

**U.S. District Court
District of Columbia (Washington, DC)
CIVIL DOCKET FOR CASE #: 1:21-cv-02030-CKK**

SERAJI v. U.S. CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION
SERVICES et al
Assigned to: Judge Colleen Kollar-Kotelly
Cause: 05:552 Freedom of Information Act

Date Filed: 07/27/2021
Date Terminated: 07/03/2023
Jury Demand: None
Nature of Suit: 895 Freedom of
Information Act
Jurisdiction: U.S. Government Defendant

Plaintiff

MARINA SERAJI

represented by **Jan Pederson**
WRIGHT CONSTABLE & SKEEN, LLP
6931 Arlington Road
Suite 450
Bethesda, MD 20814
(240) 583-0003
Email: jan@wcslaw.com
ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED

V.

Defendant

**U.S. CITIZENSHIP AND
IMMIGRATION SERVICES**
TERMINATED: 08/04/2022

represented by **Dedra Seibel Curteman**
DOJ-USAO
US Attorney's Office, Civil Division
601 D Street, NW
Washington, DC 20530
(202) 252-2550
Email: dedra.curteman@usdoj.gov
LEAD ATTORNEY
ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED

Defendant

TRACY RENAUD
*in her official capacity as Acting
Director, Office of the Chief Counsel*
TERMINATED: 08/04/2022

represented by **Dedra Seibel Curteman**
(See above for address)
LEAD ATTORNEY
ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED

Defendant

**U.S. CUSTOMS AND BORDER
PROTECTION**
TERMINATED: 08/04/2022

represented by **Dedra Seibel Curteman**
(See above for address)
LEAD ATTORNEY
ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED

Defendant

TROY A. MILLER
*in his official capacity as Senior Official
Performing the Duties of the
Commissioner of U.S. CUSTOMS AND
BORDER PROTECTION*
TERMINATED: 08/04/2022

represented by **Dedra Seibel Curteman**
(See above for address)
LEAD ATTORNEY
ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED

Defendant

**DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND
SECURITY**

represented by **Dedra Seibel Curteman**
(See above for address)
LEAD ATTORNEY
ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED

