U.S. District Court District of Columbia (Washington, DC) CIVIL DOCKET FOR CASE #: 1:21-cv-01614-APM

WHISTLEBLOWER AID v. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE Assigned to: Judge Amit P. Mehta Cause: 05:552 Freedom of Information Act Date Filed: 06/14/2021 Date Terminated: 09/26/2023 Jury Demand: None Nature of Suit: 895 Freedom of Information Act Jurisdiction: U.S. Government Defendant

<u>Plaintiff</u>

WHISTLEBLOWER AID

represented by Bradley Prescott Moss

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V.

Defendant

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

represented by Alexander Schreiber

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Date Filed	#	Docket Text
06/14/2021		COMPLAINT against WHISTLEBLOWER AID (Filing fee \$ 402 receipt number ADCDC-8527185) filed by WHISTLEBLOWER AID. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Civil Cover Sheet Civil Cover Sheet, # <u>2</u> Summons Summons – DOJ, # <u>3</u> Summons Summons – AG, # <u>4</u> Summons Summons – USAO DC, # <u>5</u> Rule 7.1 Disclosure Statement)(Zaid,

		Mark) (Entered: 06/14/2021)
06/15/2021		Case Assigned to Judge Amit P. Mehta. (adh,) (Entered: 06/15/2021)
06/15/2021	2	LCvR 26.1 CERTIFICATE OF DISCLOSURE of Corporate Affiliations and Financial Interests by WHISTLEBLOWER AID (adh,) (Entered: 06/15/2021)
06/15/2021	<u>3</u>	SUMMONS (3) Issued Electronically as to DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, U.S. Attorney and U.S. Attorney General (Attachment: # <u>1</u> Notice and Consent)(adh,) (Entered: 06/15/2021)
07/14/2021	<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 7/6/2021. Answer due for ALL FEDERAL DEFENDANTS by 8/5/2021. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Exhibit 1 – Proof of Service)(Zaid, Mark) (Entered: 07/14/2021)
07/14/2021	<u>5</u>	NOTICE of Appearance by Bradley Prescott Moss on behalf of WHISTLEBLOWER AID (Moss, Bradley) (Entered: 07/14/2021)
07/14/2021	6	RETURN OF SERVICE/AFFIDAVIT of Summons and Complaint Executed. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE served on 6/25/2021, RETURN OF SERVICE/AFFIDAVIT of Summons and Complaint Executed on United States Attorney General. Date of Service Upon United States Attorney General 6/25/2021. (View Docket Entry <u>4</u> to view document). (eg) (Entered: 07/14/2021)
07/29/2021	7	NOTICE of Appearance by Sian Jones on behalf of All Defendants (Jones, Sian) (Entered: 07/29/2021)
08/03/2021	<u>8</u>	Consent MOTION for Extension of Time to <i>Respond to Complaint</i> by DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Text of Proposed Order)(Jones, Sian) (Entered: 08/03/2021)
08/03/2021		MINUTE ORDER granting <u>8</u> Motion for Extension of Time. Defendant shall file its Answer or otherwise respond no later than September 7, 2021. Signed by Judge Amit P. Mehta on 8/3/2021. (lcapm3) (Entered: 08/03/2021)
09/07/2021	<u>9</u>	ANSWER to Complaint by DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE.(Jones, Sian) (Entered: 09/07/2021)
09/07/2021	<u>10</u>	ORDER. Both a Complaint and an Answer are now before the court in this FOIA case. It is hereby ordered that the parties shall meet and confer and file a Joint Status Report on or before September 21, 2021. The Joint Status Report shall include (1) the status of Plaintiff's FOIA request; (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); and (5) whether the parties anticipate summary judgment briefing and, if so, a proposed briefing schedule. Please see the attached document for more information. Signed by Judge Amit P. Mehta on 09/07/2021. (lcapm3) (Entered: 09/07/2021)
09/21/2021	<u>11</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. (Jones, Sian) (Entered: 09/21/2021)
09/22/2021		MINUTE ORDER. The parties shall file an additional Joint Status Report by November 22, 2021, which updates the court on the processing and production of responsive records. Signed by Judge Amit P. Mehta on 09/22/2021. (lcapm3) (Entered: 09/22/2021)
11/22/2021	<u>12</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. (Jones, Sian) (Entered: 11/22/2021)
11/22/2021		MINUTE ORDER. The parties shall file an additional Joint Status Report by December 22, 2021, which proposes a schedule for further proceedings, if necessary. Signed by Judge Amit P. Mehta on 11/22/2021. (lcapm3) (Entered: 11/22/2021)
12/22/2021	<u>13</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. (Jones, Sian) (Entered: 12/22/2021)

