

**U.S. District Court  
District of Columbia (Washington, DC)  
CIVIL DOCKET FOR CASE #: 1:23-cv-02225-DLF**

CATO INSTITUTE v. FEDERAL BUREAU OF  
INVESTIGATION et al  
Assigned to: Judge Dabney L. Friedrich  
Cause: 05:552 Freedom of Information Act

Date Filed: 08/01/2023  
Jury Demand: None  
Nature of Suit: 895 Freedom of  
Information Act  
Jurisdiction: U.S. Government Defendant

**Plaintiff****CATO INSTITUTE**

represented by **Merrick Jason Wayne**  
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*ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED*

**Matthew Topic**  
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V.

**Defendant****FEDERAL BUREAU OF  
INVESTIGATION**

represented by **Sam Escher**  
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601 D Street NW  
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*LEAD ATTORNEY*  
*ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED*

**Defendant****U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE**

represented by **Sam Escher**  
(See above for address)  
*LEAD ATTORNEY*  
*ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED*

Date Filed	#	Docket Text
08/01/2023	<u>1</u>	COMPLAINT against FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE ( Filing fee \$ 402 receipt number ADCDC-10246979) filed by CATO INSTITUTE. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Exhibit 1-2, # <u>2</u> Civil Cover Sheet, # <u>3</u> Summons)(Topic, Matthew) (Entered: 08/01/2023)
08/01/2023	<u>2</u>	NOTICE of Appearance by Matthew Topic on behalf of CATO INSTITUTE (Topic, Matthew) (Entered: 08/01/2023)

08/02/2023		Case Assigned to Judge Dabney L. Friedrich. (zljn) (Entered: 08/02/2023)
08/02/2023	<u>3</u>	SUMMONS (4) Issued Electronically as to All Defendants, U.S. Attorney and U.S. Attorney General (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Notice and Consent)(zljn) (Main Document 3 replaced on 8/2/2023) (zljn). (Entered: 08/02/2023)
08/02/2023	<u>4</u>	STANDARD ORDER for civil cases. See text for details. Signed by Judge Dabney L. Friedrich on August 2, 2023. (lcldf2) (Entered: 08/02/2023)
08/31/2023	<u>5</u>	Consent MOTION for Extension of Time to <i>Respond to Complaint</i> by FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Text of Proposed Order)(Escher, Sam) (Entered: 08/31/2023)
08/31/2023		MINUTE ORDER granting the defendant's <u>5</u> Consent Motion for Extension of Time. The defendant shall answer or otherwise respond to the complaint on or before October 5, 2023. So Ordered by Judge Dabney L. Friedrich on August 31, 2023. (lcldf2) (Entered: 08/31/2023)
08/31/2023		Set/Reset Deadlines: Answer due by 10/5/2023, (zjch, ) (Entered: 09/01/2023)
10/05/2023	<u>6</u>	ANSWER to Complaint by FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE.(Escher, Sam) (Entered: 10/05/2023)
10/06/2023		MINUTE ORDER requiring the parties to MEET AND CONFER and file a Meet and Confer report proposing a schedule for further proceedings. The report should address the status of the plaintiff's FOIA request, including the anticipated number of documents responsive to the request and the anticipated date(s) for release of the requested documents. The parties shall file the Meet and Confer report on or before November 4, 2023. So Ordered by Judge Dabney L. Friedrich on October 6, 2023. (lcldf2) (Entered: 10/06/2023)
10/06/2023		Set/Reset Deadlines: Meet & Confer Statement due by 11/4/2023. (zjch, ) (Entered: 10/06/2023)
11/03/2023	<u>7</u>	MEET AND CONFER STATEMENT. (Escher, Sam) (Entered: 11/03/2023)
11/03/2023		MINUTE ORDER. Upon consideration of the parties' <u>7</u> Joint Meet and Confer Statement, the parties are directed to file a joint status report on or before January 10, 2024. So Ordered by Judge Dabney L. Friedrich on November 3, 2023. (lcldf2) (Entered: 11/03/2023)
11/06/2023	<u>8</u>	RETURN OF SERVICE/AFFIDAVIT of Summons and Complaint Executed. U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE served on 8/14/2023 (Topic, Matthew) (Entered: 11/06/2023)
11/06/2023	<u>9</u>	RETURN OF SERVICE/AFFIDAVIT of Summons and Complaint Executed. FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION served on 8/14/2023 (Topic, Matthew) (Entered: 11/06/2023)
11/06/2023	<u>10</u>	RETURN OF SERVICE/AFFIDAVIT of Summons and Complaint Executed on United States Attorney General. Date of Service Upon United States Attorney General 08/17/2023. (Topic, Matthew) (Entered: 11/06/2023)
11/06/2023	<u>11</u>	RETURN OF SERVICE/AFFIDAVIT of Summons and Complaint Executed as to the United States Attorney. Date of Service Upon United States Attorney on 8/3/2023. Answer due for ALL FEDERAL DEFENDANTS by 9/2/2023. (Topic, Matthew) (Entered: 11/06/2023)
11/06/2023	<u>12</u>	NOTICE of Appearance by Merrick Jason Wayne on behalf of CATO INSTITUTE (Wayne, Merrick) (Entered: 11/06/2023)
01/08/2024	<u>13</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. (Escher, Sam) (Entered: 01/08/2024)
01/08/2024		MINUTE ORDER. Upon consideration of the parties' <u>13</u> Joint Status Report, the parties are directed to file another joint status report on or before March 20, 2024. So Ordered by Judge Dabney L. Friedrich on January 8, 2024. (lcldf2) (Entered: 01/08/2024)

03/20/2024	<u>14</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. (Escher, Sam) (Entered: 03/20/2024)
03/20/2024		MINUTE ORDER. Upon consideration of the parties' <u>14</u> Joint Status Report, the parties are directed to file another joint status report on or before May 21, 2024. So Ordered by Judge Dabney L. Friedrich on March 20, 2024. (lcldf2) (Entered: 03/20/2024)
05/21/2024	<u>15</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. (Escher, Sam) (Entered: 05/21/2024)
05/21/2024		MINUTE ORDER. Upon consideration of the parties' <u>15</u> Joint Status Report, the parties are directed to file another joint status report on or before July 23, 2024. So Ordered by Judge Dabney L. Friedrich on May 21, 2024. (lcldf2) (Entered: 05/21/2024)