

**U.S. District Court  
District of Columbia (Washington, DC)  
CIVIL DOCKET FOR CASE #: 1:21-cv-00593-TSC**

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

Assigned to: Judge Tanya S. Chutkan  
Cause: 05:552 Freedom of Information Act

Date Filed: 03/05/2021  
Date Terminated: 05/22/2023  
Jury Demand: None  
Nature of Suit: 895 Freedom of  
Information Act  
Jurisdiction: U.S. Government Defendant

**Plaintiff**

**JUDICIAL WATCH, INC.**

represented by **Kathryn Brooke Blankenberg**  
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V.

**Defendant**

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE**

represented by **Sian Jones**  
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**TERMINATED: 08/16/2022**

**Blake Weiner**  
BLAKE WEINER LAW, PLLC  
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Date Filed	#	Docket Text
03/05/2021	<u>1</u>	COMPLAINT against U.S. DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE ( Filing fee \$ 402 receipt number ADCDC-8281479) filed by JUDICIAL WATCH, INC.. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Civil Cover Sheet, # <u>2</u> Summons for US Attorney for DC, # <u>3</u> Summons for US Attorney General, # <u>4</u> Summons for U.S. Department of Defense)(Orfanedes, Paul) (Entered: 03/05/2021)
03/05/2021	<u>2</u>	LCvR 26.1 CERTIFICATE OF DISCLOSURE of Corporate Affiliations and Financial Interests by JUDICIAL WATCH, INC. (Orfanedes, Paul) (Entered: 03/05/2021)
03/05/2021		Case Assigned to Judge Tanya S. Chutkan. (adh, ) (Entered: 03/05/2021)
03/05/2021	<u>3</u>	SUMMONS (3) Issued Electronically as to U.S. DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE, U.S. Attorney and U.S. Attorney General (Attachment: # <u>1</u> Notice and Consent)(adh, ) (Entered: 03/05/2021)
03/26/2021	<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 3/26/2021. Answer due for ALL FEDERAL DEFENDANTS by 4/25/2021. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Declaration of David Rothstein)(Orfanedes, Paul) (Entered: 03/26/2021)
03/26/2021	<u>5</u>	RETURN OF SERVICE/AFFIDAVIT of Summons and Complaint Executed on United States Attorney General. Date of Service Upon United States Attorney General 03/16/21. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Declaration of David Rothstein)(Orfanedes, Paul) (Entered: 03/26/2021)
03/26/2021	<u>6</u>	RETURN OF SERVICE/AFFIDAVIT of Summons and Complaint Executed. U.S. DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE served on 3/22/2021 (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Declaration of David Rothstein)(Orfanedes, Paul) (Entered: 03/26/2021)
04/02/2021	<u>7</u>	NOTICE of Appearance by April Denise Seabrook on behalf of U.S. DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE (Seabrook, April) (Entered: 04/02/2021)
04/26/2021	<u>8</u>	ANSWER to Complaint by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE.(Seabrook, April) (Entered: 04/26/2021)
04/26/2021	<u>9</u>	MINUTE ORDER: Before the Court in this FOIA case are a complaint and an answer. The requirements of LCvR 16.3 and Rule 26(f) of the Federal Rules of Civil procedure appear to be inapplicable. IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the parties shall meet and confer and propose a schedule for proceeding in this matter. The schedule shall address 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, whether and when either party anticipates filing a dispositive motion, and any other pertinent issues. The parties shall file a joint status report that addresses these issues no later than 6/4/2021. The joint status report shall be accompanied by a proposed order. Signed by Judge Tanya S. Chutkan on 4/26/21. (DJS) (Entered: 04/26/2021)
04/27/2021		Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Status Report due by 6/4/2021. (tb) (Entered: 04/27/2021)
06/02/2021	<u>10</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by JUDICIAL WATCH, INC.. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Text of Proposed Order)(Orfanedes, Paul) (Entered: 06/02/2021)
07/15/2021	<u>11</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by JUDICIAL WATCH, INC.. (Orfanedes, Paul) (Entered: 07/15/2021)
07/21/2021		MINUTE ORDER: Having considered the parties' joint status report <u>11</u> , it is hereby ordered that the parties shall file another joint report by 8/20/21 and every 30 days thereafter. To the extent the report contains a proposal to change the status quo, a proposed order shall accompany the report. Signed by Judge Tanya S. Chutkan on 7/21/21. (DJS) (Entered: 07/21/2021)