Date Filed	#	Docket Text
07/27/2021	<u>1</u>	COMPLAINT against All Defendants (Filing fee \$ 402 receipt number ADCDC-8627101) filed by MARINA SERAJI. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Civil Cover Sheet, # <u>2</u> Summons USCIS, # <u>3</u> Summons Renaud, # <u>4</u> Summons CBP, # <u>5</u> Summons Miller, # <u>6</u> Summons Homeland Security)(Pederson, Jan) (Entered: 07/27/2021)
07/27/2021		NOTICE OF ERROR re <u>1</u> Complaint; emailed to jan@wcslaw.com, cc'd 0 associated attorneys -- The PDF file you docketed contained errors: 1. Noncompliance with LCvR 5.1(c). Please file an errata correcting the initiating pleading to include the name & full residence address of each party using the event Errata., 2. COMPLIANCE DEADLINE is by close of business today. This case will not proceed any further until all errors are satisfied. (zsb,) (Entered: 07/27/2021)
07/28/2021	<u>2</u>	ERRATA <i>Complaint with Address</i> by MARINA SERAJI re <u>1</u> Complaint, filed by MARINA SERAJI. (Pederson, Jan) (Entered: 07/28/2021)
07/29/2021		Case Assigned to Judge Colleen Kollar-Kotelly. (zsb) (Entered: 07/29/2021)
07/29/2021	<u>3</u>	SUMMONS (5) Issued Electronically as to TROY A. MILLER, TRACY RENAUD, U.S. CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION SERVICES, U.S. CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Notice and Consent)(adh,) (Entered: 07/29/2021)
07/30/2021	<u>4</u>	ORDER ESTABLISHING PROCEDURES FOR CASES ASSIGNED TO JUDGE COLLEEN KOLLAR-KOTELLY. Signed by Judge Colleen Kollar-Kotelly on 7/30/2021. (DM) (Entered: 07/30/2021)
09/27/2021	<u>5</u>	NOTICE of Appearance by Dedra Seibel Curteman on behalf of All Defendants (Curteman, Dedra) (Entered: 09/27/2021)
09/27/2021	<u>6</u>	Consent MOTION for Extension of Time to <i>Answer</i> by TROY A. MILLER, TRACY RENAUD, U.S. CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION SERVICES, U.S. CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Text of Proposed Order)(Curteman, Dedra) (Entered: 09/27/2021)
09/28/2021		MINUTE ORDER: Upon consideration of Defendants' <u>6</u> Motion for Extension of Time and the entire record herein, it is hereby ORDERED that Defendants' Motion for Extension of Time is hereby GRANTED; and IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Defendants shall answer or otherwise respond to Plaintiff's complaint by November 1, 2021. Signed by Judge Colleen Kollar-Kotelly on September 28, 2021. (lcckk1) (Entered: 09/28/2021)
09/28/2021		Set/Reset Deadlines: Defendants' Answer or otherwise respond to Plaintiff's <u>1</u> Complaint due by 11/1/2021. (dot) (Entered: 09/28/2021)
11/01/2021	<u>7</u>	MOTION for Extension of Time to File Answer re <u>2</u> Errata, <u>1</u> Complaint, by TROY A. MILLER, TRACY RENAUD, U.S. CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION SERVICES, U.S. CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Text of Proposed Order)(Curteman, Dedra) (Entered: 11/01/2021)
11/01/2021		MINUTE ORDER: The Court has received the <u>7</u> Consent Motion for Enlargement of Time. Defendants' answer is presently due on or before November 1, 2021. Defendants, however, ask for an extension of this deadline until December 1, 2021. On September 28, 2021, the Court granted Defendants' first such motion to extend the deadline to file a response to Plaintiff's complaint. For good cause shown, the Court also GRANTS this <u>7</u> Motion. Defendants shall answer or otherwise respond to Plaintiff's complaint by December 1, 2021. Signed by Judge Colleen Kollar-Kotelly on November 1, 2021. Signed by Judge Colleen Kollar-Kotelly on November 1, 2021. (lcckk1) (Entered: 11/01/2021)
11/01/2021		Set/Reset Deadlines: Answer or otherwise respond to the Complaint by 12/1/2021. (dot) (Entered: 11/02/2021)

