

**U.S. District Court  
 District of Columbia (Washington, DC)  
 CIVIL DOCKET FOR CASE #: 1:21-cv-02534-TNM**

PROTECT THE PUBLIC'S TRUST v. UNITED STATES  
 DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
 Assigned to: Judge Trevor N. McFadden  
 Cause: 05:552 Freedom of Information Act

Date Filed: 09/29/2021  
 Date Terminated: 08/22/2022  
 Jury Demand: None  
 Nature of Suit: 895 Freedom of Information Act  
 Jurisdiction: U.S. Government Defendant

**Plaintiff**

**PROTECT THE PUBLIC'S TRUST**

represented by **Christopher Cochran Horner**  
 CHRISTOPHER C HORNER ESQ  
 Max Will, PLLC  
 1725 I Street NW  
 Suite 300  
 Washington, DC 20006  
 (202) 262-4458  
 Email: [chris@chornerlaw.com](mailto:chris@chornerlaw.com)  
*ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED*

**Matthew D. Hardin**  
 HARDIN LAW OFFICE  
 1725 I Street NW  
 Suite 300  
 Washington, DC 20006  
 (202) 802-1948  
 Email: [MatthewDHardin@gmail.com](mailto:MatthewDHardin@gmail.com)  
*ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED*

V.

**Defendant**

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT  
 OF THE INTERIOR**

represented by **Christopher Charles Hair**  
 U.S. ATTORNEY'S OFFICE FOR THE  
 DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
 555 Fourth Street, NW  
 Washington, DC 20530  
 (202) 252-2541  
 Fax: (202) 252-2599  
 Email: [christopher.hair@usdoj.gov](mailto:christopher.hair@usdoj.gov)  
*TERMINATED: 04/12/2022*  
*LEAD ATTORNEY*

**Kenneth A. Adebajo**  
 U.S. ATTORNEY'S OFFICE FOR THE  
 DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
 555 Fourth Street, NW  
 Washington, DC 20530  
 (202) 252-2562  
 Fax: (202) 252-2599  
 Email: [kenneth.adebajo@usdoj.gov](mailto:kenneth.adebajo@usdoj.gov)  
*LEAD ATTORNEY*  
*ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED*

Date Filed	#	Docket Text
09/29/2021	<u>1</u>	COMPLAINT against DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR ( Filing fee \$ 402 receipt number ADCDC-8766576) filed by PROTECT THE PUBLIC'S TRUST.

		(Attachments: # <u>1</u> Exhibit A (FOIA Request), # <u>2</u> Summons Proposed to AG, USAO, and Agency Counsel, # <u>3</u> Civil Cover Sheet)(Hardin, Matthew) (Entered: 09/29/2021)
09/30/2021		Case Assigned to Judge Trevor N. McFadden. (znm) (Entered: 09/30/2021)
09/30/2021	<u>2</u>	SUMMONS (3) Issued Electronically as to UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, U.S. Attorney and U.S. Attorney General (Attachment: # <u>1</u> Notice and Consent)(znm) (Entered: 09/30/2021)
09/30/2021	<u>3</u>	STANDING ORDER Establishing Procedures for Cases Before Judge Trevor N. McFadden. The parties are hereby ORDERED to read and comply with the directives in the attached standing order. Signed by Judge Trevor N. McFadden on 9/30/2021. (lctnm2) (Entered: 09/30/2021)
10/20/2021	<u>4</u>	NOTICE of Appearance by Christopher Cochran Horner on behalf of PROTECT THE PUBLIC'S TRUST (Horner, Christopher) (Main Document 4 replaced on 10/21/2021) (rj). Modified on 10/21/2021 to flatten pdf (rj). (Entered: 10/20/2021)
11/15/2021	<u>5</u>	NOTICE of Appearance by Christopher Charles Hair on behalf of All Defendants (Hair, Christopher) (Entered: 11/15/2021)
11/15/2021	<u>6</u>	ANSWER to Complaint by UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR.(Hair, Christopher) (Entered: 11/15/2021)
11/16/2021		MINUTE ORDER. Before the Court are a complaint and an answer in this FOIA case. It is hereby ORDERED that the parties shall meet and confer and file a Joint Status Report proposing a schedule for proceeding in this matter. The schedule should address, among other things, the status of Plaintiff's FOIA request, the anticipated number of documents responsive to Plaintiff's FOIA request, the anticipated date(s) for release of the documents requested by Plaintiff, whether a motion for an Open America stay is likely in this case, whether a Vaughn index will be required in this case, and a briefing schedule for dispositive motions, if required. The parties shall file the schedule on or before December 17, 2021. Signed by Judge Trevor N. McFadden on 11/16/2021. (lctnm2) (Entered: 11/16/2021)
11/16/2021		Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Status Report due by 12/17/2021. (hmc) (Entered: 11/16/2021)
12/17/2021	<u>7</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR. (Hair, Christopher) (Entered: 12/17/2021)
12/18/2021		MINUTE ORDER. Upon consideration of the <u>7</u> Joint Status Report, the Court hereby orders the parties to submit another JSR on January 31, 2022. SO ORDERED. Signed by Judge Trevor N. McFadden on 12/18/21. (lctnm2) (Entered: 12/18/2021)
12/20/2021		Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Status Report due by 1/31/2022. (hmc) (Entered: 12/20/2021)
01/31/2022	<u>8</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR. (Hair, Christopher) (Entered: 01/31/2022)
02/01/2022		MINUTE ORDER. Upon consideration of the <u>8</u> Joint Status Report, the Court directs the parties to file another JSR by March 1, 2022. SO ORDERED. Signed by Judge Trevor N. McFadden on 2/1/22. (lctnm2) (Entered: 02/01/2022)
02/02/2022		Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Status Report due by 3/1/2022. (hmc) (Entered: 02/02/2022)
03/01/2022	<u>9</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR. (Hair, Christopher) (Entered: 03/01/2022)
03/01/2022		MINUTE ORDER. Upon consideration of the <u>9</u> Joint Status Report, the parties shall file another JSR on April 15, 2022. SO ORDERED. Signed by Judge Trevor N. McFadden on 3/1/22. (lctnm2) (Entered: 03/01/2022)
03/02/2022		Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Status Report due by 4/15/2022. (hmc) (Entered: 03/02/2022)
04/12/2022	<u>10</u>	NOTICE OF SUBSTITUTION OF COUNSEL by Kenneth A. Adebonojo on behalf of UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR Substituting for attorney