07/22/2021		Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Status Report due by 8/20/2021. (tb) (Entered: 07/22/2021)
08/04/2021	<u>12</u>	NOTICE of Appearance by Blake Weiner on behalf of U.S. DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE (Weiner, Blake) (Entered: 08/04/2021)
08/20/2021	<u>13</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by JUDICIAL WATCH, INC.. (Orfanedes, Paul) (Entered: 08/20/2021)
09/17/2021	<u>14</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by JUDICIAL WATCH, INC.. (Orfanedes, Paul) (Entered: 09/17/2021)
10/20/2021	<u>15</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by JUDICIAL WATCH, INC.. (Orfanedes, Paul) (Entered: 10/20/2021)
11/18/2021	<u>16</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by JUDICIAL WATCH, INC.. (Orfanedes, Paul) (Entered: 11/18/2021)
12/20/2021	<u>17</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by JUDICIAL WATCH, INC.. (Orfanedes, Paul) (Entered: 12/20/2021)
12/20/2021	<u>18</u>	NOTICE OF WITHDRAWAL OF APPEARANCE as to U.S. DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE. Attorney Blake A. Weiner terminated. (Weiner, Blake) (Entered: 12/20/2021)
02/01/2022	<u>19</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE. (Seabrook, April) (Entered: 02/01/2022)
03/09/2022	<u>20</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by JUDICIAL WATCH, INC.. (Orfanedes, Paul) (Entered: 03/09/2022)
05/06/2022	<u>21</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by JUDICIAL WATCH, INC.. (Orfanedes, Paul) (Entered: 05/06/2022)
06/07/2022	<u>22</u>	NOTICE of Appearance by Kathryn Brooke Blankenberg on behalf of JUDICIAL WATCH, INC. (Blankenberg, Kathryn) (Entered: 06/07/2022)
06/15/2022	<u>23</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE. (Seabrook, April) (Entered: 06/15/2022)
07/28/2022	<u>24</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE. (Seabrook, April) (Entered: 07/28/2022)
08/07/2022		MINUTE ORDER: Having considered the parties' joint status report, it is hereby ordered that the parties shall meet, confer, and submit another joint report by 9/27/22. The joint report shall be accompanied by a proposed order. Signed by Judge Tanya S. Chutkan on 8/7/22. (DJS) (Entered: 08/07/2022)
08/09/2022		Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Status Report due by 9/27/2022. (tb) (Entered: 08/09/2022)
08/10/2022		Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Report due by 9/27/2022. (tb) (Entered: 08/10/2022)
08/16/2022	<u>25</u>	NOTICE OF SUBSTITUTION OF COUNSEL by Sian Jones on behalf of All Defendants Substituting for attorney April Seabrook (Jones, Sian) (Entered: 08/16/2022)
09/27/2022	<u>26</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by JUDICIAL WATCH, INC.. (Orfanedes, Paul) (Entered: 09/27/2022)
09/28/2022		MINUTE ORDER: Having considered the parties' <u>26</u> joint status report, it is hereby ordered that the parties shall meet, confer, and submit another joint status report by 10/27/22, and every 30 days thereafter. The report shall be accompanied by a proposed order. Signed by Judge Tanya S. Chutkan on 09/28/22. (lcwk) (Entered: 09/28/2022)
10/03/2022		Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Status Report due by 10/27/2022. (tb) (Entered: 10/03/2022)
10/27/2022	<u>27</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by JUDICIAL WATCH, INC.. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Text of Proposed Order)(Orfanedes, Paul) (Entered: 10/27/2022)
11/21/2022	<u>28</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by JUDICIAL WATCH, INC.. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Text of Proposed Order)(Orfanedes, Paul) (Entered: 11/21/2022)

12/22/2022	<u>29</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by JUDICIAL WATCH, INC.. (Orfanedes, Paul) (Entered: 12/22/2022)
01/30/2023	<u>30</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by JUDICIAL WATCH, INC.. (Orfanedes, Paul) (Entered: 01/30/2023)
04/04/2023	<u>31</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT ( <i>Nunc Pro Tunc</i> ) by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE. (Jones, Sian) (Entered: 04/04/2023)
05/04/2023	<u>32</u>	STIPULATION of Dismissal by JUDICIAL WATCH, INC.. (Orfanedes, Paul) (Entered: 05/04/2023)
05/16/2023		MINUTE ORDER: In consideration of Plaintiff's <u>32</u> Stipulation of Dismissal, this case is hereby dismissed without prejudice pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure Rule 41(a)(1)(A)(ii). Signed by Judge Tanya S. Chutkan on 5/16/23. (lcsr) (Entered: 05/16/2023)