## U.S. District Court District of Columbia (Washington, DC) CIVIL DOCKET FOR CASE #: 1:22-cv-00734-CJN

JUDICIAL WATCH, INC. v. U.S. DEPARTMENT OF

JUSTICE

Assigned to: Judge Carl J. Nichols

Cause: 05:552 Freedom of Information Act

Date Filed: 03/16/2022 Date Terminated: 01/06/2023

Jury Demand: None

Nature of Suit: 895 Freedom of

Information Act

Jurisdiction: U.S. Government Defendant

## **Plaintiff**

JUDICIAL WATCH, INC.

represented by Lauren M. Burke

JUDICIAL WATCH, INC. 425 Third Street, SW

Suite 800

Washington, DC 20024 (202) 646–5172 Fax: (202) 646–5199

Email: <a href="mailto:lburke@judicialwatch.org">lburke@judicialwatch.org</a>
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V.

## **Defendant**

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

represented by **Bradley P. Humphreys** 

U.S. DÉPARTMÊNT OF JUSTICE Civil Division, Federal Programs Branch

1100 L Street, NW Washington, DC 20005 (202) 305–0878 Fax: (202) 639–6066

Email: bradley.humphreys@usdoj.gov

LEAD ATTORNEY

ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED

Date Filed	#	Docket Text
03/16/2022	1	COMPLAINT against U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE (Filing fee \$ 402 receipt number ADCDC–9108658) filed by JUDICIAL WATCH, INC (Attachments: # 1 Civil Cover Sheet, # 2 Summons for US Attorney for DC, # 3 Summons for US Attorney General, # 4 Summons for U.S. Department of Justice)(Burke, Lauren) (Entered: 03/16/2022)
03/16/2022	<u>2</u>	LCvR 26.1 CERTIFICATE OF DISCLOSURE of Corporate Affiliations and Financial Interests by JUDICIAL WATCH, INC. (Burke, Lauren) (Entered: 03/16/2022)
03/18/2022		Case Assigned to Judge Carl J. Nichols. (znmg) (Entered: 03/18/2022)
03/18/2022	3	SUMMONS (3) Issued Electronically as to U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, U.S. Attorney and U.S. Attorney General (Attachment: # 1 Notice and Consent)(znmg) (Entered: 03/18/2022)
03/24/2022	4	STANDING ORDER. Signed by Judge Carl J. Nichols on March 24, 2022. (lccjn2) (Entered: 03/24/2022)
04/01/2022	<u>5</u>	RETURN OF SERVICE/AFFIDAVIT of Summons and Complaint Executed as to the United States Attorney. Date of Service Upon United States Attorney on 3/30/2022. Answer due for ALL FEDERAL DEFENDANTS by 4/29/2022. (Attachments: # 1 Declaration of David Rothstein)(Burke, Lauren) (Entered: 04/01/2022)

