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**From:** Iverson, Dena (PAO)  
**Sent:** Monday, August 8, 2022 9:30 AM  
**To:** Polantz, Katelyn  
**Subject:** RE: Question re: ripped up Trump notes

Hi Katelyn,

The department declines to comment.

Best,  
Dena

Dena Iverson  
Principal Deputy Director, Office of Public Affairs  
U.S. Department of Justice  
(202)353-8763 - Office  
(b) (6) - Cell  
[Dena.iverson@usdoj.gov](mailto:Dena.iverson@usdoj.gov)

---

**From:** Polantz, Katelyn <katelyn.polantz@warnermedia.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 8, 2022 8:14 AM  
**To:** Iverson, Dena (PAO) <Dena.I.DeBonis@usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Question re: ripped up Trump notes

Hi Dena,

Was checking this morning following Maggie Haberman's reporting, on the photos of the ripped up Trump notes in the toilet. Would this potentially be part of the documents investigation spurred by Nara and the boxes found at Mar a Lago?

Any guidance you can provide would be appreciated

Thanks! I'm a (b) (6) (Evan's still out this week)

-Katelyn

--

Katelyn Polantz  
CNN

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**From:** Ryan Lizza <rlizza@politico.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 8, 2022 7:01 PM  
**To:** Coley, Anthony D. (PAO)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL]

What can you tell me about the Trump statement?

---

**From:** Jerry Dunleavy <jdunleavy@washingtone Examiner.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 8, 2022 7:02 PM  
**To:** Iverson, Dena (PAO); Hornbuckle, Wyn (PAO)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] FBI Raid of Mar-a-Lago

Can DOJ provide a comment on the FBI raid of Mar-a-Lago?

Thanks!

JD

--  
**Jerry Dunleavy**  
**Washington Examiner**  
**JDunleavy@WashingtonExaminer.com**  
**216-375-7101**

## Jeff Mordock

---

**From:** Jeff Mordock  
**Sent:** Monday, August 8, 2022 7:04 PM  
**To:** Iverson, Dena (PAO)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Media request -- Trump comment

Hey Dena,

Former President Trump says the FBI raided Mar-a-Lago today. Does the DOJ have a response/comment?

Thanks  
Jeff

--

Jeff Mordock  
White House Reporter  
The Washington Times  
3600 New York Avenue  
Washington, DC 20002

P (b) (6)

[jmordock@washingtontimes.com](mailto:jmordock@washingtontimes.com)

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**From:** Andrew Solender <andrew.solender@axios.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 8, 2022 7:07 PM  
**To:** Iverson, Dena (PAO)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Mar-a-Lago raid

Hi Dena,

Can you confirm that the FBI raided Mar-a-Lago today? Do you have a statement on this – and/or can you give me the email of an FBI PIO? Thank you.

--

**Andrew Solender**  
Congressional Reporter | Axios

[Andrew.Solender@axios.com](mailto:Andrew.Solender@axios.com)

(b) (6)

---

**From:** Polantz, Katelyn <katelyn.polantz@warnermedia.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 8, 2022 7:08 PM  
**To:** Iverson, Dena (PAO)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Urgent request for comment -Mar a Lago

Hi Dena ,would you have a comment on the apparent FBI raid at Mar-a-Lago today? We are now reporting it, according to the former president. Any guidance would be much appreciated. Could you say if this is part of an investigation related to the former president, his administration or campaign? Thank you,

Katelyn

--

Katelyn Polantz

CNN

Cell (b) (6)

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**From:** Balsamo, Mike <MBalsamo@ap.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 8, 2022 7:16 PM  
**To:** Iverson, Dena (PAO)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Mar-a-Lago

Hey there

Did the AG personally authorize the search at Mar-a-Lago?

Mike

**AP**

---

**Mike Balsamo**

Lead Justice & Law Enforcement Reporter  
The Associated Press  
1100 13th St NW, Suite 500  
Washington, DC 20005

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[mbalsamo@ap.org](mailto:mbalsamo@ap.org)

[ap.org](http://ap.org)

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---

**From:** Wyn.Hornbuckle@usdoj.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, August 8, 2022 7:17 PM  
**To:** Jerry Dunleavy  
**Cc:** Iverson, Dena (PAO)  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] FBI Raid of Mar-a-Lago

Jerry  
We'll decline to comment

Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 8, 2022, at 7:03 PM, Jerry Dunleavy <jdunleavy@washingtonexaminer.com> wrote:

Can DOJ provide a comment on the FBI raid of Mar-a-Lago?

Thanks!

JD

--

**Jerry Dunleavy**  
**Washington Examiner**  
**JDunleavy@WashingtonExaminer.com**  
**216-375-7101**



---

**From:** James Politi <james.politi@ft.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 8, 2022 7:17 PM  
**To:** Coley, Anthony D. (PAO)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] FBI raid on Mar-a-Lago

Hi Anthony, do you have any comment ?  
thanks ! James

--

James Politi  
Financial Times  
Washington bureau chief  
1667 K St NW Suite 825  
Washington DC 20006  
Tel: (b) (6)

Mobile: + (b) (6)  
Twitter: @jamespoliti

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**From:** Albert, Mark <Mark.Albert@hearst.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 8, 2022 7:17 PM  
**To:** Stueve, Joshua (PAO)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Trump statement?

Good evening, Josh:

Do you have any DOJ statement to Trump's release about FBI agents at Mar-a-Lago today? This might not be your area; just reaching out. We also reached out to FBI.

Thanks very much,

Mark

Mark Albert  
Chief National Investigative Correspondent  
Hearst Television  
[1100 13<sup>th</sup> St NW STE 950](#)  
[Washington, DC 20005](#)  
[\(202\) 216-4204](#) office  
[\(b\) \(6\)](#) cell  
[malbert@hearst.com](mailto:malbert@hearst.com)  
Twitter: [@malbertnews](#)

**Dena.I.DeBonis@usdoj.gov**

---

**From:** Dena.I.DeBonis@usdoj.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, August 8, 2022 7:19 PM  
**To:** Andrew Solender  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Mar-a-Lago raid

Hi Andrew,

The department declines to comment.

Best,  
Dena

Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 8, 2022, at 7:06 PM, Andrew Solender <andrew.solender@axios.com> wrote:

?

Hi Dena,

Can you confirm that the FBI raided Mar-a-Lago today? Do you have a statement on this – and/or can you give me the email of an FBI PIO? Thank you.

--

**Andrew Solender**  
Congressional Reporter | Axios

[Andrew.Solender@axios.com](mailto:Andrew.Solender@axios.com)

(b) (6)

---

**From:** Dena.I.DeBonis@usdoj.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, August 8, 2022 7:19 PM  
**To:** Polantz, Katelyn  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Urgent request for comment -Mar a Lago

Hi Katelyn,

The department declines to comment.

Best,  
Dena

Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 8, 2022, at 7:07 PM, Polantz, Katelyn <katelyn.polantz@warnermedia.com> wrote:

Hi Dena ,would you have a comment on the apparent FBI raid at Mar-a-Lago today? We are now reporting it, according to the former president. Any guidance would be much appreciated. Could you say if this is part of an investigation related to the former president, his administration or campaign? Thank you,  
Katelyn

--

Katelyn Polantz  
CNN  
Cell (b) (6)

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**From:** Dena.I.DeBonis@usdoj.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, August 8, 2022 7:21 PM  
**To:** Balsamo, Mike  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Mar-a-Lago

Hi Mike,

The department declines to comment.

Best,  
Dena

Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 8, 2022, at 7:16 PM, Balsamo, Mike <MBalsamo@ap.org> wrote:

Hey there

Did the AG personally authorize the search at Mar-a-Lago?

Mike

The logo for The Associated Press, consisting of the letters 'AP' in a bold, black, sans-serif font, with a red horizontal bar underneath.

**Mike Balsamo**

Lead Justice & Law Enforcement Reporter  
The Associated Press  
1100 13th St NW, Suite 500  
Washington, DC 20005

O (b) (6)

C (b) (6)

[mbalsamo@ap.org](mailto:mbalsamo@ap.org)

[ap.org](http://ap.org)

The logo for The Associated Press, featuring the text 'THE ASSOCIATED PRESS' in a bold, black, sans-serif font, with a red horizontal bar underneath.

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received this communication in error, please notify The Associated Press immediately by telephone at +1-212-621-1500 and delete this email. Thank you.

---

**From:** Andrew Solender <[andrew.solender@axios.com](mailto:andrew.solender@axios.com)>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 8, 2022 7:25 PM  
**To:** Iverson, Dena (PAO)  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Mar-a-Lago raid

Thanks!

On Mon, Aug 8, 2022 at 7:18 PM Iverson, Dena (PAO) <[Dena.I.DeBonis@usdoj.gov](mailto:Dena.I.DeBonis@usdoj.gov)> wrote:  
Hi Andrew,

The department declines to comment.

Best,  
Dena

Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 8, 2022, at 7:06 PM, Andrew Solender <[andrew.solender@axios.com](mailto:andrew.solender@axios.com)> wrote:

Hi Dena,

Can you confirm that the FBI raided Mar-a-Lago today? Do you have a statement on this – and/or can you give me the email of an FBI PIO? Thank you.

--

**Andrew Solender**  
Congressional Reporter | Axios  
[Andrew.Solender@axios.com](mailto:Andrew.Solender@axios.com)

(b) (6)

--

**Andrew Solender**  
Congressional Reporter | Axios  
[Andrew.Solender@axios.com](mailto:Andrew.Solender@axios.com)

(b) (6)

---

**From:** Ryan Lizza <rlizza@politico.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 8, 2022 7:31 PM  
**To:** Iverson, Dena (PAO)  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL]

Thank you for the quick reply. Is there a timeline for when there might be some official government response about this?

Happy to talk/email off the record if it's helpful.

Ryan

(b) (6)

---

**From:** Iverson, Dena (PAO) <Dena.I.DeBonis@usdoj.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 8, 2022 7:28:38 PM  
**To:** Ryan Lizza <rlizza@politico.com>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL]

**EXTERNAL SENDER:** Use caution with links and attachments.

Hi Ryan,

The department declines to comment.

Best,  
Dena

Dena Iverson  
Principal Deputy Director, Office of Public Affairs  
U.S. Department of Justice  
(202)353-8763 - Office  
(b) (6) - Cell  
[Dena.iverson@usdoj.gov](mailto:Dena.iverson@usdoj.gov)

---

**From:** Ryan Lizza <rlizza@politico.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 8, 2022 7:03 PM  
**To:** Iverson, Dena (PAO) <Dena.I.DeBonis@usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** Fwd: [EXTERNAL]

Hey there, what can you tell me about the Trump statement re Mar-A-Lago?

Ryan Lizza

(b) (6)



**From:** Coley, Anthony D. (PAO) (b) (6)  
**Sent:** Monday, August 8, 2022 7:01 PM  
**To:** Ryan Lizza <[rlizza@politico.com](mailto:rlizza@politico.com)>  
**Subject:** Automatic reply: [EXTERNAL]

EXTERNAL SENDER: Use caution with links and attachments.

Thanks for your email. I am out of the office until Mon., Aug. 15th and will be delayed in responding.

For immediate assistance, please contact Dena Iverson ([Dena.I.DeBonis@usdoj.gov](mailto:Dena.I.DeBonis@usdoj.gov)) or Wyn Hornbuckle ([Wyn.Hornbuckle@usdoj.gov](mailto:Wyn.Hornbuckle@usdoj.gov)).

---

**From:** Niels Lesniewski <niels@cqrollcall.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 8, 2022 7:32 PM  
**To:** Coley, Anthony D. (PAO)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Mar-a-lago

Been a while.

I'll assume no comment, but would like that officially on the Mar-a-Lago raid. Thanks

--

**Niels Lesniewski**

Chief Correspondent, White House & Congress

CQ & Roll Call

E: [niels@cqrollcall.com](mailto:niels@cqrollcall.com)

(b) (6)

[rollcall.com](http://rollcall.com) | [info.cq.com](http://info.cq.com) | [fiscalnote.com](http://fiscalnote.com)

---

**From:** Triay, Andres <TriayA@cbsnews.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 8, 2022 7:34 PM  
**To:** Iverson, Dena (PAO)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] any comment from the DOJ?

On Trump raid.?

Andres (Andy) Triay  
Senior Producer, CBS News  
Mobile + (b) (6)  
[triaya@cbsnews.com](mailto:triaya@cbsnews.com)  
@AndyTriay

---

**From:** CFG Media <chroniclemodels@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 8, 2022 7:38 PM  
**To:** USDOJ-OfficeofPublicAffairs; Navas, Nicole (PAO)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Reports FBI Raid

Good evening,

I hope that you are doing well. It is being reported by CNN that Donald Trump's Florida home was raided today. Is that true? If so, will this dept make a statement confirming the FBI raid on a former President of the United States, which is unprecedented. I am working with a tight deadline of 8:30pm.

Anthony Bynum  
CFG MEDIA

(b) (6)

## Triay, Andres

---

**From:** Triay, Andres  
**Sent:** Monday, August 8, 2022 7:40 PM  
**To:** Iverson, Dena (PAO)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: any comment from the DOJ?

Thanks Dena.

---

**From:** Iverson, Dena (PAO) <Dena.I.DeBonis@usdoj.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 8, 2022 7:39 PM  
**To:** Triay, Andres <TriayA@cbsnews.com>  
**Subject:** RE: any comment from the DOJ?

External Email

Hi Andy,

The department declines to comment.

Best,  
Dena

Dena Iverson  
Principal Deputy Director, Office of Public Affairs  
U.S. Department of Justice  
(202)353-8763 - Office  
(b) (6) - Cell  
[Dena.iverson@usdoj.gov](mailto:Dena.iverson@usdoj.gov)

---

**From:** Triay, Andres <[TriayA@cbsnews.com](mailto:TriayA@cbsnews.com)>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 8, 2022 7:34 PM  
**To:** Iverson, Dena (PAO) <[Dena.I.DeBonis@usdoj.gov](mailto:Dena.I.DeBonis@usdoj.gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] any comment from the DOJ?

On Trump raid.?

Andres (Andy) Triay  
Senior Producer, CBS News  
Mobile + (b) (6)  
[triaya@cbsnews.com](mailto:triaya@cbsnews.com)  
@AndyTriay

---

**From:** Iverson, Dena (PAO)  
**Sent:** Monday, August 8, 2022 7:40 PM  
**To:** Niels Lesniewski; Hornbuckle, Wyn (PAO)  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Mar-a-lago

Hi Niels,

The department declines to comment.

Best,  
Dena

Dena Iverson  
Principal Deputy Director, Office of Public Affairs  
U.S. Department of Justice  
(202)353-8763 - Office  
(b) (6) - Cell  
[Dena.iverson@usdoj.gov](mailto:Dena.iverson@usdoj.gov)

---

**From:** Niels Lesniewski <niels@cqrollcall.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 8, 2022 7:36 PM  
**To:** Iverson, Dena (PAO) <Dena.I.DeBonis@usdoj.gov>; Hornbuckle, Wyn (PAO) <Wyn.Hornbuckle@usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Mar-a-lago

Hello --

I got the out of office from Mr. Coley, assuming you will no comment but would like it officially, thank you.

