

**U.S. District Court  
 District of Columbia (Washington, DC)  
 CIVIL DOCKET FOR CASE #: 1:19-cv-01444-ACR**

FRYSHMAN v. UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
 Assigned to: Judge Ana C. Reyes  
 Cause: 05:552 Freedom of Information Act

Date Filed: 05/17/2019  
 Date Terminated: 01/09/2024  
 Jury Demand: None  
 Nature of Suit: 895 Freedom of Information Act  
 Jurisdiction: U.S. Government Defendant

**Plaintiff**

**BERNARD FRYSHMAN**

represented by **Gregory A. Beck**  
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*ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED*

V.

**Defendant**

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE**

represented by **Sean Michael Tepe**  
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*TERMINATED: 01/08/2024*  
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**Johnny Hillary Walker , III**  
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*TERMINATED: 11/11/2021*

| Date Filed | #        | Docket Text  |
|------------|----------|--|
| 05/17/2019 | <u>1</u> | COMPLAINT against DEPARTMENT OF STATE ( Filing fee \$ 400 receipt number 0090-6131899) filed by BERNARD FRYSHMAN. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Civil Cover Sheet, # <u>2</u> Summons)(Beck, Gregory) (Entered: 05/17/2019) |

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| 05/20/2019 |           | Case Assigned to Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson. (zef, ) (Entered: 05/20/2019)  |
| 05/20/2019 |           | SUMMONS Not Issued as to UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE. (zef, ) (Entered: 05/20/2019)  |
| 05/20/2019 | <u>2</u>  | REQUEST FOR SUMMONS TO ISSUE re <u>1</u> Complaint filed by BERNARD FRYSHMAN. Related document: <u>1</u> Complaint filed by BERNARD FRYSHMAN.(Beck, Gregory) (Entered: 05/20/2019)   |
| 05/21/2019 | <u>3</u>  | SUMMONS (1) Issued Electronically as to UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE. (jf) (Entered: 05/21/2019)  |
| 05/30/2019 | <u>4</u>  | NOTICE of Appearance by Johnny Hillary Walker, III on behalf of UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE (Walker, Johnny) (Entered: 05/30/2019)   |
| 06/28/2019 | <u>5</u>  | ANSWER to Complaint by UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE.(Walker, Johnny) (Entered: 06/28/2019)  |
| 07/02/2019 | <u>6</u>  | GENERAL ORDER AND GUIDELINES APPLICABLE TO FOIA CASES ASSIGNED TO JUDGE KETANJI BROWN JACKSON. The Court will hold the parties and counsel responsible for following these directives, and parties and counsel should pay particular attention to the Court's instructions for processing and production of records, batching motions, and filing exhibits. Failure to adhere to this Order may, when appropriate, result the imposition of sanctions and/or sua sponte denial of non-conforming motions. Signed by Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson on 7/2/2019. (lckbj1) (Entered: 07/02/2019)  |
| 07/02/2019 |           | MINUTE ORDER. Before the Court in this FOIA case are a complaint and an answer. It is hereby ORDERED that the parties shall review this Court's <u>6</u> General Order and Guidelines Applicable to FOIA Cases, and promptly confer and file a joint proposed schedule for disclosure or briefing motions for summary judgment, on or before 7/16/2019. Signed by Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson on 7/2/2019. (lckbj1) (Entered: 07/02/2019)  |
| 07/16/2019 | <u>7</u>  | Joint STATUS REPORT by UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE. (Walker, Johnny) . (Entered: 07/16/2019)   |
| 01/29/2020 |           | MINUTE ORDER. In the parties' July 16, 2019, joint status report, the parties informed the Court that they would file a joint status report 45 days after November 29, 2019, the expected date of completion of Defendant's releases. Therefore, such report should have been filed on or before January 13, 2020. That date having passed without receipt of a status report, it is hereby ORDERED that, on or before February 5, 2020, the parties shall file a joint status report which informs the Court of the status of the agency's processing and disclosure of records and proposes a schedule for further proceedings. Signed by Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson on 1/29/2020. (lckbj3, ) (Entered: 01/29/2020) |
| 01/29/2020 |           | Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint status report due by 2/5/2020 (zgd) (Entered: 02/03/2020)   |
| 02/05/2020 | <u>8</u>  | Joint STATUS REPORT by UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE. (Walker, Johnny) (Entered: 02/05/2020)   |
| 02/11/2020 |           | MINUTE ORDER. In light of the representations in the parties' <u>8</u> Joint Status Report, it is hereby ORDERED that, on or before 5/18/2020, the parties shall file a further joint status report, which shall include a proposed schedule for further proceedings if litigation is going to be necessary. Signed by Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson on 2/11/2020. (jag) (Entered: 02/11/2020)   |
| 05/13/2020 | <u>9</u>  | Joint STATUS REPORT by UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE. (Walker, Johnny) (Entered: 05/13/2020)   |
| 05/15/2020 |           | MINUTE ORDER. In light of the representations in the parties' <u>9</u> Joint Status Report, it is hereby ORDERED that, on or before 7/15/2020, the parties shall file a further joint status report, which shall include a proposed schedule for further proceedings if litigation is going to be necessary. Signed by Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson on 5/15/2020. (jag) (Entered: 05/15/2020)   |
| 07/14/2020 | <u>10</u> | Joint STATUS REPORT by UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE. (Walker, Johnny) (Entered: 07/14/2020)   |