04/01/2022	<u>6</u>	RETURN OF SERVICE/AFFIDAVIT of Summons and Complaint Executed on United States Attorney General. Date of Service Upon United States Attorney General 03/30/22. (Attachments: # 1 Declaration of David Rothstein)(Burke, Lauren) (Entered: 04/01/2022)
04/01/2022	7	RETURN OF SERVICE/AFFIDAVIT of Summons and Complaint Executed. U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE served on 3/30/2022 (Attachments: # 1 Declaration of David Rothstein)(Burke, Lauren) (Entered: 04/01/2022)
04/29/2022	<u>8</u>	NOTICE of Appearance by Bradley P. Humphreys on behalf of U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE (Humphreys, Bradley) (Entered: 04/29/2022)
04/29/2022	9	ANSWER to Complaint by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE.(Humphreys, Bradley) (Entered: 04/29/2022)
05/03/2022		MINUTE ORDER. Before the Court in this Freedom of Information Act case are a Complaint and an Answer. Pursuant to Local Civil Rule 16.3, the requirements of Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(f) are inapplicable. It is hereby ORDERED that the Parties shall confer and file a Joint Status Report on or before May 27, 2022. The Joint Status Report shall address: (1) the status of Plaintiff's FOIA requests; (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 Open America v. Watergate Special Prosecution Force, 547 F.2d 605 (D.C. Cir. 1976); (5) the possibility of prioritizing documents responsive to Plaintiff's requests and any discussions regarding whether Plaintiff's requests can be narrowed; and (6) whether the Parties anticipate summary judgment briefing and, if so, a proposed briefing schedule. Signed by Judge Carl J. Nichols on May 3, 2022. (lccjn2) (Entered: 05/03/2022)
05/03/2022		Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Status Report due by 5/27/2022. (zcal) (Entered: 05/04/2022)
05/27/2022	<u>10</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. (Humphreys, Bradley) (Entered: 05/27/2022)
05/30/2022		MINUTE ORDER. Upon review of the <u>10</u> Joint Status Report, it is ORDERED that the Parties shall file an updated Joint Status Report on or before July 1, 2022. Signed by Judge Carl J. Nichols on May 30, 2022. (lccjn2) (Entered: 05/30/2022)
05/30/2022		Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Status Report due by 7/1/2022. (zcal) (Entered: 05/31/2022)
07/01/2022	<u>11</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. (Humphreys, Bradley) (Entered: 07/01/2022)
07/08/2022		MINUTE ORDER. Upon review of the <u>11</u> Joint Status Report, it is ORDERED that the Parties shall file an updated Joint Status Report on or before August 12, 2022. Signed by Judge Carl J. Nichols on July 8, 2022. (lccjn2) (Entered: 07/08/2022)
07/08/2022		Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Status Report due by 8/12/2022. (zcal) (Entered: 07/11/2022)
08/12/2022	<u>12</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. (Humphreys, Bradley) (Entered: 08/12/2022)
08/16/2022		MINUTE ORDER. Upon review of the <u>12</u> Joint Status Report, it is ORDERED that the Parties shall file an updated Joint Status Report on or before August 26, 2022, including a proposal for future proceedings. Signed by Judge Carl J. Nichols on August 16, 2022. (lccjn2) (Entered: 08/16/2022)
08/16/2022		Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Status Report due by 8/26/2022. (zcal) (Entered: 08/17/2022)
08/26/2022	<u>13</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. (Humphreys, Bradley) (Entered: 08/26/2022)
09/01/2022	<u>14</u>	SCHEDULING ORDER. Signed by Judge Carl J. Nichols on September 1, 2022 (lccjn2). (Entered: 09/01/2022)