--

**Niels Lesniewski**  
Chief Correspondent, White House & Congress  
CQ & Roll Call  
E: [niels@cqrollcall.com](mailto:niels@cqrollcall.com)  
(b) (6)

[rollcall.com](http://rollcall.com) | [info.cq.com](http://info.cq.com) | [fiscalnote.com](http://fiscalnote.com)

---

**From:** Breuninger, Kevin (NBCUniversal) <Kevin.Breuninger@nbcuni.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 8, 2022 7:54 PM  
**To:** Coley, Anthony D. (PAO)  
**Cc:** Mangan, Daniel (NBCUniversal)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] CNBC Inquiry, Mar-a-Lago

Hi Anthony,

I'm reaching out for comment/confirmation on ex-President Trump's statement that the FBI raided Mar-a-Lago.

I've reached out to the FBI. Please respond as soon as a statement or comment is available. Email or call (b) (6) [REDACTED]  
On background as a source familiar is fine if necessary.

Best,  
Kevin Breuninger  
CNBC

---

**From:** Iverson, Dena (PAO)  
**Sent:** Monday, August 8, 2022 8:02 PM  
**To:** Breuninger, Kevin (NBCUniversal); Hornbuckle, Wyn (PAO)  
**Cc:** Mangan, Daniel (NBCUniversal)  
**Subject:** RE: CNBC Inquiry, Mar-a-Lago

Hi Kevin,

The department declines to comment.

Best,  
Dena

Dena Iverson  
Principal Deputy Director, Office of Public Affairs  
U.S. Department of Justice  
(202)353-8763 - Office  
(b) (6) - Cell  
[Dena.iverson@usdoj.gov](mailto:Dena.iverson@usdoj.gov)

---

**From:** Breuninger, Kevin (NBCUniversal) <Kevin.Breuninger@nbcuni.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 8, 2022 7:55 PM  
**To:** Iverson, Dena (PAO) <Dena.I.DeBonis@usdoj.gov>; Hornbuckle, Wyn (PAO) <Wyn.Hornbuckle@usdoj.gov>  
**Cc:** Mangan, Daniel (NBCUniversal) <Daniel.Mangan@nbcuni.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] CNBC Inquiry, Mar-a-Lago

Hi Diana and Wyn,

I'm reaching out for comment/confirmation on ex-President Trump's statement that the FBI raided Mar-a-Lago.

I've reached out to the FBI. Please respond as soon as a statement or comment is available. Email or call (b) (6)  
On background as a source familiar is fine if necessary.

Best,  
Kevin Breuninger  
CNBC



---

**From:** Iverson, Dena (PAO)  
**Sent:** Monday, August 8, 2022 8:03 PM  
**To:** Claudia Uceda  
**Subject:** RE: Univision network

Hi Claudia,

The department declines to comment.

Best,  
Dena

Dena Iverson  
Principal Deputy Director, Office of Public Affairs  
U.S. Department of Justice  
(202)353-8763 - Office  
(b) (6) - Cell  
[Dena.iverson@usdoj.gov](mailto:Dena.iverson@usdoj.gov)

---

**From:** Claudia Uceda <cuced@televisaunivision.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 8, 2022 8:02 PM  
**To:** Iverson, Dena (PAO) <Dena.I.DeBonis@usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Univision network

Hi Dena,

Who could confirm and give information about an alleged FBI search warrant at President Trump Mar-a-Lago?

Best,

Claudia



**Claudia Uceda** | Correspondent  
TelevisaUnivision, Inc. | <http://televisaunivision.com>  
101 Constitution Avenue, NW, Suite 800 West, Washington, DC, 20001  
(b) (6) | (b) (6)

---

**From:** Albert, Mark <Mark.Albert@hearst.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 8, 2022 8:27 PM  
**To:** Stueve, Joshua (PAO)  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Trump statement?

I appreciate you getting back to me. Thank you.

On Aug 8, 2022, at 5:17 PM, Stueve, Joshua (PAO) <Joshua.Stueve@usdoj.gov> wrote:

Decline to comment. Thanks Mark.

Joshua Stueve | Spokesman  
U.S. Department of Justice

On Aug 8, 2022, at 7:17 PM, Albert, Mark <Mark.Albert@hearst.com> wrote:

Good evening, Josh:

Do you have any DOJ statement to Trump's release about FBI agents at Mar-a-Lago today? This might not be your area; just reaching out. We also reached out to FBI.

Thanks very much,

Mark

Mark Albert  
Chief National Investigative Correspondent  
Hearst Television  
[1100 13<sup>th</sup> St NW STE 950](#)  
[Washington, DC 20005](#)  
[\(202\) 216-4204](#) office  
(b) (6) cell  
[malbert@hearst.com](mailto:malbert@hearst.com)  
Twitter: [@malbertnews](#)

---

**From:** Laco, Kelly <Kelly.Laco@FOX.COM>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 8, 2022 9:06 PM  
**To:** Hornbuckle, Wyn (PAO)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Security for judge who signed off on Mar-a-Lago raid - Fox News Digital

Hi Wyn!

Wondering if someone can confirm whether DOJ is providing security for the judge who signed the order to ok the FBI raid of Trump's Mar-a-Lago?

Thanks!

Kelly

**Kelly Laco**  
Politics Editor, Fox News Digital  
[Kelly.Laco@Fox.com](mailto:Kelly.Laco@Fox.com)

(b) (6)

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## Iverson, Dena (PAO)

---

**From:** Iverson, Dena (PAO)  
**Sent:** Monday, August 8, 2022 9:13 PM  
**To:** Frey, Kevin J; Li, Kaei (PAO); Shevlin, Shannon (OPA)  
**Cc:** Lisker, Samuel R  
**Subject:** RE: Looking to confirm - NY1

Hi Kevin,

The department declines to comment.

Best,  
Dena

Dena Iverson  
Principal Deputy Director, Office of Public Affairs  
U.S. Department of Justice  
(202)353-8763 - Office  
(b) (6) - Cell  
[Dena.iverson@usdoj.gov](mailto:Dena.iverson@usdoj.gov)

---

**From:** Frey, Kevin J <Kevin.Frey@charter.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 8, 2022 9:12 PM  
**To:** Iverson, Dena (PAO) <Dena.I.DeBonis@usdoj.gov>; Li, Kaei (PAO) <Kaei.Li@usdoj.gov>; Shevlin, Shannon (OPA) <Shannon.Shevlin@usdoj.gov>  
**Cc:** Lisker, Samuel R <Samuel.Lisker@charter.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Looking to confirm - NY1

Hi all

It's Kevin over at NY1. Not sure if you are the right folks to be reaching out to, but trying to confirm anything about this reported search of Trump's Mar-A-Lago. AP and others are reporting its tied to the former president's potential handling of classified documents. Is there anything you can confirm about the reason or timing of the search? Was the White House/President given advanced warning?

Appreciate any guidance you can provide

### Kevin Frey

Washington Reporter, NY1 | Spectrum News 1  
[Kevin.Frey@charter.com](mailto:Kevin.Frey@charter.com)  
(b) (6)  
[@KevinFreyTV](#)



---

**From:** Rohde, David <david.rohde@newyorker.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 8, 2022 9:23 PM  
**To:** Coley, Anthony D. (PAO)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Trump raid

Anthony:

Know you're away and being barraged with emails. Can you comment on the Trump raid in any form? Thanks for your help.

Best,  
David

---

**From:** Carol Rosenberg <carol.rosenberg@nytimes.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 8, 2022 9:49 PM  
**To:** Navas, Nicole (PAO)  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Trump search

Thanks for answering anyway.

On Mon, Aug 8, 2022 at 9:36 PM Navas, Nicole (PAO) <[Nicole.Navas@usdoj.gov](mailto:Nicole.Navas@usdoj.gov)> wrote:

Hi,

Declining comment.

Thank you,

Nicole Navas Oxman

Senior Communications Advisor for International Law Enforcement/Spokesperson

U.S. Department of Justice

(b) (6)

[Nicole.Navas@usdoj.gov](mailto:Nicole.Navas@usdoj.gov)

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---

**From:** Carol Rosenberg <[carol.rosenberg@nytimes.com](mailto:carol.rosenberg@nytimes.com)>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 8, 2022 9:06 PM  
**To:** Navas, Nicole (PAO) <[Nicole.Navas@usdoj.gov](mailto:Nicole.Navas@usdoj.gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Trump search

Don't suppose you know which judge signed the warrant for the Mar-a-Lago search?

Inquiring minds, yaddah.

Carol Rosenberg

@Guantánamo Bay

--

Carol Rosenberg  
Guantanamo correspondent

[REDACTED]

(b) (6) office  
(b) (6) mobile  
[carol.rosenberg@nytimes.com](mailto:carol.rosenberg@nytimes.com)

--

Carol Rosenberg  
Guantanamo correspondent

[REDACTED]

(b) (6) office  
(b) (6) mobile  
[carol.rosenberg@nytimes.com](mailto:carol.rosenberg@nytimes.com)

---

**From:** contact@mail.americafirstworks.com on behalf of America First Works  
<contact@mail.americafirstworks.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 8, 2022 10:27 PM  
**To:** Hornbuckle, Wyn (PAO)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Statement from Ashley Hayek, America First Works Executive Director



- August 8, 2022 -

### **Statement from Ashley Hayek, America First Works Executive Director**

“The Biden FBI’s raid on the home of the 45th President of the United States, Donald J. Trump, is political persecution the likes of which we have never seen before in our Nation. This is how third-world countries operate, not the United States of America. The Administrative State has been after former President Trump and his supporters since the day he went down the escalator. It hasn’t changed today. Right now, if you oppose the liberal elite ruling class, the message is clear: They will send the FBI after Trump and the IRS after you. This is yet another witch hunt by the same deep state swamp. It must be drained.”

#### **America First Works**

[press@americafirstworks.com](mailto:press@americafirstworks.com)

America First Works, Inc. is a 501(c)(4) non profit organization.

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**From:** CFG Media <chroniclemodels@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 8, 2022 10:27 PM  
**To:** Navas, Nicole (PAO)  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] FBI Raid Donald Trump( with correction of my name)

Thanks Nicole. Will there be a statement put out by the DOJ or Attorney General Garland about this historic matter. I know the President has promised that his administration would be totally transparent about these types of matters. FYI, anything that you tell me can be totally off record. It is being widely reported by various outlets, and even the former President, Donald Trump.

Anthony Leake  
CFG MEDIA

(b) (6)

On Mon, Aug 8, 2022, 10:14 PM Navas, Nicole (PAO) <[Nicole.Navas@usdoj.gov](mailto:Nicole.Navas@usdoj.gov)> wrote:

Hi Anthony,

We decline comment.

Thank you,

Nicole Navas Oxman

Senior Communications Advisor for International Law Enforcement/Spokesperson

U.S. Department of Justice

[Nicole.Navas@usdoj.gov](mailto:Nicole.Navas@usdoj.gov)

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---

**From:** CFG Media <[chroniclemodels@gmail.com](mailto:chroniclemodels@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 8, 2022 7:43 PM  
**To:** Press <[Press@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:Press@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Navas, Nicole (PAO) <[Nicole.Navas@usdoj.gov](mailto:Nicole.Navas@usdoj.gov)>; Mitchell, Kendall M. (PAO) <[Kendall.M.Mitchell@usdoj.gov](mailto:Kendall.M.Mitchell@usdoj.gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] FBI Raid Donald Trump( with correction of my name)

Good evening,

I hope that you are doing well. It is being reported by CNN that Donald Trump's Florida home was raided today. Is that true? If so, will this dept make a statement confirming the FBI raid on a former President of the United States, which is unprecedented. I am working with a tight deadline of 8:30pm.

Anthony Leake

CFG MEDIA

(b) (6)

---

**From:** Paul HANDLEY <Paul.HANDLEY@afp.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 9, 2022 9:17 AM  
**To:** Coley, Anthony D. (PAO); Iverson, Dena (PAO)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] AFP query re Mar-a-Lago raid

Hi,

Can you provide any information on the background of the FBI investigation in Mar-a-Lago yesterday? I understand that normally DOJ does not discuss ongoing cases but due to the extraordinary nature of this one, and the political reaction, surely something could be said.

- What is the investigation behind the search warrant?
- Did AG Garland approve the action?
- What is the next step?

In addition, will DOJ be addressing this in any briefing or public statement today?

Thanks for any help on this.

Respectfully,

**Paul HANDLEY**  
*US National Security Correspondent*  
*AFP - Agence France-Presse*  
Suite 600, 1500 K Street NW, Washington DC 20005 USA  
Tel: + (b) (6) - Mob: + (b) (6) - Fax: +1 202 414 0638



Join us on:



---

**From:** Manning, Samantha (CMG-WNB) <Samantha.Manning@cmg.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 9, 2022 9:59 AM  
**To:** Stueve, Joshua (PAO)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] CMG Washington Inquiry - FBI Raid of Mar-a-Lago

Good Morning,

I am looking to see if you can provide any information about yesterday's reported raid at former President Trump's Mar-a-Lago property. I understand the information that can be released is limited.

Can you confirm if Attorney General Merrick Garland approved the search? Can you confirm what parts of the property the FBI raided such as the safe? Do you know how many agents took part in the raid?

Finally, can you provide any information at this time about the nature of the investigation?

I appreciate your time and consideration. I can also be reached on my cell a (b) (6). Thank you.

Best,  
Samantha



**Samantha Manning**

Washington Correspondent, Washington News Bureau  
444 North Capitol Street, NW, Suite 635 | Washington, DC 20001

📞 (b) (6)    📧 (b) (6)    📧 [samantha.manning@cmg.com](mailto:samantha.manning@cmg.com)  
Twitter: @SamManningNews  
Facebook: Samantha Manning Journalist

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---

**From:** Amy Sherman <asherma@poynter.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 9, 2022 10:03 AM  
**To:** media@usdoj.gov; Stueve, Joshua (PAO)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] FBI raid on Mar a Lago

Hi Joshua: Not sure who to send this query to so running it by you. Does DOJ plan to release any of the warrant-related documents re: the FBI raid on Mar-a-Lago? Has Garland put out any guidelines saying DOJ will avoid politically-related prosecutions of politicians/former politicians within 90 days of an election? Thanks - Amy

--

Amy Sherman  
PolitiFact staff writer fact-checking claims about voting, elections and democracy  
954-665-9035  
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Want to get updates on the accuracy of politicians' claims? [Sign up for our newsletter!](#)

---

**From:** Triay, Andres <TriayA@cbsnews.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 9, 2022 10:19 AM  
**To:** Iverson, Dena (PAO)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] CBS question

Hi Dena,  
Can we expect anything from DOJ or the US Atty DC on yesterday's search warrant, etc?