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| 07/16/2020 |           | MINUTE ORDER. In light of the representations in the parties' <u>10</u> Joint Status Report, it is hereby ORDERED that, on or before 9/14/2020, the parties shall file a further joint status report, which shall include a proposed schedule for further proceedings if litigation is going to be necessary. Signed by Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson on 7/16/2020. (jag) (Entered: 07/16/2020)                             |
| 09/14/2020 | <u>11</u> | Joint STATUS REPORT by UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE. (Walker, Johnny) (Entered: 09/14/2020)  |
| 09/17/2020 |           | MINUTE ORDER. In light of the representations in the parties' <u>11</u> Joint Status Report, it is hereby ORDERED that, on or before 10/16/2020, the parties shall file a further joint status report, which shall include a proposed schedule for further proceedings if litigation is going to be necessary. Signed by Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson on 9/16/2020. (jag) (Entered: 09/17/2020)                            |
| 10/16/2020 | <u>12</u> | Joint STATUS REPORT by UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE. (Walker, Johnny) (Entered: 10/16/2020)  |
| 10/19/2020 |           | MINUTE ORDER. In light of the representations in the parties' <u>12</u> Joint Status Report, it is hereby ORDERED that, on or before 11/23/2020, the parties shall file a further joint status report, which shall include a proposed schedule for further proceedings if litigation is going to be necessary. Signed by Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson on 10/19/2020. (jag) (Entered: 10/19/2020)                           |
| 11/23/2020 | <u>13</u> | Joint STATUS REPORT by UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE. (Walker, Johnny) (Entered: 11/23/2020)  |
| 01/04/2021 | <u>14</u> | Joint STATUS REPORT by UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE. (Walker, Johnny) (Entered: 01/04/2021)  |
| 01/06/2021 |           | MINUTE ORDER. In light of the representations in the parties' <u>14</u> Joint Status Report, it is hereby ORDERED that, on or before 2/17/2021, the parties shall file a further joint status report, which shall include a proposed schedule for further proceedings if litigation is going to be necessary. Signed by Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson on 1/6/2021. (jag) (Entered: 01/06/2021)                              |
| 02/17/2021 | <u>15</u> | Joint STATUS REPORT by UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE. (Walker, Johnny) (Entered: 02/17/2021)  |
| 02/17/2021 |           | MINUTE ORDER. In light of the representations in the parties' <u>15</u> Joint Status Report, it is hereby ORDERED that, on or before 3/19/2021, the parties shall file a further joint status report, which shall include a proposed schedule for further proceedings if litigation is going to be necessary. Signed by Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson on 2/17/2021. (jag) (Entered: 02/17/2021)                             |
| 03/19/2021 | <u>16</u> | Joint STATUS REPORT by UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE. (Walker, Johnny) (Entered: 03/19/2021)  |
| 03/23/2021 |           | MINUTE ORDER. In light of the representations in the parties' <u>16</u> Joint Status Report, it is hereby ORDERED that on or before 4/19/2021, the parties shall file a further joint status report, which shall include a proposed schedule for further proceedings if litigation is going to be necessary. Signed by Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson on 3/23/2021. (jag) Modified on 3/25/2021 (zgd). (Entered: 03/23/2021) |
| 04/19/2021 | <u>17</u> | Joint STATUS REPORT by UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE. (Walker, Johnny) (Entered: 04/19/2021)  |
| 04/25/2021 |           | MINUTE ORDER. In light of the representations in the parties' <u>17</u> Joint Status Report, it is hereby ORDERED that, on or before 5/19/2021, the parties shall file a further joint status report, which shall include a proposed schedule for further proceedings if litigation is going to be necessary. Signed by Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson on 4/25/2021. (jag) (Entered: 04/25/2021)                             |
| 05/19/2021 | <u>18</u> | Joint STATUS REPORT by UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE. (Walker, Johnny) (Entered: 05/19/2021)  |
| 06/09/2021 |           | MINUTE ORDER. In light of the representations in the parties' <u>18</u> Joint Status Report, it is hereby ORDERED that, on or before 7/19/2021, the parties shall file further joint status report, which shall contain a proposed schedule for further proceedings if  |

