U.S. District Court District of Columbia (Washington, DC) CIVIL DOCKET FOR CASE #: 1:19-cv-01090-TNM

VOTEVETS ACTION FUND v. U.S. DEPARTMENT OF

VETERANS AFFAIRS

Assigned to: Judge Trevor N. McFadden Cause: 05:552 Freedom of Information Act Date Filed: 04/18/2019 Date Terminated: 09/17/2020

Jury Demand: None

Nature of Suit: 895 Freedom of

Information Act

Jurisdiction: U.S. Government Defendant

Plaintiff

VOTEVETS ACTION FUND

represented by Aman Tewari George

DEMOCRACY FORWARD

FOUNDATION 1333 H Street, NW

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 $(202)\ 701-1783$

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LEAD ATTORNEY PRO HAC VICE

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Benjamin M. Seel

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TERMINATED: 12/06/2019

LEAD ATTORNEY

V.

Defendant

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

represented by **Daniel Patrick Schaefer**

U.S. ATTORNEY'S OFFICE FOR THE

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA 555 Fourth Street, NW Washington, DC 20530 (202) 252–2531

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LEAD ATTORNEY

ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED

Date Filed	#	Docket Text
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04/18/2019	<u>1</u>	COMPLAINT against U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS (Filing fee \$ 400 receipt number 0090–6067170) filed by VOTEVETS ACTION FUND. (Attachments: # 1 Civil Cover Sheet, # 2 Summons, # 3 Summons, # 4 Summons, # 5 Exhibit A, # 6 Exhibit B, # 7 Exhibit C, # 8 Exhibit D)(Guzman, Javier) (Entered: 04/18/2019)
04/18/2019	2	LCvR 26.1 CERTIFICATE OF DISCLOSURE of Corporate Affiliations and Financial Interests by VOTEVETS ACTION FUND (Guzman, Javier) (Entered: 04/18/2019)
04/18/2019	<u>3</u>	MOTION for Leave to Appear Pro Hac Vice :Attorney Name— Aman George, :Firm—Democracy Forward Foundation, :Address—P.O. Box 34553, Washington, D.C. 20043. Phone No. — 202—701—1783. Filing fee \$ 100, receipt number 0090—6067193. Fee Status: Fee Paid. by VOTEVETS ACTION FUND (Attachments: # 1 Declaration, # 2 Text of Proposed Order)(Guzman, Javier) (Entered: 04/18/2019)
04/19/2019		Case Assigned to Judge Trevor N. McFadden. (zef,) (Entered: 04/19/2019)
04/19/2019	4	SUMMONS (3) Issued Electronically as to U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS, U.S. Attorney and U.S. Attorney General. (Attachments: # 1 Notice and Consent)(zef,) (Entered: 04/19/2019)
04/19/2019		MINUTE ORDER granting the 3 Motion for Leave to Appear Pro Hac Vice. Attorney Aman George shall promptly register for this Court's CM/ECF system. Signed by Judge Trevor N. McFadden on 4/19/2019. (lctnm3) (Entered: 04/19/2019)
04/19/2019	<u>5</u>	STANDING ORDER establishing procedures for cases before Judge Trevor N. McFadden. The parties are directed to read and strictly comply with the attached order. Signed by Judge Trevor N. McFadden on 4/19/2019. (lctnm3) (Entered: 04/19/2019)
04/29/2019	<u>6</u>	RETURN OF SERVICE/AFFIDAVIT of Summons and Complaint Executed as to the United States Attorney. Date of Service Upon United States Attorney on 4/24/2019. (Answer due for ALL FEDERAL DEFENDANTS by 5/24/2019.), RETURN OF SERVICE/AFFIDAVIT of Summons and Complaint Executed on United States Attorney General. Date of Service Upon United States Attorney General 4/24/2019., RETURN OF SERVICE/AFFIDAVIT of Summons and Complaint Executed. U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS served on 4/23/2019 (Attachments: # 1 Declaration)(George, Aman) (Entered: 04/29/2019)
05/24/2019	7	NOTICE of Appearance by Daniel Patrick Schaefer on behalf of U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS (Schaefer, Daniel) (Entered: 05/24/2019)
05/24/2019	<u>8</u>	ANSWER to Complaint by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.(Schaefer, Daniel) (Entered: 05/24/2019)
05/24/2019		MINUTE ORDER. Before the Court are a complaint and an answer in this FOIA case. It is hereby ORDERED that the parties shall meet and confer and file a Joint Status Report proposing a schedule for proceeding in this matter. The schedule should address, among other things, the status of Plaintiff's FOIA request, the anticipated number of documents responsive to Plaintiff's FOIA request, the anticipated date(s) for release of the documents requested by Plaintiff, whether a motion for an <i>Open America</i> stay is likely in this case, whether a <i>Vaughn</i> index will be required in this case, and a briefing schedule for dispositive motions, if required. The parties shall file the schedule on or before June 24, 2019. Signed by Judge Trevor N. McFadden on 5/24/2019. (lctnm3) (Entered: 05/24/2019)
05/24/2019		Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Status Report due by 6/24/2019. (hmc) (Entered: 05/24/2019)
06/24/2019	9	Joint STATUS REPORT by VOTEVETS ACTION FUND. (George, Aman) (Entered: 06/24/2019)
06/24/2019		MINUTE ORDER: Upon consideration of the parties' 2 Joint Status Report, it is hereby ORDERED that a further update shall be filed on or before August 8, 2019. This report shall propose a schedule for further proceedings as necessary. Signed by Judge Trevor N. McFadden on 6/24/2019. (lctnm3) (Entered: 06/24/2019)
06/25/2019		Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Status Report due by 8/8/2019. (hmc) (Entered: 06/25/2019)