Thanks,

Andy

Andres (Andy) Triay  
Senior Producer, CBS News  
Mobile + (b) (6)  
[triaya@cbsnews.com](mailto:triaya@cbsnews.com)  
@AndyTriay

## James Politi

---

**From:** James Politi  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 9, 2022 10:56 AM  
**To:** Iverson, Dena (PAO)  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Mar a Lago search

Hi Dena - separately I was wondering if you might be able to confirm that Judge Bruce Reinhart from the SD of Florida signed off on the search warrant...  
thanks James

On Tue, Aug 9, 2022 at 10:02 AM James Politi <[james.politi@ft.com](mailto:james.politi@ft.com)> wrote:

Hi Dena, good morning - are there any plans for the DoJ to say anything about the Mar a Lago raid today ?  
thanks James

On Mon, Aug 8, 2022 at 7:59 PM James Politi <[james.politi@ft.com](mailto:james.politi@ft.com)> wrote:

Ok thanks - Dena, can you confirm on background that it relates to the boxes of classified documents ?

On Mon, Aug 8, 2022 at 7:21 PM Iverson, Dena (PAO) <[Dena.I.DeBonis@usdoj.gov](mailto:Dena.I.DeBonis@usdoj.gov)> wrote:

Hi James,

The department declines to comment.

Best,  
Dena

Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 8, 2022, at 7:20 PM, James Politi <[james.politi@ft.com](mailto:james.politi@ft.com)> wrote:

?

Hi Dena, hope all is well. In Anthony's absence was wondering if you had any reaction to the FBI search of Mar a Lago - thanks James

--

James Politi  
Financial Times  
Washington bureau chief  
1667 K St NW Suite 825  
Washington DC 20006  
Tel: (b) (6)  
Mobil (b) (6)  
Twitter: @jamespoliti



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James Politi  
Financial Times  
Washington bureau chief  
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Washington DC 20006  
Tel: (b) (6) [REDACTED]  
Mobil (b) (6) [REDACTED]  
Twitter: @jamespoliti



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Financial Times  
Washington bureau chief  
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Washington DC 20006  
Tel: (b) (6)  
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Twitter: @jamespoliti



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**From:** Amy Sherman <asherman@poynter.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 9, 2022 11:30 AM  
**To:** Iverson, Dena (PAO)  
**Subject:** Re: FW: [EXTERNAL] FBI raid on Mar a Lago

Hi Dena: Is this the most current memo from Garland on election year prosecutions?

<https://s3.documentcloud.org/documents/22089098/attorney-general-memorandum-election-year-sensitivities.pdf>

Thanks - Amy

On Tue, Aug 9, 2022 at 11:17 AM Iverson, Dena (PAO) <[Dena.I.DeBonis@usdoj.gov](mailto:Dena.I.DeBonis@usdoj.gov)> wrote:

Hi Amy,

Josh passed along your inquiry. The department declines to comment.

Best,

Dena

Dena Iverson

Principal Deputy Director, Office of Public Affairs

U.S. Department of Justice

(202)353-8763 - Office

(b) (6) - Cell

[Dena.iverson@usdoj.gov](mailto:Dena.iverson@usdoj.gov)

---

**From:** Amy Sherman <[asherman@poynter.org](mailto:asherman@poynter.org)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 9, 2022 10:03 AM

**To:** [media@usdoj.gov](mailto:media@usdoj.gov); Stueve, Joshua (PAO) <[Joshua.Stueve@usdoj.gov](mailto:Joshua.Stueve@usdoj.gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] FBI raid on Mar a Lago

Hi Joshua: Not sure who to send this query to so running it by you. Does DOJ plan to release any of the warrant-related documents re: the FBI raid on Mar-a-Lago? Has Garland put out any guidelines saying DOJ will avoid politically-related prosecutions of politicians/former politicians within 90 days of an election?  
Thanks - Amy

--

Amy Sherman

PolitiFact staff writer fact-checking claims about voting, elections and democracy

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Amy Sherman

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**From:** Emily Zantow <wdc@courthousenews.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 9, 2022 11:41 AM  
**To:** Iverson, Dena (PAO)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Re: Media Inquiry | Deadline 12:00 p.m. EST

Dena,

Received, thank you.

Thanks,  
Emily Zantow

Justice Department/DC Courts Reporter  
[Courthouse News](#)

---

**From:** Iverson, Dena (PAO) <Dena.I.DeBonis@usdoj.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 9, 2022 10:41 AM  
**To:** Emily Zantow <wdc@courthousenews.com>  
**Subject:** RE: Media Inquiry | Deadline 12:00 p.m. EST

Hi Emily,

The department declines to comment.

Best,  
Dena

Dena Iverson  
Principal Deputy Director, Office of Public Affairs  
U.S. Department of Justice  
(202)353-8763 - Office  
(b) (6) - Cell  
[Dena.iverson@usdoj.gov](mailto:Dena.iverson@usdoj.gov)

---

**From:** Emily Zantow <wdc@courthousenews.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 9, 2022 9:14 AM  
**To:** Iverson, Dena (PAO) <Dena.I.DeBonis@usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Media Inquiry | Deadline 12:00 p.m. EST

Good morning Dena,

Does the DOJ have a comment on the FBI raiding former President Trump's Mar-a-Lago? What is it related to?

If you can email a response by my deadline at noon today, I'd really appreciate it.

Thanks,  
Emily Zantow

---

**From:** Manning, Samantha (CMG-WNB) <Samantha.Manning@cmg.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 9, 2022 12:16 PM  
**To:** Iverson, Dena (PAO)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: CMG Washington Inquiry - FBI Raid of Mar-a-Lago

Thank you, Dena.



**Samantha Manning**

Washington Correspondent, Washington News Bureau  
444 North Capitol Street, NW, Suite 635 | Washington, DC 20001

📞 (b) (6) 📧 (b) (6) | [samantha.manning@cmg.com](mailto:samantha.manning@cmg.com)  
Twitter: @SamManningNews  
Facebook: Samantha Manning Journalist

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**From:** Iverson, Dena (PAO) <Dena.I.DeBonis@usdoj.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 9, 2022 11:14 AM  
**To:** Manning, Samantha (CMG-WNB) <Samantha.Manning@cmg.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: CMG Washington Inquiry - FBI Raid of Mar-a-Lago

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Hi Samantha,

The department declines to comment.

Best,  
Dena

Dena Iverson  
Principal Deputy Director, Office of Public Affairs  
U.S. Department of Justice  
(202)353-8763 - Office  
(b) (6) - Cell  
[Dena.iverson@usdoj.gov](mailto:Dena.iverson@usdoj.gov)

---

**From:** Manning, Samantha (CMG-WNB) <[Samantha.Manning@cmg.com](mailto:Samantha.Manning@cmg.com)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 9, 2022 9:51 AM  
**To:** Iverson, Dena (PAO) <[Dena.I.DeBonis@usdoj.gov](mailto:Dena.I.DeBonis@usdoj.gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] FW: CMG Washington Inquiry - FBI Raid of Mar-a-Lago

Hi Dena,

I wanted to pass along my inquiry below to you. Thank you for your time.



**Samantha Manning**

Washington Correspondent, Washington News Bureau  
444 North Capitol Street, NW, Suite 635 | Washington, DC 20001

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---

**From:** Manning, Samantha (CMG-WNB)

**Sent:** Tuesday, August 9, 2022 9:22 AM

**To:** [press@usdoj.gov](mailto:press@usdoj.gov)

**Cc:** Donohue, Jennifer (PAO) <[Jennifer.Donohue@usdoj.gov](mailto:Jennifer.Donohue@usdoj.gov)>; [kelsey.pietrantonio@usdoj.gov](mailto:kelsey.pietrantonio@usdoj.gov); [joshua.stueve@usdoj.gov](mailto:joshua.stueve@usdoj.gov)

**Subject:** CMG Washington Inquiry - FBI Raid of Mar-a-Lago

Good Morning,

I am looking to see if you can provide any information about yesterday's reported raid at former President Trump's Mar-a-Lago property. I understand the information that can be released is limited.

Can you confirm if Attorney General Merrick Garland approved the search? Can you confirm what parts of the property the FBI raided such as the safe? Do you know how many agents took part in the raid?

Finally, can you provide any information at this time about the nature of the investigation?

I appreciate your time and consideration. I can also be reached on my cell a (b) (6) Thank you.

Best,  
Samantha



**Samantha Manning**

Washington Correspondent, Washington News Bureau  
444 North Capitol Street, NW, Suite 635 | Washington, DC 20001

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**From:** Catenacci, Thomas <thomas.catenacci@fox.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 9, 2022 12:24 PM  
**To:** Mitchell, Kendall M. (PAO)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Fw: Press inquiry

Hi Kendall,

Wanted to forward this along to you.

Thanks,  
Thomas

---

**From:** Catenacci, Thomas  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 9, 2022 12:23 PM  
**To:** anthony.coley@usdoj.gov <anthony.coley@usdoj.gov>  
**Cc:** Sophie Gelber <sophie.gelber@usdoj.gov>; Kelsey Pietranton <kelsey.pietranton@usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** Press inquiry

Hi Anthony,

Can the DOJ explain in detail why the FBI conducted a search of former President Trump's private residence?  
Does the DOJ believe the public deserves to know why the former president's home was raided?

Thank you.

**Thomas Catenacci**  
Reporter | Fox News Digital  
e: thomas.catenacci@fox.com  
c (b) (6)

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**From:** Kelsey.Pietranton@usdoj.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 9, 2022 12:38 PM  
**To:** Catenacci, Thomas  
**Cc:** anthony.coley@usdoj.gov; Gelber, Sophie (PAO); Iverson, Dena (PAO)  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Press inquiry

Hi Thomas,

Thanks for reaching out, we have no comment.

Best,  
Kelsey

Kelsey Pietranton  
Office of Public Affairs  
Department of Justice  
(o) [202-514-2016](#)  
(m) (b) (6)

On Aug 9, 2022, at 12:23 PM, Catenacci, Thomas <thomas.catenacci@fox.com> wrote:

Hi Anthony,

Can the DOJ explain in detail why the FBI conducted a search of former President Trump's private residence? Does the DOJ believe the public deserves to know why the former president's home was raided?

Thank you.

**Thomas Catenacci**  
Reporter | Fox News Digital  
e: thomas.catenacci@fox.com  
(b) (6)

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**From:** Jerry Dunleavy <jdunleavy@washingtonexaminer.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 9, 2022 1:09 PM  
**To:** Hornbuckle, Wyn (PAO)  
**Cc:** Iverson, Dena (PAO)  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] FBI Raid of Mar-a-Lago

Good afternoon.

Just checking in again to see if DOJ is in a position to comment today.

Many thanks!

JD

On Mon, Aug 8, 2022 at 7:16 PM Hornbuckle, Wyn (PAO) <[Wyn.Hornbuckle@usdoj.gov](mailto:Wyn.Hornbuckle@usdoj.gov)> wrote:  
Jerry  
We'll decline to comment

Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 8, 2022, at 7:03 PM, Jerry Dunleavy <[jdunleavy@washingtonexaminer.com](mailto:jdunleavy@washingtonexaminer.com)> wrote:

Can DOJ provide a comment on the FBI raid of Mar-a-Lago?

Thanks!

JD

--

**Jerry Dunleavy**  
**Washington Examiner**  
**[JDunleavy@WashingtonExaminer.com](mailto:JDunleavy@WashingtonExaminer.com)**  
**216-375-7101**

--

**Jerry Dunleavy**  
**Washington Examiner**  
**[JDunleavy@WashingtonExaminer.com](mailto:JDunleavy@WashingtonExaminer.com)**  
**216-375-7101**



---

**From:** Barrett, Devlin <Devlin.Barrett@washpost.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 9, 2022 5:12 PM  
**To:** Iverson, Dena (PAO)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Any comment today on the search at mar a lago?

We are told officials suspected that trump and his people may have retained significant amounts of docs and items, even after Jan of this year, that were either pra or classified, and that over time they came to distrust the answers they were getting from trump's representatives.

Sent from my iPhone

---

**From:** Joyce Sutton (b) (6) >  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 9, 2022 8:19 PM  
**To:** Pietranton, Kelsey (PAO)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] ,Press Calls

Good Evening Ms. Pietranton,

Received a press call from:

Ms. Alyssa Carey from Fox News  
Her contact Info is  
email: [alyssa.carey@fox.com](mailto:alyssa.carey@fox.com)  
cell phon (b) (6)

ref: needing a response/comment wrt confirming that Judge Bruce Reinhart signed the warrant to enter the Mar-a-Lago premises.

Thank you

Joyce Sutton  
Service Delivery Staff  
Contractor - Switchboard Operations  
Breakforth Solutions, Inc.  
[Joyce.M.Sutton@usdoj.gov](mailto:Joyce.M.Sutton@usdoj.gov)  
(b) (6)

---

**From:** Joyce Sutto (b) (6)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 9, 2022 8:25 PM  
**To:** Pietranton, Kelsey (PAO)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Press Call

Good Evening Ms. Pietranton,

Received a press call from:  
Mr. Gary Dai from Epoch Times  
His contact Info is  
email: [gary.dai@epochtimes.com](mailto:gary.dai@epochtimes.com)

cell phon (b) (6)

ref: needing a response/comment wrt Republican Scott Perry and the seizure of his cell phone and was it the result of January 6 insurrection or the Mar-a-Lago raid.

Thank you

Joyce Sutton  
Service Delivery Staff  
Contractor - Switchboard Operations  
Breakforth Solutions, Inc.  
[Joyce.M.Sutton@usdoj.gov](mailto:Joyce.M.Sutton@usdoj.gov)

(b) (6)

---

**From:** Manning, Samantha (CMG-WNB) <Samantha.Manning@cmg.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 10, 2022 6:39 AM  
**To:** Pietranton, Kelsey (PAO)  
**Cc:** Stueve, Joshua (PAO)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: CMG Washington Inquiry - FBI Raid of Mar-a-Lago

Thank you, Kelsey. I appreciate your time.



**Samantha Manning**  
Washington Correspondent, Washington News Bureau  
444 North Capitol Street, NW, Suite 635 | Washington, DC 20001

o (b) (6) (b) (6) | [samantha.manning@cmg.com](mailto:samantha.manning@cmg.com)  
Twitter: @SamManningNews  
Facebook: Samantha Manning Journalist

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WSBradio/Atlanta | WDBOradio/Orlando | WOKVradio/Jacksonville | KRMGradio/Tulsa | WHIOradio/Dayton | WGAUradio/Athens

---

**From:** Pietranton, Kelsey (PAO) <Kelsey.Pietranton@usdoj.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 9, 2022 7:46 PM  
**To:** Manning, Samantha (CMG-WNB) <Samantha.Manning@cmg.com>  
**Cc:** Stueve, Joshua (PAO) <Joshua.Stueve@usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: CMG Washington Inquiry - FBI Raid of Mar-a-Lago

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of CMG. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

---

Hi Samantha,

I apologize for the delayed response, we have no comment.

