

**U.S. District Court  
District of Columbia (Washington, DC)  
CIVIL DOCKET FOR CASE #: 1:20-cv-01947-ACR**

JUDICIAL WATCH, INC. v. U.S. DEPARTMENT OF  
JUSTICE et al  
Assigned to: Judge Ana C. Reyes  
Cause: 05:552 Freedom of Information Act

Date Filed: 07/20/2020  
Date Terminated: 11/07/2023  
Jury Demand: None  
Nature of Suit: 895 Freedom of  
Information Act  
Jurisdiction: U.S. Government Defendant

**Plaintiff**

**JUDICIAL WATCH, INC.**

represented by **Paul J. Orfanedes**  
JUDICIAL WATCH, INC.  
425 Third Street, SW  
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**LEAD ATTORNEY**  
**ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED**

V.

**Defendant**

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE**

represented by **B. Kathryn Debrason**  
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**Kathleene A. Molen**  
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Email: [Kathleene.Molen@usdoj.gov](mailto:Kathleene.Molen@usdoj.gov)  
**TERMINATED: 11/04/2021**

**Sean Michael Tepe**  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
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**Defendant**

**U.S. OFFICE OF DIRECTOR OF  
NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE**

represented by **B. Kathryn Debrason**  
(See above for address)  
*LEAD ATTORNEY*  
*ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED*

**Tabitha Bartholomew**  
(See above for address)  
*LEAD ATTORNEY*  
*ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED*

**Kathleene A. Molen**  
(See above for address)  
*TERMINATED: 11/04/2021*

**Sean Michael Tepe**  
(See above for address)  
*TERMINATED: 05/10/2023*

| Date Filed | #        | Docket Text  |
|------------|----------|--|
| 07/20/2020 | <u>1</u> | COMPLAINT against All Defendants ( Filing fee \$ 400 receipt number ADCDC-7359655) filed by JUDICIAL WATCH, INC.. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Civil Cover Sheet, # <u>2</u> Summons U.S. Dep't of Justice, # <u>3</u> Summons Office of Director of Nat'l Intelligence, # <u>4</u> Summons U.S. Attorney General, # <u>5</u> Summons U.S. Attorney's Office)(Orfanedes, Paul) (Entered: 07/20/2020) |
| 07/20/2020 | <u>2</u> | LCvR 26.1 CERTIFICATE OF DISCLOSURE of Corporate Affiliations and Financial Interests by JUDICIAL WATCH, INC. (Orfanedes, Paul) (Entered: 07/20/2020)  |
| 07/21/2020 |          | Case assigned to Judge Tanya S. Chutkan. (zmc) (Entered: 07/21/2020)   |
| 07/21/2020 | <u>3</u> | SUMMONS (4) Issued Electronically as to OFFICE OF DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, U.S. Attorney and U.S. Attorney General (Attachment: # <u>1</u> Notice and Consent)(zmc) (Entered: 07/21/2020)  |
| 08/02/2020 | <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 7/31/2020. Answer due for ALL FEDERAL DEFENDANTS by 8/30/2020. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Declaration of David Rothstein)(Orfanedes, Paul) (Entered: 08/02/2020)  |
| 08/02/2020 | <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 07/31/20. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Declaration of David Rothstein)(Orfanedes, Paul) (Entered: 08/02/2020)   |
| 08/02/2020 | <u>6</u> | RETURN OF SERVICE/AFFIDAVIT of Summons and Complaint Executed. U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE served on 7/31/2020 (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Declaration of David Rothstein)(Orfanedes, Paul) (Entered: 08/02/2020)  |
| 08/02/2020 | <u>7</u> | RETURN OF SERVICE/AFFIDAVIT of Summons and Complaint Executed. OFFICE OF DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE served on 7/31/2020 (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Declaration of David Rothstein)(Orfanedes, Paul) (Entered: 08/02/2020)   |
| 08/26/2020 | <u>8</u> | NOTICE of Appearance by Kathleene A. Molen on behalf of All Defendants (Molen, Kathleene) (Entered: 08/26/2020)  |
| 08/26/2020 | <u>9</u> | Consent MOTION for Extension of Time to File Answer by OFFICE OF DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Text of Proposed Order)(Molen, Kathleene) (Entered: 08/26/2020)  |