11/22/2021	<u>8</u>	Consent MOTION for Extension of Time to File Answer re <u>1</u> Complaint, by DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY, TROY A. MILLER, TRACY RENAUD, U.S. CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION SERVICES, U.S. CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Text of Proposed Order)(Curteman, Dedra) (Entered: 11/22/2021)
11/23/2021		MINUTE ORDER: The Court has received Defendants' <u>8</u> Consent Motion for Enlargement of Time. Defendant's answer is presently due December 1, 2021. On November 1, 2021, the Court granted Defendants' second such motion to extend the deadline to file a response to Plaintiff's complaint. In this third Motion, Defendants state that Plaintiff's counsel has found information that may obviate Plaintiff's FOIA claim in this case. Mot. at 2, ECF No. 8. Defendants further state that additional time is needed to potentially provide additional information to Plaintiff's counsel and confer with Plaintiff's counsel regarding whether further litigation is necessary. Accordingly, and upon good cause shown, it is hereby ORDERED that Defendants' <u>8</u> Consent Motion for Extension of Time is GRANTED . If is further ORDERED that Defendants shall answer or otherwise respond to Plaintiff's complaint by January 18, 2022. Signed by Judge Colleen Kollar-Kotelly on 11/23/2021. (lcckk1) (Entered: 11/23/2021)
11/24/2021		Set/Reset Deadlines: Answer due by 1/18/2022. (kt) (Entered: 11/24/2021)
01/18/2022	<u>9</u>	Consent MOTION to Stay re <u>1</u> Complaint, <i>Proceedings for 30 days</i> by DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY, TROY A. MILLER, TRACY RENAUD, U.S. CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION SERVICES, U.S. CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Text of Proposed Order)(Curteman, Dedra) (Entered: 01/18/2022)
01/18/2022		MINUTE ORDER: Before the Court is Defendants' <u>9</u> Consent Motion for Stay of Proceedings, filed January 18, 2022. Rather than filing their answer, due January 18, 2022, Defendants seek a stay of this case for thirty days, to February 17, 2022. Defendants indicate that the parties "are discussing a potential resolution, but need additional time to determine mutual agreement." This is Defendants' third such request for relief, and Plaintiff consents to the request. Accordingly, it is hereby ORDERED that Defendants' <u>9</u> Consent Motion for Stay of Proceedings is GRANTED . This case is STAYED until February 17, 2022. Defendants shall file their answer or otherwise respond to Plaintiff's complaint upon the expiration of the stay. Defendants are further advised that, pursuant to the Court's <u>4</u> Order, all requests for extensions of time must be filed at least four business days prior to the affected deadline. Signed by Judge Colleen Kollar-Kotelly on January 18, 2022. (lcckk1) (Entered: 01/18/2022)
02/10/2022	<u>10</u>	Joint MOTION to Stay by DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY, TROY A. MILLER, TRACY RENAUD, U.S. CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION SERVICES, U.S. CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Text of Proposed Order)(Curteman, Dedra) (Entered: 02/10/2022)
02/10/2022		MINUTE ORDER: Before the Court is the parties' <u>10</u> Joint Motion for Stay of Proceedings. The parties seek to enlarge the present stay by thirty days as they continue settlement discussions. Accordingly, and upon good cause shown, the parties' <u>10</u> Motion is GRANTED . This case shall remain STAYED until March 21, 2022. The parties shall file another joint status report on or before the expiration of the stay. Signed by Judge Colleen Kollar-Kotelly on February 10, 2022. (lcckk1) (Entered: 02/10/2022)
03/21/2022	<u>11</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY, TROY A. MILLER, TRACY RENAUD, U.S. CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION SERVICES, U.S. CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Text of Proposed Order)(Curteman, Dedra) (Entered: 03/21/2022)
03/21/2022	<u>12</u>	Joint MOTION to Stay by DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY, TROY A. MILLER, TRACY RENAUD, U.S. CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION SERVICES, U.S. CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Text of Proposed Order)(Curteman, Dedra) (Entered: 03/21/2022)
03/21/2022		MINUTE ORDER: Before the Court is the parties' <u>12</u> Joint Status Report and Motion for Stay of Proceedings. The parties represent that they remain in settlement discussions and request another stay of thirty days. Accordingly, and upon good cause,