		Christopher C. Hair (Adebonojo, Kenneth) (Entered: 04/12/2022)
04/18/2022	<u>11</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR. (Adebonojo, Kenneth) (Entered: 04/18/2022)
04/19/2022		MINUTE ORDER. Upon consideration of the <u>11</u> Joint Status Report, the Court directs the parties to file another JSR by May 15, 2022. SO ORDERED. Signed by Judge Trevor N. McFadden on 4/19/22. (lctnm2) (Entered: 04/19/2022)
04/19/2022		Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Status Report due by 5/15/2022. (hmc) (Entered: 04/19/2022)
05/16/2022	<u>12</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by PROTECT THE PUBLIC'S TRUST. (Hardin, Matthew) (Entered: 05/16/2022)
05/16/2022		MINUTE ORDER. Upon consideration of the <u>12</u> Joint Status Report, the Court directs the parties to file another JSR by June 16, 2022. SO ORDERED. Signed by Judge Trevor N. McFadden on 5/16/22. (lctnm2) (Entered: 05/16/2022)
05/16/2022		Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Status Report due by 6/16/2022. (hmc) (Entered: 05/16/2022)
06/16/2022	<u>13</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by PROTECT THE PUBLIC'S TRUST. (Hardin, Matthew) (Entered: 06/16/2022)
06/17/2022		MINUTE ORDER. Upon consideration of the <u>13</u> Joint Status Report, the Court directs the parties to file another JSR by July 18, 2022. If the parties reach agreement on Plaintiff's fee request before then, they shall promptly notify the Court. SO ORDERED. Signed by Judge Trevor N. McFadden on 6/17/22. (lctnm2) (Entered: 06/17/2022)
06/17/2022		Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Status Report due by 7/18/2022. (hmc) (Entered: 06/17/2022)
07/18/2022	<u>14</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR. (Adebonojo, Kenneth) (Entered: 07/18/2022)
07/19/2022		MINUTE ORDER. Upon consideration of the <u>14</u> Joint Status Report, the Court directs the parties to file another JSR by August 19, 2022. If the parties cannot finalize their agreement by then, they must submit a proposed briefing schedule on that date. SO ORDERED. Signed by Judge Trevor N. McFadden on 7/19/22. (lctnm2) (Entered: 07/19/2022)
07/19/2022		Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Status Report due by 8/19/2022 (ztg) (Entered: 07/19/2022)
08/19/2022	<u>15</u>	STIPULATION of Dismissal by UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR. (Adebonojo, Kenneth) (Entered: 08/19/2022)
08/20/2022		MINUTE ORDER. Upon consideration of the <u>15</u> Stipulation of Dismissal, this case is hereby DISMISSED with prejudice. <i>See</i> Fed. R. Civ. P. 41(a)(1)(A)(i). The Clerk of Court is requested to close the case. SO ORDERED. Signed by Judge Trevor N. McFadden on 8/20/22. (lctnm2) (Entered: 08/20/2022)