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|            |           | litigation is going to be necessary. Signed by Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson on 6/9/2021. (jag) (Entered: 06/09/2021)   |
| 06/28/2021 |           | Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson 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 Jackson's former deputy clerk, Gwendolyn Franklin, at 202-354-3145 or gwen_franklin@dcd.uscourts.gov. (rj) (Entered: 06/28/2021) |
| 07/19/2021 | <u>19</u> | Joint STATUS REPORT by UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE. (Walker, Johnny) (Entered: 07/19/2021)  |
| 07/20/2021 |           | MINUTE ORDER: Upon consideration of <u>19</u> the parties' Joint Status Report, it is hereby ORDERED that the parties shall file another joint status report on or before September 19, 2021, containing a suggested schedule for further proceedings. SO ORDERED. Signed by Judge Rudolph Contreras on 7/20/2021. (lcrc3) (Entered: 07/20/2021)  |
| 07/20/2021 |           | Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Status Report due by 9/19/2021. (zgdg) (Entered: 07/20/2021)   |
| 09/17/2021 | <u>20</u> | Joint STATUS REPORT by UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE. (Walker, Johnny) (Entered: 09/17/2021)  |
| 09/19/2021 |           | MINUTE ORDER: Upon consideration of <u>20</u> the parties' Joint Status Report, it is hereby ORDERED that the parties shall file another joint status report on or before November 19, 2021, with a suggested schedule for further proceedings. SO ORDERED. Signed by Judge Rudolph Contreras on 9/19/2021. (lcrc3) (Entered: 09/19/2021)   |
| 09/20/2021 |           | Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Status Report due by 11/19/2021. (adh) (Entered: 09/20/2021)   |
| 10/01/2021 |           | Case directly reassigned to Judge Florence Y. Pan. Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson has been appointed to the D.C. Circuit and is no longer assigned to the case. (ztnr) (Entered: 10/01/2021)   |
| 11/11/2021 | <u>21</u> | NOTICE OF SUBSTITUTION OF COUNSEL by Sean Michael Tepe on behalf of UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE Substituting for attorney Johnny Walker (Tepe, Sean) (Entered: 11/11/2021)  |
| 11/19/2021 | <u>22</u> | Joint STATUS REPORT by UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE. (Tepe, Sean) (Entered: 11/19/2021)  |
| 11/23/2021 |           | MINUTE ORDER. Upon consideration of the parties' <u>22</u> Joint Status Report, the parties are directed to file another joint status report on or before January 20, 2022. Signed by Judge Florence Y. Pan on 11/23/21. (lcaa) (Entered: 11/23/2021)   |
| 11/23/2021 |           | Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Status Report due by 1/20/2022. (zacr) (Entered: 11/23/2021)   |
| 01/20/2022 | <u>23</u> | Joint STATUS REPORT by BERNARD FRYSHMAN. (Beck, Gregory) (Entered: 01/20/2022)  |
| 01/20/2022 |           | MINUTE ORDER. Upon consideration of the parties' <u>23</u> Joint Status Report, the parties are directed to file another joint status report on or before March 21, 2022. Signed by Judge Florence Y. Pan on 1/20/22. (lcaa) (Entered: 01/20/2022)  |
| 01/20/2022 |           | Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Status Report due by 3/21/2022. (zacr) (Entered: 01/21/2022)   |
| 03/21/2022 | <u>24</u> | Joint STATUS REPORT by UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE. (Tepe, Sean) (Entered: 03/21/2022)  |
| 03/21/2022 |           | 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 May 20, 2022. Signed by Judge Florence Y. Pan on 3/21/22. (lcaa) (Entered: 03/21/2022)  |