09/01/2022		Set/Reset Deadlines: Summary Judgment Motion due by 9/30/2022. Response to Motion for Summary Judgment and Cross Motion due by 11/2/2022. Reply to Motion for Summary Judgment and Response to Cross Motion due by 11/21/2022. Reply to Cross Motion due by 12/9/2022. (zkh) (Entered: 09/01/2022)
09/30/2022	<u>15</u>	MOTION for Summary Judgment by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. (Attachments: # 1 Memorandum in Support, # 2 Exhibit 1, # 3 Statement of Facts, # 4 Text of Proposed Order)(Humphreys, Bradley) (Entered: 09/30/2022)
11/02/2022	<u>16</u>	MOTION for Extension of Time to File <i>Plaintiff's Opposition and Cross–Motion</i> by JUDICIAL WATCH, INC (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Text of Proposed Order)(Burke, Lauren) (Entered: 11/02/2022)
11/02/2022		MINUTE ORDER. Upon review of Plaintiff's 16 Motion for an Extension of Time, it is ORDERED that the Motion is GRANTED. It is further ORDERED that the following modifications shall be made to the briefing schedule: Plaintiff shall file its opposition to Defendant's motion for summary judgment and cross—motion for summary judgment on or before November 9, 2022; Defendant shall file its reply and opposition to Plaintiff's cross—motion for summary judgment on or before November 30, 2022; and Plaintiff shall file its reply on or before December 20, 2022. Signed by Judge Carl J. Nichols on November 2, 2022. (lccjn2) (Entered: 11/02/2022)
11/02/2022		Set/Reset Deadlines: Cross Motions due by 11/9/2022. Response to Cross Motions due by 11/30/2022. Reply to Cross Motions due by 12/20/2022. Response to Motion for Summary Judgment due by 11/9/2022. Reply to Motion for Summary Judgment due by 11/30/2022. (zcal) (Entered: 11/02/2022)
11/10/2022	<u>17</u>	Memorandum in opposition to re <u>15</u> Motion for Summary Judgment filed by JUDICIAL WATCH, INC (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Text of Proposed Order)(Burke, Lauren) (Entered: 11/10/2022)
11/10/2022	<u>18</u>	Cross MOTION for Summary Judgment by JUDICIAL WATCH, INC (Attachments: # 1 Memorandum in Support, # 2 Text of Proposed Order)(Burke, Lauren) (Entered: 11/10/2022)
11/10/2022	<u>19</u>	Consent MOTION for Order to Accept as Timely Filed by JUDICIAL WATCH, INC (Burke, Lauren) (Entered: 11/10/2022)
11/14/2022		MINUTE ORDER. Upon review of Plaintiff's 19 Consent Motion to Accept Opposition and Cross–Motion as Timely Filed, it is ORDERED that the Motion is GRANTED. The Court accepts Plaintiff's 18 Opposition and Cross–Motion for Summary Judgment as timely filed. Signed by Judge Carl J. Nichols on November 14, 2022. (lccjn2) (Entered: 11/14/2022)
11/22/2022	<u>20</u>	Unopposed MOTION for Extension of Time to File Response/Reply as to <u>18</u> Cross MOTION for Summary Judgment , <u>15</u> MOTION for Summary Judgment by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Text of Proposed Order)(Humphreys, Bradley) (Entered: 11/22/2022)
11/22/2022		MINUTE ORDER. Upon review of Defendant's <u>20</u> Motion for an Extension of Time, it is ORDERED that the Motion is GRANTED. It is further ORDERED that the following modifications shall be made to the briefing schedule: Defendant shall file its reply in support of its motion for summary judgment and opposition to Plaintiff's cross—motion for summary judgment on or before December 7, 2022; and Plaintiff shall file its reply in support of its cross—motion for summary judgment on or before December 29, 2022. Signed by Judge Carl J. Nichols on November 22, 2022. (lccjn2) (Entered: 11/22/2022)
12/07/2022	<u>21</u>	Consent MOTION to Hold in Abeyance <i>Briefing on the Parties' Cross—Motions for Summary Judgment</i> by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. (Attachments: # 1 Text of Proposed Order)(Humphreys, Bradley) (Entered: 12/07/2022)
12/07/2022		MINUTE ORDER. Upon review of Defendant's <u>21</u> Consent Motion to Hold Briefing in Abeyance, it is ORDERED that the Motion is GRANTED. It is further ORDERED that, absent further direction from the Court, Defendant shall file its reply in support of its motion for summary judgment and opposition to Plaintiff's cross—motion for summary judgment on or before January 6, 2023, and Plaintiff shall file its reply in support of its cross—motion for summary judgment on or before January 30, 2023.

		Signed by Judge Carl J. Nichols on December 7, 2022. (lccjn2) (Entered: 12/07/2022)
12/07/2022		Set/Reset Deadlines: Response to Cross Motions due by 1/6/2023. Reply to Cross Motions due by 1/30/2023. Reply to Motion for Summary Judgment due by 1/6/2023. (zcam) (Entered: 12/13/2022)
01/06/2023	<u>22</u>	STIPULATION of Dismissal by JUDICIAL WATCH, INC (Burke, Lauren) (Entered: 01/06/2023)