Thank you,  
Kelsey

Kelsey Pietranton  
Office of Public Affairs  
Department of Justice  
(o) (202) 514-2016  
(m) (b) (6)

---

**From:** Manning, Samantha (CMG-WNB) <[Samantha.Manning@cmg.com](mailto:Samantha.Manning@cmg.com)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 9, 2022 9:22 AM  
**To:** Press <[Press@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:Press@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
**Cc:** Donohue, Jennifer (PAO) <[Jennifer.Donohue@usdoj.gov](mailto:Jennifer.Donohue@usdoj.gov)>; Pietranton, Kelsey (PAO) <[Kelsey.Pietranton@usdoj.gov](mailto:Kelsey.Pietranton@usdoj.gov)>; Stueve, Joshua (PAO) <[Joshua.Stueve@usdoj.gov](mailto:Joshua.Stueve@usdoj.gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] CMG Washington Inquiry - FBI Raid of Mar-a-Lago

Good Morning,

I am looking to see if you can provide any information about yesterday's reported raid at former President Trump's Mar-a-Lago property. I understand the information that can be released is limited.

Can you confirm if Attorney General Merrick Garland approved the search? Can you confirm what parts of the property the FBI raided such as the safe? Do you know how many agents took part in the raid?

Finally, can you provide any information at this time about the nature of the investigation?

I appreciate your time and consideration. I can also be reached on my cell a (b) (6) Thank you.

Best,  
Samantha



**Samantha Manning**  
Washington Correspondent, Washington News Bureau  
444 North Capitol Street, NW, Suite 635 | Washington, DC 20001

📞 (b) (6) 📧 (b) (6) 📧 [samantha.manning@cmg.com](mailto:samantha.manning@cmg.com)  
Twitter: @SamManningNews  
Facebook: Samantha Manning Journalist

---

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WSBradio/Atlanta | WDBOradio/Orlando | WOKVradio/Jacksonville | KRMGradio/Tulsa | WHIOradio/Dayton | WGAUradio/Athens

---

**From:** Evan Lambert <ELambert2@newsnationnow.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 10, 2022 9:56 AM  
**To:** Iverson, Dena (PAO)  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Mar-a-Lago raid

Morning Dena,

I'm sure everyone is bugging you. Just checking again.

Anything new on any possible statements?

Best,

Evan

Evan Lambert  
Washington Correspondent  
NewsNation/newsnationnow.com  
Mobil (b) (6)  
@EvanLambertTV

---

**From:** Evan Lambert <ELambert2@newsnationnow.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 9, 2022 10:18 AM  
**To:** Iverson, Dena (PAO) <Dena.I.DeBonis@usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Mar-a-Lago raid

Hi Dena,

Just following up here. Can we expect any statements today? Will DOJ make the affidavit for the search public? Or still no comment?

Just wondering for planning purposes.

Thanks,

Evan

Evan Lambert  
Washington Correspondent  
NewsNation/newsnationnow.com  
Mobil (b) (6)  
@EvanLambertTV

---



---

**From:** Ryan Barber <rbarber@insider.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 10, 2022 11:45 AM  
**To:** Coley, Anthony D. (PAO); Iverson, Dena (PAO)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Checking in/Request for comments

Hi Anthony and Dena -- I'm sure it's been an insane week for you, so hope you're hanging in there!

I wanted to check in to see if DOJ would like to comment on a couple different stories we have in the works. In one, we're diving into the murky legal questions that would come into play with the consideration of charges against Trump re: the mishandling of records. The idea is that the unique, singular authority Trump had as president could complicate any charges concerning the improper retention or removal of government documents.

Secondly, I'm working on a piece about the pressure on DOJ to release more details about the Mar-a-Lago search, including a copy of the warrant. As you could imagine, the story is going into DOJ's long history of not commenting on investigations and speaking through indictments/court filings. If you'd like to make any comment, please let me know.

Thanks, and as always, I can be reached a (b) (6) Hope to talk soon.  
-Ryan

--

**C. Ryan Barber**  
Justice correspondent

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**C** (b) (6)  
[rbarber@insider.com](mailto:rbarber@insider.com)  
[@cryanbarber](#)

---

**From:** Masood Farivar <mfarivar@voanews.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 10, 2022 1:37 PM  
**To:** Coley, Anthony D. (PAO)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Seeking comment about reported uptick in death threats against AG

Hi Anthony,

Can you confirm this Fox News report that the AG is "experiencing an uptick in death threats" in the wake of the Mar-a-Lago search?

<https://www.foxnews.com/politics/fbi-agents-garland-wray-see-increased-death-threats-trump-mar-a-lago-raid-sources>

Is the department taking any steps to enhance the AG's security?

Thanks!

Masood

-

Masood Farivar  
Justice Correspondent  
Voice of America

(b) (6)

---

**From:** Gurman, Sadie <sadie.gurman@wsj.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 10, 2022 3:27 PM  
**To:** Rossello, Luis (PAO)  
**Cc:** Pietranton, Kelsey (PAO)  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: WSJ query re: DOJ MAL interactions

We are looking at sometime in the next couple hours I think

Sadie Gurman  
WASHINGTON BUREAU



O (b) (6) (b) (6)  
E: [sadie.gurman@wsj.com](mailto:sadie.gurman@wsj.com) | T: @scurman  
A: [1025 Connecticut Ave. NW, Suite 800 | Washington, D.C. 20036](https://www.wsj.com/contact)



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On Wed, Aug 10, 2022 at 3:26 PM Rossello, Luis (PAO) <[Luis.Rossello@usdoj.gov](mailto:Luis.Rossello@usdoj.gov)> wrote:

Working hard not to take it personally Sadie. ☐

Thanks for the heads up. When do you expect to publish?

Look forward to finally meeting up soon!

Cheers,

L

---

**From:** Gurman, Sadie <[sadie.gurman@wsj.com](mailto:sadie.gurman@wsj.com)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 10, 2022 3:14 PM

**To:** Pietranton, Kelsey (PAO) <[Kelsey.Pietranton@usdoj.gov](mailto:Kelsey.Pietranton@usdoj.gov)>; Rossello, Luis (PAO) <[Luis.Rossello@usdoj.gov](mailto:Luis.Rossello@usdoj.gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Fwd: WSJ query re: DOJ MAL interactions

Hi guys,

I should have CC'd you on this story since it names Bratt. This is what we are reporting and I am happy to fill you in on anything if you are interested (b) (6) Luis I am sorry I still haven't met you in person, I basically have been chained to my dining room table this week

Sadie Gurman

WASHINGTON BUREAU



O (b) (6) | M (b) (6)  
E: [sadie.gurman@wsj.com](mailto:sadie.gurman@wsj.com) | T: @sgurman  
A: [1025 Connecticut Ave. NW, Suite 800 | Washington, D.C. 20036](https://www.wsj.com/1025-Connecticut-Ave-NW-Suite-800-Washington-D-C-20036)



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----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Gurman, Sadie** <[sadie.gurman@wsj.com](mailto:sadie.gurman@wsj.com)>  
Date: Wed, Aug 10, 2022 at 2:06 PM  
Subject: WSJ query re: DOJ MAL interactions  
To: DeBonis, Dena I. (PAO) <[Dena.I.DeBonis@usdoj.gov](mailto:Dena.I.DeBonis@usdoj.gov)>

Dena,

Shifting gears to the main story of the day. We have obtained the following timeline about the events leading up to the MAL search that suggests negotiations over the material were continuing and that the Trump

attorneys heard very little from DOJ before the search. Also, any chance you'd address this: <https://www.newsweek.com/exclusive-informer-told-fbi-what-docs-trump-was-hiding-where-1732283>

We're planning to run this so wondering if there is anything you can say/add/offer guidance on:

On June 2, A Trump lawyer tells DOJ's Jay Bratt to have an FBI agent meet him at MAL; the following day Bratt and an FBI agent show up and sit down with a group of Trump lawyers who handed over some documents. Trump came in but did not answer questions. He also said he appreciated the job the agents were doing and offered anything they needed.

Bratt then asked to see the storage room where the boxes sat. They take a look and then leave.

On June 8, the Trump team gets a letter from DOJ that asks them to secure the room and preserve the boxes that had been moved from the White House until further notice.

We are hearing that's the last contact DOJ made with them before Monday. Is this a fair rendering of events? If negotiations indeed had been cordial what prompted DOJ to take the step of searching the house?

Sadie Gurman

WASHINGTON BUREAU



○ (b) (6) (b) (6)  
E: [sadie.gurman@wsj.com](mailto:sadie.gurman@wsj.com) | T: [@sgurman](https://twitter.com/sgurman)  
A: [1025 Connecticut Ave. NW, Suite 800 | Washington, D.C. 20036](https://www.wsj.com/contact)



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**Iverson, Dena (PAO)**

---

**From:** Iverson, Dena (PAO)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 10, 2022 3:33 PM  
**To:** Gurman, Sadie  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] WSJ query re: DOJ MAL interactions

Hi Sadie, the department declines to comment.

Best,  
Dena

Dena Iverson  
Principal Deputy Director, Office of Public Affairs  
U.S. Department of Justice  
(202)353-8763 - Office  
(b) (6) - Cell  
[Dena.iverson@usdoj.gov](mailto:Dena.iverson@usdoj.gov)

---

**From:** Gurman, Sadie <sadie.gurman@wsj.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 10, 2022 2:07 PM  
**To:** Iverson, Dena (PAO) <Dena.I.DeBonis@usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] WSJ query re: DOJ MAL interactions

Dena,

Shifting gears to the main story of the day. We have obtained the following timeline about the events leading up to the MAL search that suggests negotiations over the material were continuing and that the Trump attorneys heard very little from DOJ before the search. Also, any chance you'd address this: <https://www.newsweek.com/exclusive-informer-told-fbi-what-docs-trump-was-hiding-where-1732283>

We're planning to run this so wondering if there is anything you can say/add/offer guidance on:

On June 2, A Trump lawyer tells DOJ's Jay Bratt to have an FBI agent meet him at MAL; the following day Bratt and an FBI agent show up and sit down with a group of Trump lawyers who handed over some documents. Trump came in but did not answer questions. He also said he appreciated the job the agents were doing and offered anything they needed.

Bratt then asked to see the storage room where the boxes sat. They take a look and then leave.

On June 8, the Trump team gets a letter from DOJ that asks them to secure the room and preserve the boxes that had been moved from the White House until further notice.

We are hearing that's the last contact DOJ made with them before Monday. Is this a fair rendering of events? If negotiations indeed had been cordial what prompted DOJ to take the step of searching the house?

Sadie Gurman  
WASHINGTON BUREAU

---

(b) (6)

[Redacted]

O (b) (6) (b) (6)

E: [sadie.gurman@wsi.com](mailto:sadie.gurman@wsi.com) | T: [@sgurman](https://twitter.com/sgurman)

A: [1025 Connecticut Ave. NW, Suite 800 | Washington, D.C. 20036](https://www.washingtonpost.com/location/1025-Connecticut-Ave-NW-Suite-800-Washington-D-C-20036/)

[Redacted]

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**From:** Masood Farivar <mfarivar@voanews.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 10, 2022 4:50 PM  
**To:** Hornbuckle, Wyn (PAO)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Re: Seeking comment about reported uptick in death threats against AG

Thank you, Wyn.

Masood

---

**From:** Hornbuckle, Wyn (PAO) <Wyn.Hornbuckle@usdoj.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 10, 2022 4:47 PM  
**To:** Masood Farivar <mfarivar@voanews.com>  
**Subject:** RE: Seeking comment about reported uptick in death threats against AG

Hi Masood, We'll decline to comment.

---

**From:** Masood Farivar <mfarivar@voanews.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 10, 2022 1:39 PM  
**To:** Hornbuckle, Wyn (PAO) <Wyn.Hornbuckle@usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Fw: Seeking comment about reported uptick in death threats against AG

Hi Wyn,

I sent the following email to Anthony but got an out of office reply.

Would appreciate it if you could respond to my query.

Thanks!

Masood

---

**From:** Masood Farivar  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 10, 2022 1:36 PM  
**To:** (b) (6) (b) (6)  
**Subject:** Seeking comment about reported uptick in death threats against AG

Hi Anthony,

Can you confirm this Fox News report that the AG is "experiencing an uptick in death threats" in the wake of the Mar-a-Lago search?

<https://www.foxnews.com/politics/fbi-agents-garland-wray-see-increased-death-threats-trump-mar-a-lago-raid-sources>



Is the department taking any steps to enhance the AG's security?

Thanks!

Masood

-

Masood Farivar  
Justice Correspondent  
Voice of America

(b) (6)

---

**From:** Brad Patty <bpatty@rendon.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 10, 2022 6:15 PM  
**To:** Hornbuckle, Wyn (PAO); Katherine Gribble  
**Cc:** DoJ-Digests3 Rendon; Estefania Perez  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Re: Mar a Lago Search

Hi Wyn,

Of course. It will be so from tomorrow morning onwards.

Best,

-Brad

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---

**From:** Hornbuckle, Wyn (PAO) <Wyn.Hornbuckle@usdoj.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 10, 2022 6:11:54 PM  
**To:** Katherine Gribble <kgribble@rendon.com>; Brad Patty <bpatty@rendon.com>  
**Cc:** DOJ Desk <DOJDesk@rendon.com>; Estefania Perez <EPerez@rendon.com>  
**Subject:** Mar a Lago Search

For future digests and for accurate presentation, please change the heading from “**MAR-A-LAGO RAID**” to “**MAR-A-LAGO SEARCH**”

Thank you!

---

This email has been scanned for spam and viruses by Proofpoint Essentials. Click [here](#) to report this email as spam.

---

**From:** Henry Rodgers <hrodgers@dailycaller.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 11, 2022 8:20 AM  
**To:** Iverson, Dena (PAO)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Press Inquiry  
**Attachments:** 2022-08-10 RHJ to DOJ FBI re Mar a Lago raid.pdf

Hello Dena,

This is Henry Rodgers. I am a reporter for the Daily Caller.

I wanted to see if you all would comment on a letter sent to the FBI and DOJ by Sen. Ron Johnson.

In the letter, Sen. Johnson calls for any information related to the raid at former President Trump's Mar-a-Lago residence and also calls for members of the FBI and DOJ to come forward with anything wrong they might have seen.

Do you all plan on responding to the letter? Do you have any comment on the letter?

I have attached a copy of the letter for your reference.

I look forward to hearing from you all.