		it is hereby ORDERED that this case is STAYED until further order of the Court. The parties shall file a joint status report updating the Court on their settlement discussions on April 18, 2022 and every thirty days thereafter. Signed by Judge Colleen Kollar-Kotelly on March 21, 2022. (lcckk1) (Entered: 03/21/2022)
03/21/2022		Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Status Report due by 4/18/2022, updating the Court on their settlement discussions. (dot) (Entered: 03/23/2022)
04/11/2022	<u>13</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by MARINA SERAJI. (Pederson, Jan) (Entered: 04/11/2022)
05/19/2022	<u>14</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY, TROY A. MILLER, TRACY RENAUD, U.S. CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION SERVICES, U.S. CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Text of Proposed Order)(Curteman, Dedra) (Entered: 05/19/2022)
05/19/2022	<u>15</u>	Joint MOTION for Scheduling Order by DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY, TROY A. MILLER, TRACY RENAUD, U.S. CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION SERVICES, U.S. CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Text of Proposed Order)(Curteman, Dedra) (Entered: 05/19/2022)
05/19/2022		MINUTE ORDER: The Court is in receipt of the parties' <u>15</u> Joint Motion for Scheduling Order. The parties request an order setting a briefing schedule for a "dispositive motion." Because the Motion does not indicate what kind of dispositive motions the parties intend to file, the parties shall file a joint notice on or before May 26, 2022 indicating whether Defendants intend to move for summary judgment or instead to dismiss the <u>1</u> Complaint. If the former, the notice shall indicate whether Plaintiff intends to cross-move for summary judgment. Signed by Judge Colleen Kollar-Kotelly on May 19, 2022. (lcckk1) (Entered: 05/19/2022)
05/19/2022		Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Notice to the Court due by 5/26/2022. (dot) (Entered: 05/20/2022)
05/26/2022	<u>16</u>	NOTICE by DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY, TROY A. MILLER, TRACY RENAUD, U.S. CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION SERVICES, U.S. CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Text of Proposed Order)(Curteman, Dedra) (Entered: 05/26/2022)
05/30/2022		MINUTE ORDER: The Court is in receipt of the parties' <u>16</u> Notice and shall GRANT the parties' <u>15</u> Joint Motion for Scheduling Order and adopt the parties proposed schedule. Defendants shall file their motion to dismiss on or before July 15, 2022 . Plaintiff shall file her opposition on or before August 15, 2022 . Defendants shall file their reply in support of their motion to dismiss on or before August 31, 2022 . Signed by Judge Colleen Kollar-Kotelly on May 30, 2022. (lcckk1) (Entered: 05/30/2022)
05/30/2022		Set/Reset Deadlines: Defendants' Motion to Dismiss due by 7/15/2022. Plaintiff's Opposition due by 8/15/2022. Defendants' Reply due by 8/31/2022. (dot) (Entered: 06/04/2022)
07/15/2022	<u>17</u>	MOTION to Dismiss by DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY, TROY A. MILLER, TRACY RENAUD, U.S. CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION SERVICES, U.S. CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Exhibit, # <u>2</u> Exhibit, # <u>3</u> Exhibit, # <u>4</u> Text of Proposed Order)(Curteman, Dedra) (Entered: 07/15/2022)
08/04/2022	<u>18</u>	AMENDED COMPLAINT against DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY by MARINA SERAJI. (Pederson, Jan) Modified on 8/5/2022 to correct event type/ docket text (zjm). (Entered: 08/04/2022)
08/05/2022		MINUTE ORDER: In light of Plaintiff's <u>18</u> Amended Complaint, Defendants' <u>17</u> Motion to Dismiss is DENIED AS MOOT . Pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 12(a)(2), Defendants shall answer or otherwise respond to Plaintiff's <u>18</u> Amended Complaint on or before October 3, 2022 . Signed by Judge Colleen Kollar-Kotelly on August 5, 2022. (lcckk1) (Entered: 08/05/2022)
08/05/2022		Set/Reset Deadlines: Defendants shall answer or otherwise respond to Plaintiff's <u>18</u> Amended Complaint on or before 10/3/2022. (dot) (Entered: 08/22/2022)