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| 08/26/2020 |           | MINUTE ORDER: Granting <u>9</u> Consent Motion for Extension of Time to Answer. Defendants shall answer or otherwise respond to the Complaint by September 30, 2020. Signed by Judge Tanya S. Chutkan on 8/26/2020. (DJS) (Entered: 08/26/2020)  |
| 08/26/2020 |           | Set/Reset Deadline: Defendants shall answer or otherwise respond to the Complaint by 9/30/2020. (jth) (Entered: 08/26/2020)  |
| 09/30/2020 | <u>10</u> | ANSWER to Complaint by OFFICE OF DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Exhibit A, # <u>2</u> Exhibit B, # <u>3</u> Exhibit C, # <u>4</u> Exhibit D, # <u>5</u> Exhibit E, # <u>6</u> Exhibit F)(Molen, Kathleene) (Entered: 09/30/2020)  |
| 10/01/2020 |           | 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 11/16/2020. The joint status report shall be accompanied by a proposed order. Signed by Judge Tanya S. Chutkan on 10/1/2020. (DJS) (Entered: 10/01/2020) |
| 10/02/2020 |           | Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Status Report due by 11/16/2020. (tb) (Entered: 10/02/2020)   |
| 11/16/2020 | <u>11</u> | Joint STATUS REPORT by OFFICE OF DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Text of Proposed Order)(Molen, Kathleene) (Entered: 11/16/2020)   |
| 12/15/2020 |           | MINUTE ORDER: Having considered the parties' joint status report, it is hereby ordered that the parties shall file another joint report and proposed order by 12/16/2020. Signed by Judge Tanya S. Chutkan on 12/15/2020. (DJS) (Entered: 12/15/2020)  |
| 12/15/2020 |           | Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Report due by 12/16/2020. (tb) (Entered: 12/15/2020)  |
| 12/16/2020 | <u>12</u> | Joint STATUS REPORT by OFFICE OF DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Text of Proposed Order)(Molen, Kathleene) (Entered: 12/16/2020)   |
| 01/15/2021 |           | MINUTE ORDER: Having considered the parties' joint status report <u>12</u> , it is hereby ordered that the parties shall file another joint report by 1/19/21 and every 30 days thereafter. To the extent the report contains a proposed briefing or production schedule, it shall be accompanied by proposed order. Signed by Judge Tanya S. Chutkan on 1/15/21. (DJS) (Entered: 01/15/2021)  |
| 01/19/2021 |           | Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Status Report due by 1/19/2021. (tb) (Entered: 01/19/2021)  |
| 01/19/2021 | <u>13</u> | Joint STATUS REPORT by OFFICE OF DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Text of Proposed Order)(Molen, Kathleene) (Entered: 01/19/2021)   |
| 02/19/2021 | <u>14</u> | Joint STATUS REPORT by OFFICE OF DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. (Molen, Kathleene) (Entered: 02/19/2021)   |
| 03/19/2021 | <u>15</u> | Joint STATUS REPORT by OFFICE OF DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. (Molen, Kathleene) (Entered: 03/19/2021)   |
| 04/19/2021 | <u>16</u> | Joint STATUS REPORT by OFFICE OF DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. (Molen, Kathleene) (Entered: 04/19/2021)   |
| 05/19/2021 | <u>17</u> | Joint STATUS REPORT by OFFICE OF DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. (Molen, Kathleene) (Entered: 05/19/2021)   |

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|            |           | 05/19/2021)   |
| 06/21/2021 | <u>18</u> | Joint STATUS REPORT by OFFICE OF DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. (Molen, Kathleene) (Entered: 06/21/2021)  |
| 07/21/2021 | <u>19</u> | Joint STATUS REPORT by OFFICE OF DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. (Molen, Kathleene) (Entered: 07/21/2021)  |
| 08/20/2021 | <u>20</u> | Joint STATUS REPORT by OFFICE OF DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. (Molen, Kathleene) (Entered: 08/20/2021)  |
| 09/20/2021 | <u>21</u> | Joint STATUS REPORT by JUDICIAL WATCH, INC.. (Orfanedes, Paul) (Entered: 09/20/2021)  |
| 10/01/2021 |           | Case new judge to Judge Florence Y. Pan. Judge Tanya S. Chutkan is no longer assigned to the case. (rj) (Entered: 10/01/2021)   |
| 10/20/2021 | <u>22</u> | Joint STATUS REPORT by OFFICE OF DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. (Molen, Kathleene) (Entered: 10/20/2021)  |
| 11/04/2021 | <u>23</u> | NOTICE OF SUBSTITUTION OF COUNSEL by Sean Michael Tepe on behalf of All Defendants Substituting for attorney Kathleene Molen (Tepe, Sean) (Entered: 11/04/2021)   |
| 11/19/2021 | <u>24</u> | Joint STATUS REPORT by OFFICE OF DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. (Tepe, Sean) (Entered: 11/19/2021)  |
| 11/22/2021 |           | MINUTE ORDER. Upon consideration of the parties' <u>24</u> Joint Status Report, the parties are directed to file another joint status report on or before February 7, 2022. Signed by Judge Florence Y. Pan on 11/22/2021. (lcswh) (Entered: 11/22/2021)  |
| 11/23/2021 |           | Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Status Report due by 2/7/2022. (zacr) (Entered: 11/23/2021)  |
| 02/07/2022 | <u>25</u> | Joint STATUS REPORT by OFFICE OF DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. (Tepe, Sean) (Entered: 02/07/2022)  |
| 02/08/2022 |           | MINUTE ORDER. Upon consideration of the parties' <u>25</u> Joint Status Report, the parties are directed to file another joint status report on or before April 8, 2022. Signed by Judge Florence Y. Pan on 2/8/2022. (lcswh) (Entered: 02/08/2022)   |
| 02/08/2022 |           | Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Status Report due by 4/8/2022. (zacr) (Entered: 02/08/2022)  |
| 04/08/2022 | <u>26</u> | Joint STATUS REPORT by JUDICIAL WATCH, INC.. (Orfanedes, Paul) (Entered: 04/08/2022)  |
| 04/12/2022 |           | MINUTE ORDER. Upon consideration of the parties' <u>26</u> Joint Status Report, the parties are directed to file another joint status report on or before June 7, 2022. Signed by Judge Florence Y. Pan on 4/12/2022. (lcswh) (Entered: 04/12/2022)   |
| 04/12/2022 |           | Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Status Report due by 6/7/2022. (zacr) (Entered: 04/12/2022)  |
| 06/07/2022 | <u>27</u> | Joint STATUS REPORT by JUDICIAL WATCH, INC.. (Orfanedes, Paul) (Entered: 06/07/2022)  |
| 06/07/2022 |           | NOTICE OF ERROR re <u>27</u> Status Report; emailed to porfanedes@judicialwatch.org, cc'd 4 associated attorneys -- The PDF file you docketed contained errors: 1. <b>Please note the following for future filings; do not refile document</b> , 2. Counsel is directed to correct judges initials to FYB for future filings. (zjf, ) (Entered: 06/07/2022) |
| 06/07/2022 |           | MINUTE ORDER. Upon consideration of the parties' <u>27</u> Joint Status Report, the parties are directed to file another joint status report on or before August 12, 2022. Signed by Judge Florence Y. Pan on 6/7/2022. (lcswh) (Entered: 06/07/2022)   |