Many thanks,  
Henry Rodgers

--

**Henry Rodgers**  
**Senior Congressional Correspondent**  
**The Daily Caller**  
1775 Eye Street NW  
Suite 1150-290  
Washington, DC 20006  
(b) (6)  
Twitter: @henryrodgersdc

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**United States Senate**  
COMMITTEE ON  
HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6250

August 10, 2022

The Honorable Merrick Garland  
Attorney General  
Department of Justice

The Honorable Christopher Wray  
Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Dear Attorney General Garland and Director Wray:

The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) raid on former President Donald Trump's residence at Mar-a-Lago is deeply concerning. It occurred almost two weeks after I sent a letter to both of you highlighting recent whistleblower allegations which raise serious questions regarding the integrity of the FBI and your agencies' ability to do its job without political bias.<sup>1</sup>

The FBI's unprecedented actions against former President Trump, without any stated justification, only add to the mounting evidence of corruption within our federal law enforcement agencies and is yet another example of a multi-tiered system of justice and federal agencies being weaponized against the left's political opponents.

I understand other members of Congress have requested that you provide a full explanation for the raid at the former president's residence. I request that information immediately. However, given your history of lack of transparency and obstruction of my investigations, I am not confident that your explanation for the raid will be forthright, honest, or ease anyone's concerns.

Instead, I want to reiterate my message to the brave men and women who work at the FBI and the Department of Justice who are frustrated and concerned with the direction your agencies are taking:

If you have witnessed wrongdoing at your agency, please come forward and share your concerns with my office. You have a right to talk to Congress.

---

<sup>1</sup> Letter from Sen. Ron Johnson, Ranking Member, Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations, to Merrick Garland, Attorney General, Dep't of Justice, Avril Haines, Director, Office of National Intelligence, Christopher A. Wray, Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Michael E. Horowitz, Inspector General, Dep't of Justice, July 26, 2022.

The Honorable Merrick Garland  
The Honorable Christopher Wray  
Page 2

By exposing the truth, Congress can hold accountable those who continue to abuse our system of justice.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ron Johnson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Ron Johnson  
Ranking Member  
Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations

cc: The Honorable Jon Ossoff  
Chairman

The Honorable Michael E. Horowitz  
Inspector General

## Camila DeChalus

---

**From:** Camila DeChalus  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 11, 2022 10:44 AM  
**To:** Iverson, Dena (PAO)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] statement request on FBI threats

Hi,

I hope all is well. My name is Camila DeChalus I am a reporter with Business Insider. I wanted to reach out to see if this department wanted to comment on the [FBI facing threats](#) following the agency search on Trump's mar-a-lago resort.

Also can you provide any specific information on the threats fbi agents are now facing following the search warrant carried out at Trump's estate.

My deadline is 12pm, thanks!

Best,

Camila

**Iverson, Dena (PAO)**

---

**From:** Iverson, Dena (PAO)  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 11, 2022 11:03 AM  
**To:** Andrew Solender  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Threats

Hi Andrew,

The department declines to comment.

Best,  
Dena

Dena Iverson  
Principal Deputy Director, Office of Public Affairs  
U.S. Department of Justice  
(202)353-8763 - Office  
(b) (6) - Cell  
[Dena.iverson@usdoj.gov](mailto:Dena.iverson@usdoj.gov)

---

**From:** Andrew Solender <[andrew.solender@axios.com](mailto:andrew.solender@axios.com)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 11, 2022 10:38 AM  
**To:** Iverson, Dena (PAO) <[Dena.I.DeBonis@usdoj.gov](mailto:Dena.I.DeBonis@usdoj.gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Threats

Hi Dena,

I'm working on a story today about rising threats to members of Congress and public officials. I wonder if you can confirm Fox News' reporting that Attorney General Garland, Director Wray and others in the Department have seen a rise in threats since the Mar-a-Lago search. Thank you.

--

**Andrew Solender**  
Congressional Reporter | Axios

[Andrew.Solender@axios.com](mailto:Andrew.Solender@axios.com)

(b) (6)

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**From:** Jerry Dunleavy <jdunleavy@washingtonexaminer.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 11, 2022 1:34 PM  
**To:** Hornbuckle, Wyn (PAO); Shevlin, Shannon (OPA)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Re: Attorney General Merrick B. Garland to Make a Statement

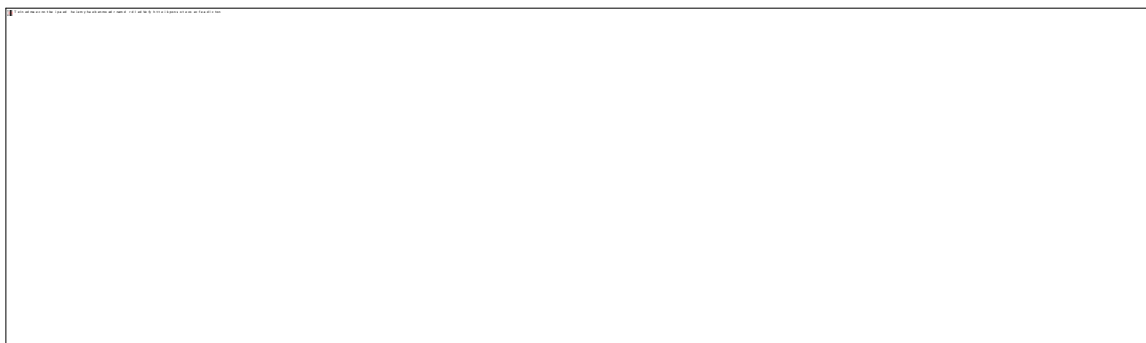
Dear Wyn & Shannon,

Any details on the topic of Garland's remarks? Is he speaking in reference to the FBI raid at Mar-a-Lago?

Many thanks!

JD

On Thu, Aug 11, 2022 at 1:31 PM USDOJ-Office of Public Affairs <[USDOJ-OfficeofPublicAffairs@public.govdelivery.com](mailto:USDOJ-OfficeofPublicAffairs@public.govdelivery.com)> wrote:



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## The United States Department of Justice

August 11, 2022

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### **Attorney General Merrick B. Garland to Make a Statement**

**\*\*\*\*\* MEDIA ADVISORY – FOR PLANNING PURPOSES ONLY \*\*\*\*\***

WASHINGTON – Attorney General Merrick B. Garland will make a statement today.

**WHEN: Today**, Thursday, Aug. 11, 2022, at 2:30 p.m. ET

**WHO:** Attorney General Merrick B. Garland



**WHERE: U.S. Department of Justice Main Building at 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW in the 7th floor conference space, room 7411.** Live webcast at [www.justice.gov/live](http://www.justice.gov/live).

**PRESS:** This event will be broadcast pooled by Fox and open to Justice Department hard pass holders and still photos.

**NOTE:** Any non-Justice Department pass-holding press must **RSVP by 2:00 p.m.** DC's current COVID-19 Community Level is Medium. All visitors must complete the self-screening health questionnaire and certification of vaccination forms found at <https://www.justice.gov/doj/covid-19-policy-visitors>. Masks are not required, regardless of vaccination status. Individuals who are not up to date on COVID-19 vaccines must stay at least six feet from others.

Any inquiries regarding logistics should be directed to Wyn Hornbuckle at [Wyn.Hornbuckle@usdoj.gov](mailto:Wyn.Hornbuckle@usdoj.gov) or Shannon Shevlin at [Shannon.Shevlin@usdoj.gov](mailto:Shannon.Shevlin@usdoj.gov).

# # #

Do not reply to this message. If you have questions, please use the contacts in the message or call the Office of Public Affairs at 202-514-2007.

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**Jerry Dunleavy**  
**Washington Examiner**  
**[JDunleavy@WashingtonExaminer.com](mailto:JDunleavy@WashingtonExaminer.com)**  
**216-375-7101**

---

**From:** Amy Sherman <asherma@poynter.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 11, 2022 3:24 PM  
**To:** Iverson, Dena (PAO)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] will DOJ release warrant if judge gives ok

Hi Dena: How can reporters get a copy of the warrant and receipt for Mar-a-Lago warrant if a judge gives the ok -- will you be posting that on your website? Will it be on PACER? Do you expect it to be released today?  
Thanks - Amy

--

Amy Sherman  
PolitiFact staff writer fact-checking claims about voting, elections and democracy  
954-665-9035  
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**Patricia de Arce Milla**

---

**From:** Patricia de Arce Milla  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 11, 2022 5:42 PM  
**To:** Navas, Nicole (PAO)  
**Cc:** MARC ARCAS SALVADOR; Iverson, Dena (PAO)  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Press request

Thank you Nicole

Hello Dena, could you help us and confirm that there is a deadline for Donald Trump to object to the unsealing of the search warrant?

Thank you very much

Regards

El jue, 11 ago 2022 a las 17:26, Navas, Nicole (PAO) (<[Nicole.Navas@usdoj.gov](mailto:Nicole.Navas@usdoj.gov)>) escribió:

Hi Patricia,

I am connecting you to my colleague.

Thank you,

Nicole Navas Oxman

Senior Communications Advisor for International Law Enforcement/Spokesperson

U.S. Department of Justice

(b) (6)

[Nicole.Navas@usdoj.gov](mailto:Nicole.Navas@usdoj.gov)

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---

**From:** Patricia de Arce Milla <[parce@efe.com](mailto:parce@efe.com)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 11, 2022 5:25 PM  
**To:** Navas, Nicole (PAO) <[Nicole.Navas@usdoj.gov](mailto:Nicole.Navas@usdoj.gov)>  
**Cc:** MARC ARCAS SALVADOR <[marcas@efe.com](mailto:marcas@efe.com)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Press request

Hello Nicole, I hope this email finds you well

Could you confirm that there is a deadline for Donald Trump to object to the unsealing of the search warrant?

Thank you very much in advance

Regards

Patricia de Arce

Washington Bureau Chief/EFE

Director/EFE News

Washington D.C.

Tel. +1 (202) 745 7692

M. + (b) (6)

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**From:** James Politi <james.politi@ft.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 11, 2022 8:48 PM  
**To:** Iverson, Dena (PAO)  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Mar a Lago search

Thanks Dena, are you disputing it in any way ?

On Thu, Aug 11, 2022 at 8:45 PM Iverson, Dena (PAO) <[Dena.I.DeBonis@usdoj.gov](mailto:Dena.I.DeBonis@usdoj.gov)> wrote:

Hi James,

The department declines to comment.

Best,

Dena

Dena Iverson

Principal Deputy Director, Office of Public Affairs

U.S. Department of Justice

(202)353-8763 - Office

(b) (6) - Cell

[Dena.iverson@usdoj.gov](mailto:Dena.iverson@usdoj.gov)

**From:** James Politi <[james.politi@ft.com](mailto:james.politi@ft.com)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 11, 2022 8:34 PM  
**To:** Iverson, Dena (PAO) <[Dena.I.DeBonis@usdoj.gov](mailto:Dena.I.DeBonis@usdoj.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Mar a Lago search

Hi Dena, it's James Politi with the Financial Times, just saw the WaPo article suggesting that nuclear documents were being sought in the search of his home - is that accurate ? thanks  
James

On Tue, Aug 9, 2022 at 10:55 AM James Politi <[james.politi@ft.com](mailto:james.politi@ft.com)> wrote:

Hi Dena - separately I was wondering if you might be able to confirm that Judge Bruce Reinhart from the SD of Florida signed off on the search warrant...

thanks James

On Tue, Aug 9, 2022 at 10:02 AM James Politi <[james.politi@ft.com](mailto:james.politi@ft.com)> wrote:

Hi Dena, good morning - are there any plans for the DoJ to say anything about the Mar a Lago raid today ?

thanks James

On Mon, Aug 8, 2022 at 7:59 PM James Politi <[james.politi@ft.com](mailto:james.politi@ft.com)> wrote:

Ok thanks - Dena, can you confirm on background that it relates to the boxes of classified documents ?

On Mon, Aug 8, 2022 at 7:21 PM Iverson, Dena (PAO) <[Dena.I.DeBonis@usdoj.gov](mailto:Dena.I.DeBonis@usdoj.gov)> wrote:

Hi James,

The department declines to comment.

Best,

Dena

Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 8, 2022, at 7:20 PM, James Politi <[james.politi@ft.com](mailto:james.politi@ft.com)> wrote:

Hi Dena, hope all is well. In Anthony's absence was wondering if you had any reaction to the FBI search of Mar a Lago - thanks James

--

James Politi

Financial Times

Washington bureau chief

1667 K St NW Suite 825

Washington DC 20006

Tel: (b) (6)

Mobile (b) (6)

Twitter: @jamespoliti

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--

James Politi

Financial Times

Washington bureau chief

1667 K St NW Suite 825

Washington DC 20006

Tel: (b) (6)

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Twitter: @jamespoliti

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--

James Politi



Financial Times

Washington bureau chief

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James Politi

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James Politi

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## Pietranton, Kelsey (PAO)

---

**From:** Pietranton, Kelsey (PAO)  
**Sent:** Friday, August 12, 2022 11:16 AM  
**To:** Catenacci, Thomas  
**Cc:** Iverson, Dena (PAO); anthony.coley@usdoj.gov; Hornbuckle, Wyn (PAO)  
**Subject:** RE: Press inquiry - Fox News

Hi Thomas,

Thanks for your inquiry and for following up with us. We would refer you back to the Attorney General's remarks from yesterday (<https://www.justice.gov/opa/speech/attorney-general-merrick-garland-delivers-remarks>), specifically where he addresses unfounded attacks on the professionalism of FBI agents/

Thank you,  
Kelsey

Kelsey Pietranton  
Office of Public Affairs  
Department of Justice  
(o) (202) 514-2016  
(m) (b) (6)

---

**From:** Catenacci, Thomas <thomas.catenacci@fox.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 12, 2022 10:04 AM  
**To:** Pietranton, Kelsey (PAO) <Kelsey.Pietranton@usdoj.gov>  
**Cc:** Iverson, Dena (PAO) <Dena.I.DeBonis@usdoj.gov>; anthony.coley@usdoj.gov  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Re: Press inquiry - Fox News

Following up on this. **Deadline is 12pm.**

Thank you!

Thomas

---

**From:** Catenacci, Thomas  
**Sent:** Friday, August 12, 2022 8:47 AM  
**To:** Kelsey Pietranton <[kelsey.pietranton@usdoj.gov](mailto:kelsey.pietranton@usdoj.gov)>  
**Cc:** [Dena.I.DeBonis@usdoj.gov](mailto:Dena.I.DeBonis@usdoj.gov) <[Dena.I.DeBonis@usdoj.gov](mailto:Dena.I.DeBonis@usdoj.gov)>; [anthony.coley@usdoj.gov](mailto:anthony.coley@usdoj.gov) <[anthony.coley@usdoj.gov](mailto:anthony.coley@usdoj.gov)>  
**Subject:** Press inquiry - Fox News

Hi Kelsey,

Former President Trump and his attorney have claimed in recent days that the FBI agents who executed a search warrant on his home Monday may have "planted" evidence.

Does the DOJ have any comment or response to this claim?

Thank you very much.

