Extension of Time to File <i>Renewed Summary Judgment Briefing</i> by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Text of Proposed Order)(Riess, Daniel) (Entered: 05/12/2022)
05/16/2022		MINUTE ORDER granting <u>27</u> Motion for Extension of Time to File Summary Judgment Briefing. The following deadlines shall apply: Defendant shall file its renewed motion for summary judgment or a notice of dismissal on or before May 20, 2022. If necessary, Plaintiff shall file its response to Defendant's renewed motion for summary judgment, together with any renewed cross-motion for summary judgment, on or before June 10, 2022. Defendant shall file its reply in support of its motion, together with its response to Plaintiff's cross-motion, on or before July 1, 2022. Plaintiff shall file its reply in support of any cross-motion on or before July 15, 2022. Signed by Judge Christopher R. Cooper on 5/16/2022. (lccrc2) (Entered: 05/16/2022)
05/17/2022	<u>28</u>	STIPULATION of Dismissal ( <i>Jointly Filed</i> ) by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE. (Riess, Daniel) (Entered: 05/17/2022)

05/17/2022

MINUTE ORDER: In light of the 28 Stipulation of Dismissal, this case is hereby dismissed with prejudice. Signed by Judge Christopher R. Cooper on 5/17/2022. (lccrc2) (Entered: 05/17/2022)