12/23/2021		MINUTE ORDER. The parties shall file an additional Joint Status Report by January 21, 2022, which proposes a schedule for further proceedings, if necessary. Signed by Judge Amit P. Mehta on 12/23/2021. (lcapm3) (Entered: 12/23/2021)
01/21/2022	<u>14</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. (Jones, Sian) (Entered: 01/21/2022)
01/21/2022	<u>15</u>	DECLARATION <i>in support of Joint Status Report</i> by DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE re <u>14</u> Status Report filed by DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. (Jones, Sian) (Entered: 01/21/2022)
01/24/2022		MINUTE ORDER. The parties shall file an additional Joint Status Report by February 22, 2022, which proposes a schedule for further proceedings, if necessary. During that time, Defendant shall make good faith efforts to expeditiously process and produce any responsive information. Signed by Judge Amit P. Mehta on 01/24/2022. (lcapm3) (Entered: 01/24/2022)
02/22/2022	<u>16</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. (Jones, Sian) (Entered: 02/22/2022)
02/23/2022		MINUTE ORDER. The parties shall file an additional Joint Status Report by March 29, 2022, which updates the court on the processing and production of the responsive record. The court declines to enter a briefing schedule because it is speculative, at this juncture, whether there will be any withholdings once the review process is completed. Further, it is not clear to the court why Defendant is withholding the identities of the "Other Government Agencies" that must be consulted. Defendant shall explain by March 8, 2022, why it is withholding the names of those agencies. Signed by Judge Amit P. Mehta on 02/22/2022. (lcapm3) (Entered: 02/23/2022)
03/08/2022	<u>17</u>	RESPONSE TO ORDER OF THE COURT re Minute Order by DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE (Jones, Sian) Modified event title and link on 3/10/2022 (znmw). (Entered: 03/08/2022)
03/29/2022	<u>18</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. (Jones, Sian) (Entered: 03/29/2022)
03/30/2022		NOTICE of Hearing: Status Conference set for 4/6/2022 at 4:00 PM via videoconference before Judge Amit P. Mehta. Members of the public may access the hearing by dialing the court's toll–free public access line: (877) 848–7030, access code 321–8747.(zjd) (Entered: 03/30/2022)
04/06/2022		Minute Entry for proceedings held before Judge Amit P. Mehta: Status Conference held via videoconference on 4/6/2022. A further status conference is set for 5/5/2022 at 10:00 AM via videoconference before Judge Amit P. Mehta. Members of the public may access the hearing by dialing the court's toll–free public access line: (877) 848–7030, access code 321–8747. (Court Reporter: William Zaremba.) (zjd) (Entered: 04/18/2022)
05/05/2022		Minute Entry for proceedings held before Judge Amit P. Mehta: Status Conference held via videoconference on 5/5/2022. Status Conference set for 6/9/2022 at 11:30 AM via videoconference before Judge Amit P. Mehta. Members of the public may access the hearing by dialing the court's toll–free public access line: (877) 848–7030, access code 321–8747. (Court Reporter: William Zaremba) (zjd) (Entered: 05/05/2022)
06/09/2022		Minute Entry for proceedings held before Judge Amit P. Mehta: Status Conference held via videoconference on 6/9/2022. Government's Production due by 7/15/2022. Status Conference set for 7/29/2022 at 2:00 PM via videoconference before Judge Amit P. Mehta. Members of the public may access the hearing by dialing the court's toll–free public access line: (877) 848–7030, access code 321–8747. (Court Reporter: William Zaremba) (zjd) (Entered: 06/09/2022)
07/27/2022	<u>19</u>	Consent MOTION to Vacate <i>Hearing</i> by DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Text of Proposed Order)(Jones, Sian) (Entered: 07/27/2022)
07/28/2022	<u>20</u>	ORDER granting <u>19</u> Consent Motion to Vacate Hearing. The Parties shall file a Joint Status Report on or before August 1, 2022. See attached Order for details. Signed by Judge Amit P. Mehta on 07/28/2022. (lcapm2) (Entered: 07/28/2022)

