

Exhibit F

The Washington Post

1301 K STREET, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20071-7403

(202) 334-6000

February 5, 2020

U.S. Secret Service
FOIA Officer
Communications Center
Fax: 202.406.5586
Email: FOIA@usss.dhs.gov

Re: EXPEDITED FOIA Request for U.S. Secret Service Washington Field Office expenditures at Trump International Hotel, Las Vegas

Dear Information Officer:

I am a representative of the Washington Post, a news media organization primarily engaged in the dissemination of information that is urgently needed to inform the public of actual or alleged Federal Government activity. **Because this request will show recent payments from the U.S. government to a sitting president's business – a government activity of immediate public interest -- it qualifies for expedited processing.** I certify that this information is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. (See *Al-Fayed v. C.I.A.*, 254 F.3d 300, 310 (D.C. Cir. 2001); *Bloomberg, L.P. v. U.S. Food & Drug Admin.*, 500 F.Supp.2d 371, 378 (S.D.N.Y. 2007).

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), I hereby request the following:

Any and all receipts, invoices or other records documenting payments by the Secret Service to the Trump International Hotel in Las Vegas, NV on the following dates.

- 1.) March 3, 2017 (Payment of \$5,240)
- 2.) March 17, 2017 (Payment of \$40,366)

The existence of these payments has already been acknowledged by the Secret Service in response to FOIA# 20171774, released to Property of the People late last year. I am attaching that FOIA return with this request. I am seeking additional documentation about these payments, of the kind already released by the Secret Service in regard to numerous payments made to the Mar-a-Lago Club (one example is shown on the USSS FOIA Library Webpage, FLORIDA_TRIPS_PART_2, pages 56-59, showing invoices and bills from the Mar-a-Lago club). The Secret Service has also released receipts and invoices about payments to Trump National, Bedminster, for example in response to FOIAs #20180081, #20172359, and #20172122,

showing invoices/bills from Trump Bedminster.) I have attached an example of those documents, as well. For the instances I listed above, I ask for the same kind of documentation that the Secret Service has already released in those previous cases.

If you regard these documents as potentially exempt from the FOIA's disclosure requirements, I request that you nonetheless exercise your discretion to disclose them. As the FOIA requires, **please release all segregable, non-exempt portions** of documents. To permit me to reach an intelligent and informed decision whether to file an administrative appeal of any denied material, please describe any withheld records (or portions thereof) and explain the basis for your exemption claims.

As required by the statute, please review whether there is any foreseeable harm from disclosing the requested records, or if any potential harm would be limited in comparison to the public interest in disclosure. As required by the statute, please release all such information, even if it technically may fall under a FOIA exemption.

As a representative of the news media, The Washington Post qualifies for **news media fee status** under 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(4)(A)(ii)(II) and, therefore, may not be charged search and review fees. (See *National Security Archive v. U.S. Department of Defense*, 880 F.2d 1381 (D.C. Cir. 1989), cert denied, 110 S Ct. 1478 (1990)). This request is made as part of a scholarly and news research project that is intended for publication and is not for commercial use. For details on the Post's news reporting activities please see our website at www.washingtonpost.com.

As you know, the FOIA prohibits agencies from charging news media organizations duplication fees if the agency does not meet its twenty working day time limit (thirty working days for "unusual" requests).

Additionally, because this information will be used by the Washington Post for the preparation of news articles that will be broadly disseminated to the general public, it will contribute significantly to public understanding of the operations or activities of the government and is not primarily in the Post's commercial interest. As such, please grant a **fee waiver** for any remaining fees incurred.

Please notify me before incurring any cost over \$100.

To expedite the release of the requested documents, please disclose them on an interim basis in **electronic format** as they become available to you, without waiting until all the documents have been processed. If you have any questions regarding my request, including its scope, please contact me at fahrenthold@washpost.com, or by phone at 202.334.7550.

Sincerely,

David Farenthold
Washington Post