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| 06/07/2022 |           | Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Status Report due by 8/12/2022. (zacr) (Entered: 06/07/2022)  |
| 08/11/2022 | <u>28</u> | Joint STATUS REPORT by OFFICE OF DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. (Tepe, Sean) (Entered: 08/11/2022)   |
| 08/15/2022 |           | MINUTE ORDER. Upon consideration of the parties' <u>28</u> Joint Status Report, the parties are directed to file another joint status report on or before October 11, 2022. Signed by Judge Florence Y. Pan on 8/15/2022. (znl) (Entered: 08/15/2022)  |
| 08/15/2022 |           | Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Status Report due by 10/11/2022. (smc) (Entered: 08/15/2022)  |
| 09/23/2022 |           | Judge Florence Y. Pan has been elevated to serve on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit. She is therefore no longer assigned to this case, and this matter has been reassigned to the Calendar Committee, which will oversee it until it is assigned to another district judge. Any questions should be directed to Judge Pan's former deputy clerk, Samantha Calloway, at 202-354-3163 or samantha_calloway@dcd.uscourts.gov. (ztnr) (Entered: 09/23/2022) |
| 10/10/2022 | <u>29</u> | Joint STATUS REPORT by OFFICE OF DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. (Tepe, Sean) (Entered: 10/10/2022)   |
| 10/12/2022 |           | MINUTE ORDER. Upon consideration of the parties' <u>29</u> Joint Status Report, the parties are directed to file another joint status report on or before December 9, 2022. Signed by Chief Judge Beryl A. Howell on October 12, 2022. (lcbah3) (Entered: 10/12/2022)  |
| 10/12/2022 |           | Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Status Report due by 12/9/2022. (smc) (Entered: 10/12/2022)   |
| 12/09/2022 | <u>30</u> | Joint STATUS REPORT by OFFICE OF DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. (Tepe, Sean) (Entered: 12/09/2022)   |
| 02/07/2023 | <u>31</u> | Joint STATUS REPORT by JUDICIAL WATCH, INC.. (Orfanedes, Paul) (Entered: 02/07/2023)   |
| 02/08/2023 |           | MINUTE ORDER. Upon consideration of the parties' <u>31</u> Joint Status Report, the parties are directed to file another joint status report on or before May 8, 2023. Signed by Chief Judge Beryl A. Howell on February 8, 2023. (lcbah3) (Entered: 02/08/2023)   |
| 02/08/2023 |           | Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Status Report due by 5/8/2023. (zsmc) (Entered: 02/09/2023)   |
| 02/24/2023 |           | Case directly reassigned to District Judge Ana C. Reyes. Circuit Judge Florence Y Pan is no longer assigned to the case. (ztnr) (Entered: 02/24/2023)  |
| 05/08/2023 | <u>32</u> | Joint STATUS REPORT by OFFICE OF DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. (Tepe, Sean) (Entered: 05/08/2023)   |
| 05/10/2023 | <u>33</u> | NOTICE OF SUBSTITUTION OF COUNSEL by B. Kathryn Debrason on behalf of OFFICE OF DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE Substituting for attorney Sean M. Tepe (Debrason, B. Kathryn) (Entered: 05/10/2023)  |
| 08/07/2023 | <u>34</u> | Joint STATUS REPORT by JUDICIAL WATCH, INC.. (Orfanedes, Paul) (Entered: 08/07/2023)   |
| 11/06/2023 | <u>35</u> | NOTICE of Appearance by Tabitha Bartholomew on behalf of All Defendants (Bartholomew, Tabitha) (Entered: 11/06/2023)   |
| 11/06/2023 | <u>36</u> | STIPULATION of Dismissal by JUDICIAL WATCH, INC.. (Orfanedes, Paul) (Entered: 11/06/2023)  |