



214 Massachusetts Avenue, NE
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(202) 546-4400
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SENT VIA: FOIA.resource@nrc.gov.

June 10, 2022

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Mail Stop TWFN-6 A60M
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Dear FOIA Officer,

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. § 552, and the implementing FOIA regulations of the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission, 10 CFR Part 9, I respectfully request the following records (or records containing the following information):

All communications and attachments from the individuals below within the Office of Public Affairs:

David Castelveter	Director	david.castelveter@nrc.gov
Holly Harrington	Senior Level Advisor	holly.harrington@nrc.gov
Valerie Shannon	Administrative Officer	valerie.shannon@nrc.gov
Scott Burnell	Public Affairs Officer	scott.burnell@nrc.gov
Ivonne Couret	Public Affairs Officer	ivonne.couret@nrc.gov
David McIntyre	Public Affairs Officer	david.mcintyre@nrc.gov

Using any of the following terms in the email or in the subject line:

- off the record
- off-the-record
- OTR
- not for attribution
- on background
- on-the-record
- on the record
- on deep background
- anonymous
- close hold
- close-hold
- not for release
- FOUO
- Sensitive
- Embargo



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- Embargoed

Please limit the search for this request from January 21, 2021, to June 10, 2022.

The term “record” means any written, recorded, or graphic matter of any nature whatsoever, regardless of how recorded, and whether original or copy, including, but not limited to, the following: memoranda, reports, expense reports, books, manuals, instructions, financial reports, working papers, records, notes, letters, notices, confirmations, telegrams, receipts, appraisals, pamphlets, magazines, newspapers, prospectuses, inter-office and intra-office communications, electronic mail (emails), MMS or SMS text messages, instant messages, messaging systems (such as iMessage, Microsoft Teams, WhatsApp, Telegram, Signal, Google Chat, Twitter direct messages, Lync, Slack, and Facebook Messenger), contracts, cables, telexes, notations of any type of conversation, telephone call, voicemail, meeting or other communication, bulletins, printed matter, computer printouts, teletypes, invoices, transcripts, diaries, analyses, returns, summaries, minutes, bills, accounts, estimates, projections, comparisons, messages, correspondence, press releases, circulars, financial statements, reviews, opinions, offers, studies and investigations, questionnaires and surveys, and work sheets (and all drafts, preliminary versions, alterations, modifications, revisions, changes, and amendments of any of the foregoing, as well as any attachments or appendices thereto), and graphic or oral records or representations of any kind (including without limitation, photographs, charts, graphs, microfiche, microfilm, videotape, recordings and motion pictures), and electronic, mechanical, and electronic records or representations of any kind (including, without limitation, tapes, cassettes, disks, and recordings) and other written, printed, typed, or other graphic or recorded matter of any kind or nature, however produced or reproduced, and whether preserved in writing, film, tape, disk, videotape or otherwise. A record bearing any notation not a part of the original text is to be considered a separate record. A draft or non-identical copy is a separate record within the meaning of this term.

The term “communication” means each manner or means of disclosure or exchange of information (in the form of facts, ideas, inquiries, or otherwise), regardless of means utilized, whether oral, electronic, by document or otherwise, and whether in an in-person meeting, by telephone, facsimile, e-mail (desktop or mobile device), MMS or SMS text message, instant messages, messaging systems (such as iMessage, Microsoft Teams, WhatsApp, Telegram, Signal, Google Chat, Twitter direct messages, Lync, Slack, and Facebook Messenger), regular mail, telexes, releases, or otherwise.

This request for records includes any attachments to those records or other materials enclosed with those records when they were previously transmitted. To the extent that an email is responsive to our request, our request includes all prior messages sent or received in that email chain, as well as any attachments to the email.

In the interest of expediency and to minimize the research and/or duplication burden on your staff,

please send records electronically if possible. If this is not possible, please notify me before sending to the mailing address listed below. If access to this request will take longer than seven (20) business days, please let me know when I might receive records or be able to inspect the requested records. Please produce responsive documents as soon as they become available. In all cases, please communicate with me at the below email address.

Please comply fully with 5 U.S.C. § 552 (b). Accordingly, without limitation to the foregoing, if any portion of this request is denied for any reason, please provide written notice of the records or portions of records that are being withheld and cite each specific exemption of the Freedom of Information Act on which the agency relies. Moreover, to the extent DHS believes that responsive records may be withheld in part produce all reasonably segregable portions of those records. Additionally, please provide all responsive documents even if they are redacted in full.

Fee Waiver Request

This request is primarily and fundamentally for non-commercial purposes. As a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, Heritage Foundation does not have a commercial purpose and the release of the information requested is not in Heritage Foundation's commercial interest. Heritage Foundation's mission is to formulate and promote public policies based on the principles of free enterprise, limited government, individual freedom, traditional American values, and a strong national defense. Heritage Foundation uses the information requested and analyzes it in order to educate the public through social media,¹ broadcast media² (traditional and nontraditional) and press releases.³ The requested information is in the public interest because it has been documented that a Biden Administration aide has provided newsworthy off-the-record remarks to a reporter⁴ and President Biden, himself, has held off-the-record meetings with reporters.⁵ The Biden Administration is even known to label newsworthy records "close hold" when they provide information to reporters.⁶

Because this is a request by a member of the news media for information of public interest, made in my capacity as an author for the Daily Signal⁵ (a major news outlet⁶), I actively gather

¹ Heritage Foundation. [@ Heritage] (Accessed: 2022, February 18). 626.8K Followers Twitter. <https://twitter.com/Heritage>

² Fox News. (Accessed: 2022, February 18). Heritage Foundation launches Conservative Oversight Project aimed at 'exposing' Biden admin, leftist policies. <https://www.foxnews.com/politics/heritage-conservative-oversight-project-biden-admin-leftist-policies>

³ Heritage Foundation. (2022, February 18). Press. <https://www.heritage.org/press> .

⁴ Vanity Fair. (Accessed: 2022, June 2). "I Will Destroy You": Biden Aide Threatened A Politico Reporter Pursuing A Story On His Relationship. <https://www.vanityfair.com/news/2021/02/i-will-destroy-you-biden-aide-threatened-a-politico-reporter-pursuing-a-story-on-his-relationship>

⁵ ABC 7. (Accessed: June 2, 2022) As White House tries to reach voters, Biden stays away from interviews. <https://katv.com/news/nation-world/as-white-house-tries-to-reach-voters-president-joe-biden-stays-away-from-interviews-midterms-democratic-party-congress-republicans-gop-election-politics>

⁶ Politico. (Accessed: 2022, June, 2). Biden moving to withdraw Trump-approved Medicaid work rules. <https://www.politico.com/news/2021/02/11/biden-withdraws-trump-medicaid-rules-468759>



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information of potential interest to our Daily Signal audience, and I use my editorial skills to turn raw materials into a distinct work, and I distribute that work to our Daily Signal audience through podcasts⁷ or articles. I request that you waive all applicable fees associated with this request.

If you deny this request for a fee waiver, please advise me in advance of the estimated charges if they are to exceed \$50. Please send me a detailed and itemized explanation of those charges.

Thank you in advance for considering my request. If you have any questions, or feel you need clarification of this request please contact me at oversightproject@heritage.org.

Sincerely,

Mike Howell
Senior Advisor and Author at The Daily Signal
The Heritage Foundation
214 Massachusetts Ave, NE
Washington, D.C. 20002