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| 03/21/2022 |           | Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Status Report due by 5/20/2022. (zacr) (Entered: 03/21/2022)  |
| 05/20/2022 | <u>25</u> | Joint STATUS REPORT by UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE. (Tepe, Sean) (Entered: 05/20/2022)   |
| 05/20/2022 |           | 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 July 19, 2022. Signed by Judge Florence Y. Pan on 5/20/2022. (lclrl) (Entered: 05/20/2022)   |
| 05/20/2022 |           | Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Status Report due by 7/19/2022. (zacr) (Entered: 05/20/2022)  |
| 07/19/2022 | <u>26</u> | Joint STATUS REPORT by UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE. (Tepe, Sean) (Entered: 07/19/2022)   |
| 07/19/2022 |           | MINUTE ORDER. Upon consideration of the parties' <u>26</u> Joint Status Report, the parties are directed to file another status report on or before October 17, 2022, and every 90 days thereafter. Signed by Judge Florence Y. Pan on 7/19/22. (lcaa) (Entered: 07/19/2022)   |
| 07/19/2022 |           | Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Status Report due by 10/17/2022. (smc) (Entered: 07/19/2022)  |
| 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)   |
| 10/17/2022 | <u>27</u> | Joint STATUS REPORT by UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE. (Tepe, Sean) (Entered: 10/17/2022)   |
| 01/13/2023 | <u>28</u> | Joint STATUS REPORT by UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE. (Tepe, Sean) (Entered: 01/13/2023)   |
| 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)  |
| 04/13/2023 | <u>29</u> | Joint STATUS REPORT by UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE. (Tepe, Sean) (Entered: 04/13/2023)   |
| 07/12/2023 | <u>30</u> | Joint STATUS REPORT by UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE. (Tepe, Sean) (Entered: 07/12/2023)   |
| 10/10/2023 | <u>31</u> | Joint STATUS REPORT by UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE. (Tepe, Sean) (Entered: 10/10/2023)   |
| 01/08/2024 | <u>32</u> | NOTICE of Voluntary Dismissal by BERNARD FRYSHMAN (Beck, Gregory) (Entered: 01/08/2024)  |
| 01/08/2024 |           | MINUTE ORDER: Upon consideration of Plaintiff's <u>32</u> Notice of Dismissal, which the Court construes as a motion for dismissal pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 41(a)(1)(2), and Defendant's representation that it consents to dismissal, it is hereby ORDERED that the <u>32</u> Motion is GRANTED. Accordingly, it is further ORDERED that this case is DISMISSED without prejudice. The Clerk of Court is directed to close this case. Signed by Judge Ana C. Reyes on 1/8/2024. (lcsj) (Entered: 01/08/2024) |
| 01/08/2024 | <u>33</u> | NOTICE OF SUBSTITUTION OF COUNSEL by Tabitha Bartholomew on behalf of UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE Substituting for attorney Sean Tepe (Bartholomew, Tabitha) (Entered: 01/08/2024)   |