

FARA Correspondence - 107281 in Correspondence (ASSIGNED to: Sunday Flynn)

- Add WF Note
- Add Step Note
- Edit Open Date
- Send Info Copy
- Complete Step
- Reassign
- Release
- Print Summary
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- Attach Mail
- Attach File
- Audit Level(3)
- Delete
- Monitor
- Step Help

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Workflow Status OPEN Opened by (b) (6) on 7/6/2015 at 8:14 AM Assigned to (b) (6) Last Revised on 7/6/2015 at 8:39 AM

Due Step Due Priority Closed Codes

Remind

Comments LETTER SENT TO US REGARDING POSSIBLE FARA VIOLATION OF BREITBART NEWS NETWORK (BNN) AND STEPHEN BANNON

FARA Data Fields

Title LETTER SENT TO US REGARDING POSSIBLE FARA VIOLATION OF BREITBART

Description LETTER SENT TO US REGARDING POSSIBLE FARA VIOLATION OF BREITBART NEWS NETWORK (BNN) AND STEPHEN BANNON

Synopsis LETTER SENT TO US REGARDING POSSIBLE FARA VIOLATION OF BREITBART NEWS NETWORK (BNN) AND STEPHEN BANNON

Received Date Priority

Action Communication Type

Action Office Date of Communication

Workflow Notes

Correspondence - Started 07/09/2015 08:14 AM - Remind 08/31/2015 12:00 AM

(b) (6), 07/06/2015 08:39 AM Attached File - FARA_Violation_Breitbart_News_070215.pdf

(b) (6), 07/06/2015 08:39 AM Attached People Record - 7000734 (b) (6)

(b) (6), 07/06/2015 08:39 AM Due Date changed from 'Nothing' to '9/30/2015 12:00 AM'.

To:

RECEIVED
NSD/CES/REGISTRATION UNIT

2015 JUL -2 PM 2:21

(b) (6), (b) (7)

(C)

Department of Justice/National Security Division
(202) 233-2147

Dear (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

I want to notify you of a possible FARA violation on the part of the Breitbart News Network (BNN) and/or Stephen Bannon, Breitbart's executive chairman.

BNN is a for-profit company that operates out of a Capitol Hill house owned by a former Egyptian official, and member of an Egyptian political party, Moustafa El-Gindy (spellings differ).

This would be an extraordinarily expensive property to rent, and it is highly improbable that BNN is not benefiting from some substantial discount in its leasing costs; despite being organized as a "for profit," BNN like other publications organized as "for profits" is very unlikely to have any or substantial profit margins, or money to burn on renting this kind of swanky headquarters.

Simultaneously, BNN has been providing highly favorable coverage of El-Gindy, and publishing articles that advance his and his party's agenda.

It thus appears that BNN has been disseminating what FARA would regard as propaganda on behalf of a foreign principal for financial benefit, and not merely as a financially un-connected news source. It does not appear that BNN has registered with the DOJ in relation to this work. This looks like a FARA violation.

It also appears that Mr. El-Gindy has been given a platform from which to speak at the New America's Foundation, something that seems unlikely to have occurred without some sort of financial contribution having been made by El-Gindy. As I am sure you are aware, various Washington D.C. think-tanks accept contributions from foreign governments and simultaneously appear to advance their agendas. I am not sure whether this kind of thing in the absence of registration qualifies as a violation of FARA, but it does not seem to be in keeping with the spirit of the law.

Searches for details of BNN parties surrounding the annual Conservative Political Action Conference, BNN's own site, the New America's Foundation/Washington Note site, and property records should confirm the details provided herein.

I hope that the Department of Justice's National Security Division will investigate this appropriately.

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