

Exhibit A

Electronic Submission

[Getting Started](#) [Contact Information](#) [Description](#) [Handling](#) [Fees](#) [Additional Information](#) [Review](#)

Review

Name	Mr. David N. Bossie
Email	info@citizensunited.org
Address	Citizens United 1006 PENNSYLVANIA AVE SE Washington, District of Columbia 20003
Telephone	(202)547-5420
Fax	(202)547-5421
Date Range	01/20/2021 to 06/16/2022
Description	In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act, I hereby request the following records. For the period of January 20, 2021 to the present, please provide copies of: • Any emails or text messages to or from State Department White House Liaison Sam Salk or Deputy White House Liaison Sharmeen Khan and any employee of the Executive Office of the President mentioning "Hatch Act" and/or Executive Order 14019 ("Executive Order on Promoting Access to Voting"). • Any emails or text messages to or from the following State Department staff: Richard Visek, John Bass, Alaina Teplitz, Rena Bitter, Marcia Bernicat, Rebecca Gonzales, Suzy George, Derek Chollet, Salman Ahmed and/or Ned Price mentioning "Hatch Act" in the context of Executive Order 14019 ("Executive Order on Promoting Access to Voting"). • Any emails or text messages to or from any Office of Special Counsel employee, including but not limited to, Ana Galindo-Marrone and Erica Hamrick, and the following State Department staff: Richard Visek, John Bass, Alaina Teplitz, Rena Bitter, Marcia Bernicat, Rebecca Gonzales, Suzy George, Derek Chollet, Salman Ahmed and/or Ned Price mentioning "Hatch Act" in the context of Executive Order 14019 ("Executive Order on Promoting Access to Voting").
Expedited Handling	Information provided will be made available to the public.
Maximum Fee	I am willing to pay \$25 for my request.
Requester Category	A representative of the news media seeking information as part of a news gathering effort and not for commercial use.
Fee Waiver	N/A
Additional Comments	N/A

If you encounter difficulty using the electronic submission form, you may wish to use the FOIA Request Walkthrough and the Information Access Guide as guidance for writing your request.

The confidentiality of communications sent via the Internet cannot be guaranteed and the electronic submission of your Freedom of Information Act request is purely voluntary. You may alternatively print the contents of your request letter and submit via fax at (202) 485-1669 or via U.S. mail.

† Although you are not required to provide your email address or telephone number, doing so will help facilitate communication and providing an email address will allow us to provide you with an automatic acknowledgement of receipt.

Exhibit B

From: State Department FOIA <noreply@mail.foia.state.gov>
Sent: Thursday, June 16, 2022 2:11 PM
To: Citizens United <info@citizensunited.org>
Subject: FOIA Request Letter

Thank you for filing your FOIA request online on 6/16/2022. Here is a review of your request.

The records I request can be described as follows:

In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act, I hereby request the following records. For the period of January 20, 2021 to the present, please provide copies of:

- Any emails or text messages to or from State Department White House Liaison Sam Salk or Deputy White House Liaison Sharmeen Khan and any employee of the Executive Office of the President mentioning "Hatch Act" and/or Executive Order 14019 ("Executive Order on Promoting Access to Voting").
- Any emails or text messages to or from the following State Department staff: Richard Visek, John Bass, Alaina Teplitz, Rena Bitter, Marcia Bernicat, Rebecca Gonzales, Suzy George, Derek Chollet, Salman Ahmed and/or Ned Price mentioning "Hatch Act" in the context of Executive Order 14019 ("Executive Order on Promoting Access to Voting").
- Any emails or text messages to or from any Office of Special Counsel employee, including but not limited to, Ana Galindo-Marrone and Erica Hamrick, and the following State Department staff: Richard Visek, John Bass, Alaina Teplitz, Rena Bitter, Marcia Bernicat, Rebecca Gonzales, Suzy George, Derek Chollet, Salman Ahmed and/or Ned Price mentioning "Hatch Act" in the context of Executive Order 14019 ("Executive Order on Promoting Access to Voting").

The time period of my request is from 01/20/2021 to 06/16/2022

I am A representative of the news media seeking information as part of a news gathering effort and not for commercial use.

I am willing to pay \$25 for my request.

I have a compelling need for expeditious handling:

- An urgency to inform the public concerning actual or alleged Federal Government activity exists.
- Information provided will be made available to the public.