08/08/2019	<u>10</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS. (Attachments: # 1 Text of Proposed Order)(Schaefer, Daniel) (Entered: 08/08/2019)
08/09/2019		MINUTE ORDER: Upon consideration of the parties <u>10</u> Joint Status Report, it is hereby ORDERED that the parties shall file another Joint Status Report on or before October 7, 2019. This report shall include the status of Defendants processing of records and responses to Plaintiffs FOIA request, and shall propose a schedule for further proceedings as necessary. SO ORDERED. Signed by Judge Trevor N. McFadden on 8/9/2019. (lctnm3) (Entered: 08/09/2019)
08/09/2019		Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Status Report due by 10/7/2019. (tg) (Entered: 08/09/2019)
10/07/2019	<u>11</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS. (Attachments: # 1 Text of Proposed Order)(Schaefer, Daniel) (Entered: 10/07/2019)
10/08/2019		MINUTE ORDER. Upon consideration of the parties' 11 Joint Status Report, it is hereby ORDERED that the parties shall file another Joint Status Report on or before December 5, 2019. The report shall include the status of the Defendant's search results and a proposed schedule moving forward. SO ORDERED. Signed by Judge Trevor N. McFadden on 10/8/2019. (lctnm3) (Entered: 10/08/2019)
10/08/2019		Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Status Report due by 12/5/2019. (hmc) (Entered: 10/08/2019)
12/05/2019	<u>12</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS. (Attachments: # 1 Text of Proposed Order)(Schaefer, Daniel) (Entered: 12/05/2019)
12/06/2019	<u>13</u>	NOTICE OF WITHDRAWAL OF APPEARANCE as to VOTEVETS ACTION FUND. Attorney Javier M. Guzman terminated. (Guzman, Javier) (Entered: 12/06/2019)
12/06/2019		MINUTE ORDER. Upon consideration of the parties' Joint Status Report, it is hereby ORDERED that the parties shall file another Joint Status Report on or before March 4, 2020. The report shall update the Court regarding the status of Defendant's processing of records and responses to Plaintiff's FOIA request, and shall propose a schedule for further proceedings as necessary. SO ORDERED. Signed by Judge Trevor N. McFadden on 12/6/2019. (lctnm3) (Entered: 12/06/2019)
12/09/2019		Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Status Report due by 3/4/2020. (hmc) (Entered: 12/09/2019)
03/04/2020	<u>14</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS. (Attachments: # 1 Text of Proposed Order)(Schaefer, Daniel) (Entered: 03/04/2020)
03/04/2020		MINUTE ORDER. Upon consideration of the parties' <u>14</u> Joint Status Report, it is hereby ORDERED that the parties shall submit another Joint Status Report on or before June 2, 2020, which shall update the Court regarding the status of Defendant's processing and production, and shall propose a schedule for further proceedings as necessary. Signed by Judge Trevor N. McFadden on 3/4/2020. (lctnm3) (Entered: 03/04/2020)
03/04/2020		Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Status Report due by 6/2/2020. (hmc) (Entered: 03/04/2020)
06/02/2020	<u>15</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS. (Attachments: # 1 Text of Proposed Order)(Schaefer, Daniel) (Entered: 06/02/2020)
06/03/2020		MINUTE ORDER. Upon consideration of the parties' <u>15</u> Joint Status Report, it is hereby ORDERED that the parties shall submit another Joint Status Report on or before August 17, 2020, which shall update the Court regarding the status of Defendant's productions and any outstanding issues, and shall propose a schedule for further proceedings as necessary. Signed by Judge Trevor N. McFadden on 6/3/2020. (lctnm3) (Entered: 06/03/2020)
06/03/2020		Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Status Report due by 8/17/2020. (hmc) (Entered: 06/03/2020)
07/17/2020	<u>16</u>	NOTICE of Appearance by Benjamin M. Seel on behalf of VOTEVETS ACTION FUND (Seel, Benjamin) (Entered: 07/17/2020)

08/17/2020	<u>17</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS. (Graham–Oliver, Heather) (Entered: 08/17/2020)
08/18/2020		MINUTE ORDER. Upon consideration of the parties' <u>17</u> Joint Status Report, it is hereby ORDERED that the parties shall submit another Joint Status Report on or before September 17, 2020, which shall identify any outstanding issues and propose a schedule for further proceedings as necessary. SO ORDERED. Signed by Judge Trevor N. McFadden on 8/18/2020. (lctnm3) (Entered: 08/18/2020)
08/18/2020		Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Status Report due by 9/17/2020. (ztg) (Entered: 08/18/2020)
08/18/2020		NOTICE OF ERROR re 17 Status Report; emailed to heather.graham—oliver@usdoj.gov, cc'd 6 associated attorneys — The PDF file you docketed contained errors: 1. Invalid attorney signature, 2. FYI: DO NOT REFILE. Attorney signature must match login/password. (zeg,) (Entered: 08/18/2020)
09/17/2020	<u>18</u>	STIPULATION of Dismissal by VOTEVETS ACTION FUND. (George, Aman) (Entered: 09/17/2020)
09/17/2020		MINUTE ORDER. Pursuant to the parties' <u>18</u> Stipulation of Dismissal, this case is hereby DISMISSED with prejudice. <i>See</i> Fed. R. Civ. P. 41(a)(1)(A)(ii). Each party shall bear its own costs and fees. The Clerk of Court is directed to close the case. SO ORDERED. Signed by Judge Trevor N. McFadden on 9/17/2020. (lctnm3) (Entered: 09/17/2020)