

**U.S. District Court  
District of Columbia (Washington, DC)  
CIVIL DOCKET FOR CASE #: 1:24-cv-00754-RBW**

EMPOWER OVERSIGHT WHISTLEBLOWERS &  
RESEARCH v. U.S. SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE  
COMMISSION

Assigned to: Judge Reggie B. Walton  
Cause: 05:552 Freedom of Information Act

Date Filed: 03/15/2024  
Jury Demand: None  
Nature of Suit: 895 Freedom of  
Information Act  
Jurisdiction: U.S. Government Defendant

**Plaintiff**

**EMPOWER OVERSIGHT  
WHISTLEBLOWERS & RESEARCH**

represented by **Brian J. Field**  
SCHAERR JAFFE LLP  
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*ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED*

V.

**Defendant**

**U.S. SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE  
COMMISSION**

represented by **Mary Alexandra Verdi**  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE  
COMMISSION  
100 F Street NE  
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*LEAD ATTORNEY*  
*ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED*

Date Filed	#	Docket Text
03/15/2024	<u>1</u>	COMPLAINT against U.S. SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION ( Filing fee \$ 405 receipt number ADCDC-10757110) filed by EMPOWER OVERSIGHT WHISTLEBLOWERS & RESEARCH. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Exhibit EO1: May 15, 2023 FOIA Request, # <u>2</u> Exhibit EO2: May 18, 2023 SEC Acknowledgment, # <u>3</u> Exhibit EO3: Aug. 3, 2023 SEC Letter, # <u>4</u> Exhibit EO4: Sept. 14, 2023 Empower Oversight Response, # <u>5</u> Exhibit EO5: Emails, # <u>6</u> Exhibit EO6: Feb. 29, 2024 SEC Letter, # <u>7</u> Civil Cover Sheet, # <u>8</u> Summons SEC, # <u>9</u> Summons US Attorney General, # <u>10</u> Summons US Attorney's Office for D.C.)(Field, Brian) (Entered: 03/15/2024)
03/15/2024	<u>2</u>	LCvR 26.1 CERTIFICATE OF DISCLOSURE of Corporate Affiliations and Financial Interests by EMPOWER OVERSIGHT WHISTLEBLOWERS & RESEARCH (Field, Brian) (Entered: 03/15/2024)
03/17/2024		Case Assigned to Judge Reggie B. Walton. (zcb) (Entered: 03/17/2024)
03/17/2024	<u>3</u>	SUMMONS (3) Issued Electronically as to U.S. SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION, U.S. Attorney and U.S. Attorney General (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Notice and Consent)(zcb) (Entered: 03/17/2024)
04/01/2024	<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 3/17/2024. Answer due for ALL FEDERAL DEFENDANTS by 4/16/2024. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Declaration of K. Robinson with Exhibits)(Field, Brian) (Entered: 04/01/2024)

04/01/2024	<u>5</u>	RETURN OF SERVICE/AFFIDAVIT of Summons and Complaint Executed. U.S. SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION served on 4/1/2024 (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Declaration of K. Robinson with Exhibits)(Field, Brian) (Entered: 04/01/2024)
04/01/2024	<u>6</u>	RETURN OF SERVICE/AFFIDAVIT of Summons and Complaint Executed on United States Attorney General. Date of Service Upon United States Attorney General 3/25/24. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Declaration of K. Robinson with Exhibits)(Field, Brian) (Entered: 04/01/2024)
04/01/2024	<u>7</u>	GENERAL ORDER FOR CIVIL CASES BEFORE THE HONORABLE REGGIE B. WALTON. Signed by Judge Reggie B. Walton on April 1, 2024. (lcrbw2) (Entered: 04/01/2024)
04/16/2024	<u>8</u>	ANSWER to Complaint by U.S. SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION.(Verdi, Mary) (Entered: 04/16/2024)
04/17/2024		MINUTE ORDER. To ensure the expeditious resolution of this action, and because this qualifies as an exempted case under Local Civil Rule 16.3(b), it is hereby ORDERED that, on or before May 15, 2024, the parties shall file a joint proposed briefing schedule governing further proceedings. Signed by Judge Reggie B. Walton on April 17, 2024. (lcrbw2) (Entered: 04/17/2024)
05/15/2024	<u>9</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by U.S. SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION. (Verdi, Mary) (Entered: 05/15/2024)
05/20/2024		MINUTE ORDER. Upon consideration of the parties' <u>9</u> Joint Status Report, and for good cause shown, it is hereby ORDERED that, on or before June 14, 2024, the parties shall submit a joint status report regarding how they wish to proceed in this case. Signed by Judge Reggie B. Walton on May 20, 2024. (lcrbw2) (Entered: 05/20/2024)
06/14/2024	<u>10</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by U.S. SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION. (Verdi, Mary) (Entered: 06/14/2024)
06/17/2024		MINUTE ORDER. Upon consideration of the parties' <u>10</u> Joint Status Report, and for good cause shown, it is hereby ORDERED that, on or before July 15, 2024, the parties shall submit a joint status report regarding how they wish to proceed in this case. Signed by Judge Reggie B. Walton on June 17, 2024. (lcrbw2) (Entered: 06/17/2024)
07/15/2024	<u>11</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by U.S. SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION. (Verdi, Mary) (Entered: 07/15/2024)
07/15/2024		MINUTE ORDER. Upon consideration of the parties' <u>11</u> Joint Status Report, and for good cause shown, it is hereby ORDERED that, on or before August 22, 2024, the parties shall submit a joint status report regarding how they wish to proceed in this case. Signed by Judge Reggie B. Walton on July 15, 2024. (lcrbw2) (Entered: 07/15/2024)
08/22/2024	<u>12</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by U.S. SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION. (Verdi, Mary) (Entered: 08/22/2024)
08/23/2024		MINUTE ORDER. Upon consideration of the parties' <u>12</u> Joint Status Report, and for good cause shown, it is hereby ORDERED that, on or before October 1, 2024, the parties shall submit a joint status report regarding how they wish to proceed in this case. Signed by Judge Reggie B. Walton on August 23, 2024. (lcrbw2) (Entered: 08/23/2024)