My additional comments are as follows:

N/A

Contact Information
Mr. David N. Bossie
Citizens United
1006 PENNSYLVANIA AVE SE

Washington, District of Columbia 20003

P: (202)547-5420

F: (202)547-5421

info@citizensunited.org

Exhibit C

From: A_FOIAacknowledgement@groups.state.gov <A_FOIAacknowledgement@groups.state.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, July 6, 2022 2:28 PM

To: Citizens United <info@citizensunited.org>

Subject: Ref: F-2022-09513, Freedom of Information Act Acknowledgement

****THIS EMAIL BOX IS NOT MONITORED, PLEASE DO NOT REPLY TO THIS EMAIL.****

Mr. Bossie:

This email acknowledges receipt of your June 16, 2022, Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) (5 U.S.C. § 552) request received by the U.S. Department of State, Office of Information Programs and Services on June 16, 2022, regarding any emails or text messages to or from State Department White House Liaison Sam Salk or Deputy White House Liaison Sharmeen Khan and any employee of the Executive Office of the President mentioning “Hatch Act” and/or Executive Order 14019 (“Executive Order on Promoting Access to Voting”). Any emails or text messages to or from the following State Department staff: Richard Visek, John Bass, Alaina Teplitz, Rena Bitter, Marcia Bernicat, Rebecca Gonzales, Suzy George, Derek Chollet, Salman Ahmed and/or Ned Price mentioning “Hatch Act” in the context of Executive Order 14019 (“Executive Order on Promoting Access to Voting”). Any emails or text messages to or from any Office of Special Counsel employee, including but not limited to, Ana Galindo-Marrone and Erica Hamrick, and the following State Department staff: Richard Visek, John Bass, Alaina Teplitz, Rena Bitter, Marcia Bernicat, Rebecca Gonzales, Suzy George, Derek Chollet, Salman Ahmed and/or Ned Price mentioning “Hatch Act” in the context of Executive Order 14019 (“Executive Order on Promoting Access to Voting”) (Date Range for Record Search: From 1/20/2021 To 6/16/2022). Unless you advise otherwise, we will treat as non-responsive any compilations of publicly available news reports and any publicly available documents not created by the U.S. government, such as mass-distribution emails from news media. This Office assigned your request the subject reference number and placed it in the complex processing track where it will be processed as quickly as possible. See 22 CFR § 171.11(h).

You requested expedited processing of this request. According to 22 CFR § 171.11(f), requests shall receive expedited processing when a requester demonstrates a “compelling need” for the information exists for one of the following reasons: (1) failure to obtain the requested information on an expedited basis could reasonably be expected to pose an imminent threat to the life or physical safety of an individual; (2) the information is urgently needed by an individual primarily engaged in disseminating information in order to inform the public concerning actual or alleged Federal government activity; or (3) failure to release the information would impair substantial due process rights or harm substantial humanitarian interests. Your request does not demonstrate a “compelling need” for the requested information. Therefore, this Office denies your request for expedited processing.

If you are not satisfied with this Office's determination in response to your request for expedited processing, you may administratively appeal to: Appeals Officer, Office of Information Programs and Services, U.S. Department of State, 2201 C Street, NW, Room B266, Washington, D.C. 20520; or facsimile at 202-485-1718. Your appeal must be postmarked or electronically transmitted within 90 days of the date of this email.

This Office will not be able to respond within the 20 days provided by the statute due to "unusual circumstances." See 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(6)(B)(i)-(iii). In this instance, the unusual circumstances include the need to search for and collect requested records from other Department offices or Foreign Service posts.

If you have any questions regarding your request, would like to narrow the scope or arrange an alternative time frame to speed its processing, or would like an estimated date of completion, please contact our FOIA Requester Service Center or our FOIA Public Liaison by email at FOIAstatus@state.gov or telephone at 202-261-8484. Additionally, you may contact the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) at the National Archives and Records Administration to inquire about the FOIA mediation services they offer. The contact information for OGIS is as follows: Office of Government Information Services, National Archives and Records Administration, 8601 Adelphi Road-OGIS, College Park, Maryland 20740-6001, email at ogis@nara.gov, telephone at 202-741-5770; toll free at 1-877-684-6448; or facsimile at 202-741-5769.

Sincerely,

/s/ W. Evans, for
Kellie N. Robinson
Chief, Requester Liaison Division (Acting)
FOIA Program Manager/FOIA Public Liaison
U.S. Department of State
Office of Information Programs and Services

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