**Thomas Catenacci**

Reporter | Fox News Digital

e: [thomas.catenacci@fox.com](mailto:thomas.catenacci@fox.com)

(b) (6)

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**From:** Spunt, David <David.Spunt@FOX.COM>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 12, 2022 11:43 AM  
**To:** Pietranton, Kelsey (PAO)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: Press inquiry - Fox News

Don't know who this man is---thanks

David Spunt  
Correspondent  
Fox News

(b) (6)

---

**From:** Pietranton, Kelsey (PAO) <Kelsey.Pietranton@usdoj.gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 12, 2022 11:17 AM  
**To:** Spunt, David <David.Spunt@FOX.COM>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] FW: Press inquiry - Fox News

FYI.

---

**From:** Pietranton, Kelsey (PAO)  
**Sent:** Friday, August 12, 2022 11:16 AM  
**To:** 'Catenacci, Thomas' <[thomas.catenacci@fox.com](mailto:thomas.catenacci@fox.com)>  
**Cc:** Iverson, Dena (PAO) <[Dena.I.DeBonis@usdoj.gov](mailto:Dena.I.DeBonis@usdoj.gov)>; [anthony.coley@usdoj.gov](mailto:anthony.coley@usdoj.gov); Hornbuckle, Wyn (PAO) <[Wyn.Hornbuckle@usdoj.gov](mailto:Wyn.Hornbuckle@usdoj.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Press inquiry - Fox News

Hi Thomas,

Thanks for your inquiry and for following up with us. We would refer you back to the Attorney General's remarks from yesterday (<https://www.justice.gov/opa/speech/attorney-general-merrick-garland-delivers-remarks>), specifically where he addresses unfounded attacks on the professionalism of FBI agents/

Thank you,  
Kelsey

Kelsey Pietranton  
Office of Public Affairs  
Department of Justice  
(o) (202) 514-2016  
(m) (b) (6)

---

**From:** Catenacci, Thomas <[thomas.catenacci@fox.com](mailto:thomas.catenacci@fox.com)>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 12, 2022 10:04 AM

**To:** Pietranton, Kelsey (PAO) <[Kelsey.Pietranton@usdoj.gov](mailto:Kelsey.Pietranton@usdoj.gov)>  
**Cc:** Iverson, Dena (PAO) <[Dena.I.DeBonis@usdoj.gov](mailto:Dena.I.DeBonis@usdoj.gov)>; [anthony.coley@usdoj.gov](mailto:anthony.coley@usdoj.gov)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Re: Press inquiry - Fox News

Following up on this. **Deadline is 12pm.**

Thank you!

Thomas

---

**From:** Catenacci, Thomas  
**Sent:** Friday, August 12, 2022 8:47 AM  
**To:** Kelsey Pietranton <[kelsey.pietranton@usdoj.gov](mailto:kelsey.pietranton@usdoj.gov)>  
**Cc:** [Dena.I.DeBonis@usdoj.gov](mailto:Dena.I.DeBonis@usdoj.gov) <[Dena.I.DeBonis@usdoj.gov](mailto:Dena.I.DeBonis@usdoj.gov)>; [anthony.coley@usdoj.gov](mailto:anthony.coley@usdoj.gov) <[anthony.coley@usdoj.gov](mailto:anthony.coley@usdoj.gov)>  
**Subject:** Press inquiry - Fox News

Hi Kelsey,

Former President Trump and his attorney have claimed in recent days that the FBI agents who executed a search warrant on his home Monday may have "planted" evidence.

Does the DOJ have any comment or response to this claim?

Thank you very much.

**Thomas Catenacci**  
Reporter | Fox News Digital  
e: [thomas.catenacci@fox.com](mailto:thomas.catenacci@fox.com)  
c (b) (6)

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## James Politi

---

**From:** James Politi  
**Sent:** Friday, August 12, 2022 1:33 PM  
**To:** Iverson, Dena (PAO)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] WSJ article authenticity

Hi Dena,

Hope all is well. Can you tell me if the description of the search warrant and inventory reported by the WSJ is accurate ? Just want to make sure that is the case, even if you could steer on background...

Thanks

James

--

James Politi  
Financial Times  
Washington bureau chief  
1667 K St NW Suite 825  
Washington DC 20006  
Tel: (b) (6)  
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Twitter: @jamespoliti



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**Joshua.Stueve@usdoj.gov**

---

**From:** Joshua.Stueve@usdoj.gov  
**Sent:** Friday, August 12, 2022 7:20 PM  
**To:** Caroline Vakil; Iverson, Dena (PAO)  
**Cc:** Bradford, Aryele (PAO)  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Re: Media inquiry regarding Rep. Greene filing articles of impeachment against AG Garland

+ Dena

Hi Caroline. Thanks for reaching out. Decline to comment.

Joshua Stueve | Spokesman  
U.S. Department of Justice

On Aug 12, 2022, at 6:48 PM, Caroline Vakil <cvakil@thehill.com> wrote:

?

Hi - just wanted to add, the resolution makes other claim, in case the DOJ is able to comment on it, asserting that Garland's "effort to unseal the search warrant for the home of former President Donald J. Trump constitutes an attempt to intimidate, harass, and potentially disqualify a political challenger to President Joseph R. Biden, Jr."

In case the DOJ has any comment on that either?

---

**From:** Caroline Vakil  
**Sent:** Friday, August 12, 2022 5:40 PM  
**To:** Stueve, Joshua (PAO) <Joshua.Stueve@usdoj.gov>; Bradford, Aryele (PAO) <aryele.bradford@usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** Media inquiry regarding Rep. Greene filing articles of impeachment against AG Garland

Hi Joshua and Aryele,

I saw that Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene has filed articles of impeachment against Attorney General Merrick Garland. The resolution claims that "Garland's personal approval to seek a search warrant for the raid on the home of the 45<sup>th</sup> President of the United States, Donald J. Trump, constitutes a blatant attempt to persecute a political opponent."

The documents also claims "Attorney General Garland, in persecuting former President Donald J. Trump over documents he legally declassified, has engaged in a pattern of conduct that is incompatible with his duties as a civil officer of the United States."

I wanted to know if the DOJ had a comment on the articles of impeachment filed?

<https://twitter.com/RepMTG/status/1558209056505987075/photo/4>



Best,  
Caroline

Caroline Vakil  
Breaking News Reporter, The Hill  
cvakil@thehill.com

(b) (6)

**Hesson, Ted (Reuters)**

---

**From:** Hesson, Ted (Reuters)  
**Sent:** Saturday, August 13, 2022 1:47 PM  
**To:** Iverson, Dena (PAO)  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Reuters - NYT report on Trump classified material

Thank you, Dena. Appreciate the response.

---

**From:** Iverson, Dena (PAO) <Dena.I.DeBonis@usdoj.gov>  
**Sent:** Saturday, August 13, 2022 1:44 PM  
**To:** Hesson, Ted (Reuters) <Ted.Hesson@thomsonreuters.com>  
**Subject:** [EXT] Re: [EXTERNAL] Reuters - NYT report on Trump classified material

**External Email:** Use caution with links and attachments.

Hi Ted,

Thanks for reaching out, the department declines to comment.

Dena

Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 13, 2022, at 12:23 PM, Hesson, Ted (Reuters) <[Ted.Hesson@thomsonreuters.com](mailto:Ted.Hesson@thomsonreuters.com)> wrote:

?

Hi Dena,

I'm a reporter with Reuters in DC. I'm working on an article related to this NYT report saying that a Trump lawyer signed a written statement in June saying that all classified material at Mar-a-Lago had been returned to the government.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2022/08/13/us/politics/trump-classified-material-fbi.html?searchResultPosition=1>

Can you confirm or comment on the following? I'm (b) (6) and happy to discuss on background.

1. At least one lawyer for former President Trump signed a written statement in June asserting that all material marked as classified and held in boxes in a storage area at Trump's Mar-a-Lago residence and club had been returned to the government
2. The written declaration was made after a visit on June 3 to Mar-a-Lago by Jay I. Bratt, the top counterintelligence official in the Justice Department's national security division.
3. In the spring, the Justice Department issued a subpoena to Mr. Trump seeking further documents believed to be in his possession. He was repeatedly urged by advisers to return what remained,

despite what they described as his desire to continue to hold onto some documents.

4. In an effort to resolve the dispute, Mr. Bratt and other officials visited Mar-a-Lago in early June, briefly meeting Mr. Trump. Two of Mr. Trump's lawyers, M. Evan Corcoran and Christina Bobb, spoke with Mr. Bratt and a handful of investigators he traveled with, people briefed on the meeting said.
5. Mr. Corcoran and Ms. Bobb showed Mr. Bratt and his team boxes holding material Mr. Trump had taken from the White House that were being kept in a storage area, the people said.
6. According to two people briefed on the visit, Mr. Bratt and his team left with additional material marked classified, and around that time also obtained the written declaration from a Trump lawyer attesting that all the material marked classified in the boxes had been turned over.
7. A short time after the meeting, according to people briefed on it, Mr. Bratt sent Mr. Corcoran an email telling him to get a more secure padlock for the room. Mr. Trump's team complied.

--

Ted Hesson  
Immigration Reporter  
Reuters

(b) (6) (o) (b) (6) (c)  
[ted.hesson@thomsonreuters.com](mailto:ted.hesson@thomsonreuters.com)

---

**From:** Singman, Brooke <brooke.singman@FOX.COM>  
**Sent:** Saturday, August 13, 2022 8:27 PM  
**To:** Pietranton, Kelsey (PAO)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Re: Hey there

Hi!

Sorry to bother on a Saturday night.

Sources familiar tell me that the boxes that the FBI seized (on the final page of the property receipt from the search of Trump's home at Mar-a-Lago) were filled with records covered by attorney-client privilege.

The sources say it is unclear, at this point, if that information is communications between the former president and his private attorneys, or White House counsel; or if it is information covered instead by executive privilege; or a combination.

Sources also tell me that former President Trump's legal team requested that an independent, special master be appointed to comb through those records, but sources tell me that request has been denied, and the records are being reviewed by the Justice Department and the FBI.

My deadline on this is 9:15pm.

Thank you so much.

Brooke Singman  
Politics Reporter, Fox News

(b) (6)

---

**From:** Pietranton, Kelsey (PAO) <Kelsey.Pietranton@usdoj.gov>  
**Sent:** Saturday, August 13, 2022 8:19 PM  
**To:** Singman, Brooke <brooke.singman@FOX.COM>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Hey there

I have weekend duty for us and understand you reached out with an inquiry? Let me know what you need.

Thanks and hope all is well!  
Kelsey

Kelsey Pietranton  
Office of Public Affairs  
Department of Justice  
(o) [202-514-2016](tel:202-514-2016)  
(m) (b) (6)

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---

**From:** OBrien, Cortney <Cortney.OBrien@FOX.COM>  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 14, 2022 10:28 AM  
**To:** Nicole.Oxman@usdoj.gov; Stueve, Joshua (PAO)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Fox News Digital request for comment: Sen. Cruz comment on parents memo

Good morning,

I'm an editor at Fox News Digital reaching out for comment on an education piece. Sen. Ted Cruz said the DOJ "continue to target parents" with its memo about investigating threats at school board meetings.

He called the DOJ and FBI "deeply politicized."

"We saw that just this week with the FBI showing up in massive numbers to raid Donald Trump's home, which was a complete abuse of power," Cruz said. "But even before that, we saw that when the National Association of School Boards wrote a letter to the White House under the attorney general, asking that the FBI go after parents and use the Patriot Act to investigate them as domestic terrorists. And the Attorney General Merrick Garland five days later turned around and wrote a formal memorandum to the FBI, directing the FBI, 'Target parents.'"

Cruz noted that he recently confronted FBI Director Wray about it at a Senate Judiciary Committee hearing.

"I asked him about the dozens of parents that they have targeted, that they have interviewed, that they have harassed as a result of that direction," Cruz said. "The FBI refuses to back away from it. They continue to target parents."

Would you like to respond? Thank you!

Regards,  
Cortney O'Brien

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---

**From:** Lawder, David (Reuters) <David.Lawder@thomsonreuters.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 14, 2022 11:41 AM  
**To:** Coley, Anthony D. (PAO); Iverson, Dena (PAO)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Trump search affidavit

Hello from the Reuters weekend desk in Washington. Republican lawmakers today are stepping up their calls for the affidavit to be unsealed in the FBI search warrant for Mar-a-Lago. Will the Justice Department ask a judge for this to be unsealed or at least a redacted version?

Thanks

Dave

.....  
**David Lawder**  
Correspondent  
**Reuters News**  
**Thomson Reuters**

Desk: + (b) (6)  
Mobile: (b) (6)  
[David.Lawder@thomsonreuters.com](mailto:David.Lawder@thomsonreuters.com)  
Twitter: @davelawder

---

**From:** Lawder, David (Reuters) <David.Lawder@thomsonreuters.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 14, 2022 11:43 AM  
**To:** Hornbuckle, Wyn (PAO)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] FW: Trump search affidavit

---

**From:** Lawder, David (Reuters)  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 14, 2022 11:41 AM  
**To:** (b) (6) Dena.Iverson@usdoj.gov  
**Subject:** Trump search affidavit

Hello from the Reuters weekend desk in Washington. Republican lawmakers today are stepping up their calls for the affidavit to be unsealed in the FBI search warrant for Mar-a-Lago. Will the Justice Department ask a judge for this to be unsealed or at least a redacted version?

Thanks  
Dave

.....  
**David Lawder**  
Correspondent  
**Reuters News**  
**Thomson Reuters**

Desk: + (b) (6)  
Mobile: (b) (6)  
[David.Lawder@thomsonreuters.com](mailto:David.Lawder@thomsonreuters.com)  
Twitter: @davelawder

---

**From:** Joshua.Stueve@usdoj.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, August 15, 2022 7:58 AM  
**To:** OBrien, Cortney  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Fox News Digital request for comment: Sen. Cruz comment on parents memo

Decline to comment.

Joshua Stueve | Spokesman  
U.S. Department of Justice

On Aug 14, 2022, at 10:28 AM, OBrien, Cortney <Cortney.OBrien@fox.com> wrote:

Good morning,

I'm an editor at Fox News Digital reaching out for comment on an education piece. Sen. Ted Cruz said the DOJ "continue to target parents" with its memo about investigating threats at school board meetings.

He called the DOJ and FBI "deeply politicized."

"We saw that just this week with the FBI showing up in massive numbers to raid Donald Trump's home, which was a complete abuse of power," Cruz said. "But even before that, we saw that when the National Association of School Boards wrote a letter to the White House under the attorney general, asking that the FBI go after parents and use the Patriot Act to investigate them as domestic terrorists. And the Attorney General Merrick Garland five days later turned around and wrote a formal memorandum to the FBI, directing the FBI, 'Target parents.'"

Cruz noted that he recently confronted FBI Director Wray about it at a Senate Judiciary Committee hearing.

"I asked him about the dozens of parents that they have targeted, that they have interviewed, that they have harassed as a result of that direction," Cruz said. "The FBI refuses to back away from it. They continue to target parents."