08/01/2022	<u>21</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Exhibit)(Jones, Sian) (Entered: 08/01/2022)
08/04/2022	<u>22</u>	STATUS REPORT (<i>Corrected</i>) by DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. (Jones, Sian) (Entered: 08/04/2022)
08/05/2022		MINUTE ORDER entering a summary judgment briefing schedule. Defendant's motion for summary judgment shall be due on or before October 5, 2022; Plaintiff's opposition shall be due on or before November 4, 2022; and Defendant's reply shall be due on or before November 30, 2022. Signed by Judge Amit P. Mehta on 08/05/2022. (lcapm3) (Entered: 08/05/2022)
10/05/2022	<u>23</u>	MOTION for Summary Judgment by US DEPT OF JUSTICE. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Memorandum in Support, # <u>2</u> Statement of Facts, # <u>3</u> Declaration, # <u>4</u> Exhibit, # <u>5</u> Text of Proposed Order)(Jones, Sian) (Entered: 10/05/2022)
10/05/2022	<u>24</u>	NOTICE <i>of Lodging of Classified Material</i> by US DEPT OF JUSTICE (Jones, Sian) (Entered: 10/05/2022)
11/02/2022	<u>25</u>	Consent MOTION for Extension of Time to File Response/Reply <i>to Defendant's</i> <i>Motion for Summary Judgment</i> by WHISTLEBLOWER AID. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Text of Proposed Order)(Moss, Bradley) (Entered: 11/02/2022)
11/04/2022		MINUTE ORDER granting <u>25</u> Consent Motion for Extension of Time to File Response/Reply to Defendant's <u>23</u> Motion for Summary Judgment. Plaintiff's deadline to file its response is extended to December 5, 2022. Defendant's deadline to file its reply is extended to January 17, 2023. Signed by Judge Amit P. Mehta on 11/4/2022. (lcapm3) (Entered: 11/04/2022)
12/05/2022	<u>26</u>	Memorandum in opposition to re <u>23</u> Motion for Summary Judgment filed by WHISTLEBLOWER AID. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Statement of Facts Response, # <u>2</u> Text of Proposed Order)(Moss, Bradley) (Entered: 12/05/2022)
12/06/2022		NOTICE OF ERROR re <u>26</u> Memorandum in Opposition; emailed to brad@markzaid.com, cc'd 4 associated attorneys — The PDF file you docketed contained errors: 1. Please note the following for future filings; do not refile document , 2. DO NOT REFILE. Counsel is reminded that log in and password should match signature page. (zjm,) (Entered: 12/06/2022)
01/10/2023	<u>27</u>	Consent MOTION for Extension of Time to <i>File</i> by US DEPT OF JUSTICE. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Text of Proposed Order)(Jones, Sian) (Entered: 01/10/2023)
01/11/2023		MINUTE ORDER granting <u>27</u> Motion for Extension of Time. Defendant shall file its Reply in support of its Motion for Summary Judgment on or before January 24, 2023. Signed by Judge Amit P. Mehta on 01/11/2023. (lcapm3) (Entered: 01/11/2023)
01/24/2023	<u>28</u>	REPLY to opposition to motion re <u>23</u> MOTION for Summary Judgment filed by US DEPT OF JUSTICE. (Jones, Sian) (Entered: 01/24/2023)
08/31/2023	<u>29</u>	NOTICE of Appearance by Alexander Schreiber on behalf of All Defendants (Schreiber, Alexander) (Entered: 08/31/2023)
09/26/2023	<u>30</u>	MEMORANDUM OPINION re: <u>23</u> Defendant's Motion for Summary Judgment. Please see the attached Memorandum Opinion for additional details. Signed by Judge Amit P. Mehta on 09/26/2023. (lcapm2) (Entered: 09/26/2023)
09/26/2023	<u>31</u>	ORDER: For the reasons set forth in the court's Memorandum Opinion, ECF No. 30, the court grants Defendant's Motion for Summary Judgment, ECF No. 23, and enters judgment in favor of Defendant. Please see the attached Order for further details. Signed by Judge Amit P. Mehta on 09/26/2023. (lcapm2) (Entered: 09/26/2023)
02/14/2024	<u>32</u>	STIPULATION of Dismissal by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. (Schreiber, Alexander) (Entered: 02/14/2024)