09/29/2022	<u>19</u>	Consent MOTION to Stay by DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY, TROY A. MILLER, TRACY RENAUD, U.S. CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION SERVICES, U.S. CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Text of Proposed Order)(Curteman, Dedra) (Entered: 09/29/2022)
09/30/2022		MINUTE ORDER: The Court is in receipt of Defendants' <u>19</u> Consent Motion to Stay Proceedings. Defendants represent that Defendant U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services intends to re-review the administrative decision denying Plaintiff the relief at issue here. As such, Defendants request a stay of this case for sixty days. As Plaintiff consents, and upon good cause shown, Defendants' <u>19</u> Consent Motion to Stay Proceedings is GRANTED . This matter is STAYED until December 2, 2022. The parties shall submit a joint status report on or before December 1, 2022 updating the Court as to the progress of the administrative re-review. Signed by Judge Colleen Kollar-Kotelly on September 30, 2022. (lcckk1) (Entered: 09/30/2022)
11/29/2022	<u>20</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY. (Curteman, Dedra) (Entered: 11/29/2022)
12/08/2022		MINUTE ORDER: The Court is in receipt of the parties' <u>20</u> Joint Status Report. The parties indicate that they remain in settlement discussion and request the Court extend the stay in this matter. In consideration thereof, this case shall remain STAYED , and the parties shall submit another joint status report on or before January 30, 2023 updating the Court on the progress of the parties' settlement negotiations. Signed by Judge Colleen Kollar-Kotelly on December 7, 2022. (lcckk1) (Entered: 12/08/2022)
12/08/2022		Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Status Report due by 1/30/2023, updating the Court on the progress of the parties' settlement negotiations. (dot) (Entered: 12/12/2022)
01/30/2023	<u>21</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Text of Proposed Order)(Curteman, Dedra) (Entered: 01/30/2023)
02/02/2023		MINUTE ORDER: The Court is in receipt of the parties' <u>21</u> Joint Status Report, in which the parties indicate that they remain in settlement discussions and request that they stay in this case be extended another sixty days. Upon consideration thereof, this matter shall remain STAYED until April 4, 2023 . The parties shall file another joint status report on or before April 3, 2023 . Signed by Judge Colleen Kollar-Kotelly on February 2, 2023. (lcckk1) (Entered: 02/02/2023)
02/02/2023		Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Status Report due by 4/3/2023. (dot) (Entered: 02/09/2023)
04/03/2023	<u>22</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Text of Proposed Order)(Curteman, Dedra) (Entered: 04/03/2023)
04/07/2023		MINUTE ORDER: The Court is in receipt of the parties' <u>22</u> Joint Status Report, in which the parties indicate that they remain in settlement discussions and request that the stay in this case be extended another sixty days. Upon consideration thereof, this matter shall remain STAYED until June 1, 2023 . The parties shall file another joint status report on or before June 2, 2023 . Signed by Judge Colleen Kollar-Kotelly on April 7, 2023. (lcckk1) (Entered: 04/07/2023)
04/07/2023		Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Status Report due by 6/2/2023. (dot) (Entered: 04/07/2023)
06/02/2023	<u>23</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Text of Proposed Order)(Curteman, Dedra) (Entered: 06/02/2023)
06/06/2023		MINUTE ORDER: The Court is in receipt of the parties' <u>23</u> Joint Status Report, in which the parties indicate that they remain in settlement discussions and request that the stay in this case be extended another thirty days. Upon consideration thereof, this matter shall remain STAYED until further order of the Court. The parties shall file another joint status report on or before July 3, 2023 and, if necessary, every sixty days thereafter. Signed by Judge Colleen Kollar-Kotelly on June 6, 2023. (lcckk1) (Entered: 06/06/2023)
06/06/2023		Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Status Report due by 7/3/2023 and, if necessary, every sixty days thereafter. (dot) (Entered: 06/15/2023)
06/30/2023	<u>24</u>	STIPULATION of Dismissal by DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY, TROY A. MILLER, TRACY RENAUD, U.S. CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION SERVICES, U.S. CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION. (Curteman, Dedra)

		(Entered: 06/30/2023)
06/30/2023	<u>25</u>	ERRATA by DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY re <u>24</u> Stipulation of Dismissal. (Curteman, Dedra) (Entered: 06/30/2023)
07/03/2023	<u>26</u>	ORDER dismissing case without prejudice. The Clerk of Court is respectfully directed to close this case. Signed by Judge Colleen Kollar-Kotelly on July 3, 2023. (lcckk1) (Entered: 07/03/2023)