Would you like to respond? Thank you!

Regards,  
Cortney O'Brien

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---

**From:** Gibson, Jake <Jake.Gibson@FOX.COM>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 15, 2022 8:24 AM  
**To:** Coley, Anthony D. (PAO)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] FYI

**NYT: TRUMP SENT GARLAND TEXT MESSAGE AHEAD OF THURSDAY'S PUBLIC STATEMENT**

- ...Shortly before Mr. Garland made the announcement, a person close to Mr. Trump reached out to a Justice Department official to pass along a message from the former president to the attorney general. Mr. Trump wanted Mr. Garland to know that he had been checking in with people around the country and found them to be enraged by the search. The message Mr. Trump wanted conveyed, according to a person familiar with the exchange, was: "The country is on fire. What can I do to reduce the heat?" The following day, as a judge unsealed the warrant and the inventory of items that the F.B.I. took, Mr. Trump alternately claimed he did nothing wrong and also made the baseless statement that officials may have planted evidence at his [property during the search](#).

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**From:** Gibson, Jake <Jake.Gibson@FOX.COM>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 15, 2022 9:39 AM  
**To:** Coley, Anthony D. (PAO)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: Confirm please?

Thanks very much.

Can you give me a call please?  
Have a sec?

---

**From:** Coley, Anthony D. (PAO (b) (6))  
**Sent:** Monday, August 15, 2022 9:38 AM  
**To:** Gibson, Jake <Jake.Gibson@FOX.COM>  
**Cc:** Hornbuckle, Wyn (PAO) <Wyn.Hornbuckle@usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: Confirm please?

Hey there, Yes: confirming receipt.

---

**From:** Gibson, Jake <[Jake.Gibson@FOX.COM](mailto:Jake.Gibson@FOX.COM)>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 15, 2022 9:37 AM  
**To:** Coley, Anthony D. (PAO (b) (6))  
**Cc:** Hornbuckle, Wyn (PAO) <[Wyn.Hornbuckle@usdoj.gov](mailto:Wyn.Hornbuckle@usdoj.gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Confirm please?

Has DOJ received this letter from the Senate Intell Cmte?

Sens. Marco Rubio (R-Fla.) and Mark Warner (D-Va.) sent a private letter on Sunday to Director of National Intelligence Avril Haines and Attorney General Merrick Garland regarding the [FBI's search](#) of former President Trump's Mar-a-Lago home last week, Rubio's office told Axios.

**Why it matters:** The search, which led to the seizure of [11 sets of classified information](#) from Trump's residence, has prompted separate calls for more information from [Republicans](#) and [Democrats](#) about the search and the contents it yielded.

- On Thursday, the Department of Justice filed a motion to [unseal parts of the search warrant](#). In remarks announcing the news, Garland said he had "personally approved the decision to seek a search warrant."

**The big picture:** The letter asks for all information regarding the rationale behind the search.

- "In his remarks, Attorney General Garland claimed there was a substantial public interest in the execution of an unprecedented search warrant on President Trump," Rubio said in a statement.
- "As such, the Intelligence Committee has asked the Department of Justice to share with us, on a classified basis, the specific intelligence documents seized from Mar-a-Lago," he added.

“The Senate Intelligence Committee is charged with overseeing counterintelligence matters, including the handling and mishandling of classified information, which appears to be at the core of the search of Mar-a-Lago,” a committee spokesperson told Axios.

- The spokesperson confirmed the panel "requested that DOJ and ODNI provide the committee with the classified documents that were seized in the search of Mar-a-Lago, and an assessment of potential risks to national security as a result of their mishandling."

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---

**From:** Gibson, Jake <Jake.Gibson@FOX.COM>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 15, 2022 10:01 AM  
**To:** Coley, Anthony D. (PAO)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] FW: URGENT: EXCLUSIVE DIGITAL INTERVIEW: Trump 'will do whatever' he can to 'help the country' after FBI raid: 'Temperature has to be brought down'

Can you confirm that this message was sent to AG Garland from former President Trump?  
Was it received? Did Garland reply in any way?

---

**Subject:** URGENT: EXCLUSIVE DIGITAL INTERVIEW: Trump 'will do whatever' he can to 'help the country' after FBI raid: 'Temperature has to be brought down'

<https://www.foxnews.com/politics/trump-says-he-will-do-whatever-he-can-to-help-the-country-after-fbi-raid>

**EXCLUSIVE:** Former President Trump said he "will do whatever" he can "to help the country," after the FBI's raid of his Mar-a-Lago home last week, telling Fox News Digital that the "temperature has to be brought down," while stressing that the American people are "not going to stand for another scam."

**In an exclusive interview with Fox News Digital Monday morning, Trump said he had his representatives reach out to the Justice Department to offer to help amid outrage over the FBI's unprecedented raid on his private residence last week,** in which agents seized classified records, including some marked as top secret. Trump is disputing the classification of those records, saying the records have been declassified.

"The country is in a very dangerous position. There is tremendous anger, like I've never seen before, over all of the scams, and this new one years of scams and witch hunts, and now this," Trump said.

"If there is anything we can do to help, I, and my people, would certainly be willing to do that," Trump said.

"There has never been a time like this where law enforcement has been used to break into the house of a former president of the United States, and there is tremendous anger in the country at a level that has never been seen before, other than during very perilous times," Trump said.



**Trump told Fox News that his team "has not heard yet" from the Justice Department on whether they will accept his offer for help.**

"I think they would want the same thing I've never seen anything like this," Trump said. "It is a very dangerous time for our country."

He added: "I will do whatever I can to help the country."

Trump, reflecting on the "years of fake witch hunts and phony Russia, Russia, Russia schemes and scams," said that "nothing happens to those people who perpetuate that nothing happens with them."

"And then they break into a president's house a sneak attack where it was totally no one ever thought a thing like this would happen," Trump said.

Trump told Fox News that FBI agents "break in and take whatever they want to take."

Trump said FBI agents told his team on the Mar-a-Lago premises to "turn off the camera," and said "no one can go through the rooms."

"They could take anything they want, and put anything they want in," Trump said of the FBI agents. "My people were asked to stand outside."

Trump went on to suggest that the FBI "could have planted anything they wanted" during the raid.

"People are so angry at what is taking place," Trump said. "Whatever we can do to help because the temperature has to be brought down in the country. If it isn't, terrible things are going to happen."

He added: "The people of this country are not going to stand for another scam."

**FULL STORY:** <https://www.foxnews.com/politics/trump-says-he-will-do-whatever-he-can-to-help-the-country-after-fbi-raid>



## Fox News Flash top headlines for August 15

EXCLUSIVE: Former President Trump said he "will do whatever" he can "to help the country," after the FBI's raid of his Mar-a-Lago home last week.

[www.foxnews.com](http://www.foxnews.com)

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**From:** Gurman, Sadie <sadie.gurman@wsj.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 15, 2022 10:46 AM  
**To:** Klapper, Matthew B. (OAG)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Fwd: WSJ query re Garland and Mar-a-Lago

Just putting this on your radar.

Sadie Gurman  
WASHINGTON BUREAU  
<http://www.wsj.com/>

O (b) (6) | M (b) (6)

E: [sadie.gurman@wsj.com](mailto:sadie.gurman@wsj.com) | T: [@sgurman](https://twitter.com/sgurman)

A: [1025 Connecticut Ave. NW, Suite 800 | Washington, D.C. 20036](https://www.wsj.com/1025-Connecticut-Ave-NW-Suite-800-Washington-D-C-20036)

<https://protect2.fireeye.com/v1/url?k=32ec46d6-6d777e26-32eb6233-0cc47adc5fd8-1068ff74a176adee&q=1&e=4f3bd0a9-079c-4ade-8412-2e9de48ab878&u=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.dowjones.com%2F>

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----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Gurman, Sadie** <[sadie.gurman@wsj.com](mailto:sadie.gurman@wsj.com)>

Date: Mon, Aug 15, 2022 at 10:45 AM

Subject: WSJ query re Garland and Mar-a-Lago

To: Coley, Anthony D. (PAO) (b) (6)

Hi, Anthony,

Welcome back! We missed you!

You're just in time. We're planning a story for later today that talks about the AG's deliberations ahead of the Mar-a-Lago raid. We understand other DOJ officials were ready to move on the search before the attorney general but, in keeping with his deliberative nature, mulled the decision for weeks before signing off.

We're looking at this in the context of the even thornier decisions that await him on this and other matters, and would appreciate any background you might provide.

I will call you in a just a few!

Thanks for considering,

Sadie Gurman  
WASHINGTON BUREAU  
<http://www.wsj.com/>

O (b) (6) | M (b) (6)

E: [sadie.gurman@wsj.com](mailto:sadie.gurman@wsj.com) | T: [@sgurman](#)

A: [1025 Connecticut Ave. NW, Suite 800 | Washington, D.C. 20036](#)

[https://protect2.fireeye.com/v1/url?k=b93ca5a0-e6a79d50-b93b8145-0cc47adc5fd8-4df1d7aaaa0293cc&q=1&e=4f3bd0a9-079c-4ade-8412-](https://protect2.fireeye.com/v1/url?k=b93ca5a0-e6a79d50-b93b8145-0cc47adc5fd8-4df1d7aaaa0293cc&q=1&e=4f3bd0a9-079c-4ade-8412-2e9de48ab878&u=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.dowjones.com%2F)

[2e9de48ab878&u=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.dowjones.com%2F](https://protect2.fireeye.com/v1/url?k=b93ca5a0-e6a79d50-b93b8145-0cc47adc5fd8-4df1d7aaaa0293cc&q=1&e=4f3bd0a9-079c-4ade-8412-2e9de48ab878&u=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.dowjones.com%2F)

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---

**From:** Gurman, Sadie <sadie.gurman@wsj.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 15, 2022 11:06 AM  
**To:** Coley, Anthony D. (PAO)  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] WSJ query re Garland and Mar-a-Lago

No problem, I am here (at my dining room table).

Sadie Gurman  
WASHINGTON BUREAU  
<http://www.wsj.com/>

O (b) (6) | M (b) (6)

E: [sadie.gurman@wsj.com](mailto:sadie.gurman@wsj.com) | T: [@sgurman](https://twitter.com/sgurman)

A: [1025 Connecticut Ave. NW, Suite 800 | Washington, D.C. 20036](https://www.wsj.com/1025-Connecticut-Ave-NW-Suite-800-Washington-D.C.-20036)

<https://protect2.fireeye.com/v1/url?k=63f5dba3-3c6ee358-63f2ff46-ac1f6b0176a2-5bbb28dc7d25583d&q=1&e=ea7e86fc-3a53-4849-967d-47b66b4d2a49&u=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.dowjones.com%2F>

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On Mon, Aug 15, 2022 at 11:00 AM Coley, Anthony D. (PAO) (b) (6) wrote:

Hmmm. I don't think that's accurate.

Gimme a sec and then I'll call you...

On Aug 15, 2022, at 10:46 AM, Gurman, Sadie <[sadie.gurman@wsj.com](mailto:sadie.gurman@wsj.com)> wrote:

Hi, Anthony,

Welcome back! We missed you!

You're just in time. We're planning a story for later today that talks about the AG's deliberations ahead of the Mar-a-Lago raid. We understand other DOJ officials were ready to move on the search before the attorney general but, in keeping with his deliberative nature, mulled the decision for weeks before signing off.

We're looking at this in the context of the even thornier decisions that await him on this and other matters, and would appreciate any background you might provide.

I will call you in a just a few!

Thanks for considering,

Sadie Gurman

WASHINGTON BUREAU

<http://www.wsj.com/>

O (b) (6) | M (b) (6)

E: [sadie.gurman@wsj.com](mailto:sadie.gurman@wsj.com) | T: [@sgurman](#)

A: [1025 Connecticut Ave. NW, Suite 800 | Washington, D.C. 20036](#)

<https://protect2.fireeye.com/v1/url?k=6a04a617-359f9edb-6a0382f2-0cc47adca7dc-dafd786ec4aadf3b&q=1&e=e6482fe5-22ec-4910-8dfe-d047691e71de&u=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.dowjones.com%2F>

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---

**From:** David Boyer <dboyer@washingtontimes.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 15, 2022 11:28 AM  
**To:** Hornbuckle, Wyn (PAO)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Comment on Trump's offer of "help"?

Hi,

Does DOJ have any comment on Trump's claim in a Fox Digital interview today that he has reached out to DOJ with an offer of "help" to lower tensions in the country after the search of his home?

Thanks,

Dave Boyer

--

Dave Boyer

White House correspondent

The Washington Times

(b) (6) (c)

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---

**From:** David Boyer <dboyer@washingtontimes.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 15, 2022 11:34 AM  
**To:** Coley, Anthony D. (PAO)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] comment on Trump's offer of "help"?

Hi Anthony,  
Does DOJ have any comment on Trump's claim in a Fox Digital story today that he has reached out to DOJ with an offer to "help" lower tensions after the FBI search?  
Thanks,  
Dave Boyer

--

Dave Boyer  
White House correspondent  
The Washington Times  
(b) (6) (c)

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## Asher Notheis

---

**From:** Asher Notheis  
**Sent:** Monday, August 15, 2022 12:08 PM  
**To:** Iverson, Dena (PAO)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Questions from the Washington Examiner

Hello,

I am a writer for the Washington Examiner and I wanted to ask some questions about this interview former President Donald Trump did with [Fox News](#). He claims his representatives have contacted the Justice Department to offer his help following the FBI raid on his Mar-a-Lago residence.

-Are you able to confirm that people from Trump contact the Justice Department?  
-Trump said he has not heard from the Justice Department since making his offer; have you not yet responded, or is there an issue on why you haven't responded?

If you can answer these questions as soon as possible, it would be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,  
Asher Notheis  
The Washington Examiner

---

**From:** Asher Notheis <anotheis@washingtonexaminer.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 15, 2022 12:16 PM  
**To:** Coley, Anthony D. (PAO)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Questions from the Washington Examiner

Hello,

I am a writer for the Washington Examiner and I wanted to ask some questions about this interview former President Donald Trump did with [Fox News](#). He claims his representatives have contacted the Justice Department to offer his help following the FBI raid on his Mar-a-Lago residence.

-Are you able to confirm that people from Trump contact the Justice Department?  
-Trump said he has not heard from the Justice Department since making his offer; have you not yet responded, or is there an issue on why you haven't responded?

If you can answer these questions as soon as possible, it would be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,  
Asher Notheis  
The Washington Examiner

---

**From:** Legare, Robert <LegareR@cbsnews.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 15, 2022 1:02 PM  
**To:** Coley, Anthony D. (PAO)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] CBS - Comment? House Rs letters to AG  
**Attachments:** Garland 1 .pdf

Hey Anthony – welcome back. Good to see you on the call! Passing along inquiry from our politics team. Wondering if DOJ has any comment or confirmation of receipt from House Judiciary Committee members asking DOJ to preserve records and provide to congress records about the August 8<sup>th</sup> FBI search at Mar-a-Lago, how a search warrant was obtained and any communication between the Justice Department and White House related to the execution of that warrant.

Letter attached.

Thanks,  
Rob

ONE HUNDRED SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS

# Congress of the United States

## House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

2138 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING

WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6216

(202) 225-3951  
judiciary.house.gov

August 15, 2022

The Honorable Merrick B. Garland  
Attorney General  
U.S. Department of Justice  
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Attorney General Garland:

The FBI's unprecedented raid of President Trump's residence is a shocking escalation of the Biden Administration's weaponization of law-enforcement resources against its political opponents. The American people deserve transparency and accountability from our most senior law-enforcement officials in the executive branch. We will settle for nothing but your complete cooperation with our inquiry.

Under your tenure, the Justice Department continues to shatter public confidence in the equal application of justice. The Department has filed politically motivated lawsuits against Republican-led states on policies disfavored by the Biden Administration, artificially inflated domestic violent extremism statistics to advance the Biden Administration's political narrative, used counterterrorism resources to target parents at school board meetings opposed to policies supported by the Biden Administration, and selectively prosecuted and investigated political opponents of the Biden Administration. These actions not only undermine the stated mission of the Department, they violate the most fundamental tenets of our country.

The American people deserve answers for the Biden Administration's continued misuse of law-enforcement resources against its political opponents. Accordingly, please produce the following material:

1. All documents and communications referring or relating to the execution of a search warrant on President Trump's residence;
2. All documents and communications referring or relating to the decision to seek a search warrant for President Trump's residence;
3. All documents and communications referring or relating to the use of confidential human source(s) in connection with the search of President Trump's residence;

4. All documents and communications between or among the Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Investigation, or the Executive Office of the President about a search of President Trump's residence;
5. All documents and communications between or among the Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Investigation, or the United States Secret Service about a search of President Trump's residence; and
6. All documents and communications between or among the Department of Justice, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, or the National Archives and Records Administration about a potential search of President Trump's residence.

Please provide this material as soon as possible, but no later than 5:00 p.m. on August 29, 2022. In addition, please preserve all responsive documents in your possession, custody, or control. You should construe this communication as an instruction to preserve all documents, communications, and other information, including electronic information and metadata, that are or may be potentially responsive to this inquiry. This instruction includes all electronic messages sent using official and personal accounts or devices, including records created using text messages, phone-based message applications, or encryption software. For purposes of this request, "preserve" includes taking reasonable steps to prevent the partial or full destruction, alteration, testing, deletion, shredding, incineration, wiping, relocation, migration, theft, mutation, or negligent or reckless handling that could render the information incomplete or inaccessible. These steps include preserving all compilations of documents that have already been gathered in response to other government or litigation requests, even if copies of individual documents or materials may still exist elsewhere in the organization.

The Committee on the Judiciary has jurisdiction to oversee the activities of the Department of Justice and the Federal Bureau of Investigation pursuant to Rule X of the Rules of the House of Representatives. Please contact Committee staff at (202) 225-6906 if you have any questions about this matter.

Sincerely,



Jim Jordan  
Ranking Member



Steve Chabot  
Member of Congress



Louie Gohmert  
Member of Congress



Darrell Issa  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual  
Property, and the Internet



Matt Gaetz  
Member of Congress



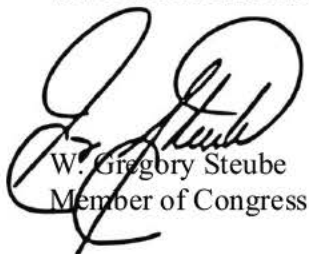
Mike Johnson  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on the Constitution,  
Civil Rights and Civil Liberties



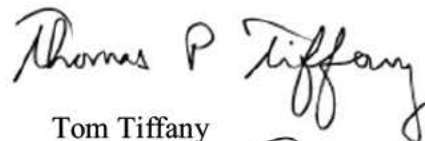
Andy Biggs  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism,  
and Homeland Security



Tom McClintock  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Immigration  
and Citizenship



W. Gregory Steube  
Member of Congress



Tom Tiffany  
Member of Congress



Thomas Massie  
Member of Congress



Chip Roy  
Member of Congress



Dan Bishop  
Member of Congress



Michelle Fischbach  
Member of Congress




Victoria Spartz  
Member of Congress



Scott Fitzgerald  
Member of Congress



Cliff Bentz  
Member of Congress



Burgess Owens  
Member of Congress

The Honorable Merrick B. Garland  
August 15, 2022  
Page 4

cc: The Honorable Jerrold L. Nadler, Chairman

---

**From:** Cappabianca, Corina F <Corina.Cappabianca@charter.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 15, 2022 1:15 PM  
**To:** Hornbuckle, Wyn (PAO); Shevlin, Shannon (OPA)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Spectrum News 13 / Bay News 9 Media Request

Hi there,

Wanted to see if I could get a statement or comment regarding the bipartisan letter from Senate Intelligence Committee leaders (Sen. Warner & Sen. Rubio) regarding the FBI search of Mar-a-Lago. Has the letter been received? And does the DOJ intend to provide the committee with the classified documents and an assessment of potential risks to national security resulting from them being at Mar-a-Lago?

Thank you,

Corina Cappabianca  
Reporter  
Spectrum News DC Bureau  
Bay News 9 | Spectrum News 13

(b) (6)



---

**From:** Jacob Knutson <jacob.knutson@axios.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 15, 2022 3:28 PM  
**To:** Coley, Anthony D. (PAO)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Axios seeking comment on former President Trump's claim against FBI

Hello,

Can the Department of Justice comment on former President Trump's claim that FBI agents "stole my three Passports (one expired), along with everything else" while serving out a search warrant on his Mar-a-Lago residence earlier last week? He made this claim in a post on [Truth Social](#).

Thank you for your time and help,

**Jacob Knutson**  
Reporter  
[jacob.knutson@axios.com](mailto:jacob.knutson@axios.com)

(b) (6)  
Twitter: @JacKnutson



---

**From:** O'Donnell, Kelly (NBCUniversal) <Kelly.O'Donnell@nbcuni.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 15, 2022 4:52 PM  
**To:** Iverson, Dena (PAO)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Passports question -- on deadline for Night;y News

Hi,

Trump is saying on his social media that his passports were seized. Can the Department say if this is true and if there are any restraints on his travel?

Thank you

**Kelly O'Donnell**  
**Senior White House Correspondent**  
**NBC News**

(b) (6) mobile

(b) (6) WH booth hardline

---

**From:** O'Donnell, Kelly (NBCUniversal) <Kelly.O'Donnell@nbcuni.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 15, 2022 5:02 PM  
**To:** Coley, Anthony D. (PAO)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] question on TRUMP PASSPORTS

Hi,

Trump is saying on his social media that his passports were seized. Can the Department say if this is true and if there are any restraints on his travel?

Thank you

**Kelly O'Donnell**  
**Senior White House Correspondent**  
**NBC News**

(b) (6) mobile

(b) (6) WH booth hardline

---

**From:** Sareen Habeshian <sareen.habeshian@axios.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 15, 2022 5:06 PM  
**To:** Iverson, Dena (PAO)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Media Request-Axios

Hello,

I'm writing on behalf of Axios to request information on the DOJ opposing requests to unseal the Trump Mar-A-Lago search warrant saying. Can you confirm that the department is opposing this?

Can you share the court filing and provide any comment?

Thank you!


**Sareen Habeshian**

Breaking News Reporter [sareen.habeshian@axios.com](mailto:sareen.habeshian@axios.com)

(b) (6)

Pronouns: she/her



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---

**From:** Stein, Perry <Perry.Stein@washpost.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 15, 2022 5:08 PM  
**To:** Coley, Anthony D. (PAO)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] following up

Hi Anthony -

Wonderful to meet and chat with you today at the DOJ -- look forward to spending more time at the DOJ and seeing you and your team around. Just wanted to more formally follow up: Do you have a comment on Trump's comment that the FBI took his two passports?

Please let me know. Thank you,  
Perry

---

**From:** Stueve, Joshua (PAO)  
**Sent:** Monday, August 15, 2022 5:16 PM  
**To:** Dilanian, Ken (NBCUniversal)  
**Subject:** FYSA  
**Attachments:** Adam Bies Complaint and Affidavit.pdf

Hey Ken. Wanted to flag this for you ... This guy was arrested late Friday for threatening the FBI following the search of Mar-a-Lago. The complaint was unsealed today. Defendant made his initial appearance at 2 p.m., and remains in custody pending a detention hearing.

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

for the

Western District of Pennsylvania

United States of America )

v. )

ADAM BIES )

Case No. )

22-mj-1108 )

[UNDER SEAL]

Defendant(s)

CRIMINAL COMPLAINT
BY TELEPHONE OR OTHER RELIABLE ELECTRONIC MEANS

I, the complainant in this case, state that the following is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

On or about the date(s) of August 8, 2022 to August 12, 2022 in the county of Mercer in the Western District of Pennsylvania, the defendant(s) violated:

Code Section

Offense Description

18 U.S.C. Section 115(a)(1)(B)

Influencing, Impeding or Retaliating against Federal Law Enforcement Officers

This criminal complaint is based on these facts:

Please see attached Affidavit in Support of Criminal Complaint.

Continued on the attached sheet.

/s/ Gregg Frankouser

Complainant's signature

Gregg Frankouser, Special Agent, FBI

Printed name and title

Sworn and subscribed before me, by telephone pursuant to Fed. R. Crim. P. 4.1(b)(2)(A).

Date: 08/12/2022

Maureen P. Kelly
Judge's signature

City and state: Pittsburgh, PA

Maureen P. Kelly, United States Magistrate Judge

Printed name and title

THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

v.

ADAM BIES

Magistrate No. 22-1108

**[UNDER SEAL]**

**AFFIDAVIT IN SUPPORT OF A CRIMINAL COMPLAINT**

I, Gregg Frankhouser, being duly sworn, hereby depose and state the following:

**I. INTRODUCTION**

1. This affidavit is made in support of a criminal complaint charging ADAM BIES (“BIES”) with Influencing, Impeding or Retaliating against a Federal Law Enforcement Officer, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 115(a)(1)(B).

2. I have served as a Federal Bureau of Investigation (“FBI”) Special Agent since April 2002. As a Special Agent with the FBI, I am an “investigative or law enforcement officer” of the United States within the meaning of Title 18, United States Code, Section 2510(7); that is, an officer of the United States who is empowered by law to conduct investigations of and to make arrests for offenses enumerated in Title 18, United States Code, Section 2516.

3. I am currently assigned to the New Castle Resident Agency in the FBI’s Pittsburgh Division. In this capacity, I am charged with investigating possible violations of federal criminal law. By virtue of my FBI employment, I perform and have performed a variety of investigative tasks, including functioning as a case agent on violent crime investigations. I have received training and have gained experience in the conduct of federal criminal investigations, the execution of federal search warrants and seizures and arrest warrants, and the identification and collection of



computer-related evidence.

4. The facts set forth in this affidavit are based on my personal knowledge, the knowledge obtained during my participation in this investigation, the knowledge obtained from other individuals, including other law enforcement personnel, review of documents and computer records related to this investigation, communications with others who have personal knowledge of the events and circumstances described herein, and information gained through my training and experience. Because this affidavit is submitted for the limited purpose of establishing probable cause in support of the criminal complaint, this affidavit does not set forth each and every fact that I have learned during the course of this investigation.

## **II. STATUTORY VIOLATIONS**

5. Title 18, United States Code, Section 115(a)(1)(B), criminalizes threats to assault or murder a federal law enforcement officer with the intent to impede, intimidate, or interfere with such law enforcement officer while engaged in the performance of official duties, or with intent to retaliate against such law enforcement officer on account of the performance of official duties.

6. FBI agents are agents of the United States authorized by law to engage in or supervise the prevention, detection, investigation, or prosecution of any violation of Federal criminal law. Therefore, they are “federal law enforcement officers” for purposes of Title 18, United States Code, Section 115.

## **III. PROBABLE CAUSE**

### **BIES Threats Directed to FBI and Agents**

7. The allegations in this criminal complaint pertain to recent threats using electronic communication services by BIES, who resides in the Western District of Pennsylvania. While some of the actions described in this affidavit relate to very recent conduct, other actions have

occurred in the months prior to the investigation of BIES by the FBI. Most of the threats summarized below were made in the days following the FBI search of former President Donald Trump's home in Florida on August 8, 2022.

8. On or around August 11, 2022, the FBI National Threat Operations Section (NTOS) Social Media Exploitation (SMEX) team received a tip from MEMRI Domestic Terrorism Threat Monitor (DTTM) regarding Gab user "BlankFocus", who posted threats towards the FBI and law enforcement stating, "My only goal is to kill more of them before I drop." MEMRI DTTM provided additional information that the "BlankFocus" made violent threats against the FBI, "If You Work For The FBI Then You Deserve To Die".

9. On August 11, 2022, an Emergency Disclosure Request (EDR) was issued to Gab via their online Kodex Law Enforcement Portal regarding the "BlankFocus" account. On the same date, a preservation letter for the account was submitted to Gab via email. In response to the EDR, Gab provided the subscriber information regarding the user's email address, which was identified as adam@adamkennethcampbell.com. Furthermore, the following was provided in a chat log disclosed by Gab, "my email adam@adamkennethcampbell.com I use a fake name for my photography and Gab so that corporate Murica' can't google me out of a job". Based on my background and experience, I believe BIES was using the "Adam Campbell" alias as a means of thwarting law enforcement as it related to his violent statements. Also provided by Gab were recent Internet Protocol (IP) logs including 24.144.167.194 on August 10, 2022, at 7:51pm.

10. On August 11, 2022, at 9:22pm, an EDR was submitted to Armstrong for the IP address 24.144.167.194 timestamp: 8/10/22 7:51. At approximately 9:30pm, Armstrong provided the following subscriber information related to the IP address: Adam Bies, 23 Falls Road, Mercer, PA, 16137. Open-source databases available to law enforcement confirmed BIES to be associated

with the 23 Falls Road address. The same database provided information that BIES' date of birth was October 6, 1975, which was also confirmed via Pennsylvania Driver's License information.

11. On August 11, 2022, BIES posted the following to his "BlankFocus" Gab account, "I'll shoot an SS officer in the head just as quick as I'd shoot a KGB officer in the head. Keep that in mind. There are plenty of other letters in the alphabet. Police state scum are police state scum. Period". Your affiant believes this statement compares United States Government Agencies to the Nazi SS and KGB.



12. In another post made on August 11, 2022, BIES tagged Gab CEO Andrew Torba, sharing his recent Gab post which states: "Here's Fox news throwing Gab under the bus because people . . . had opinions here. The examples they provided where nowhere near 'threats.'" The Fox 8 news article reported that FBI Director Christopher Wray and the agency received numerous threats on the platform. BIES wrote: "Hey asshole. Why don't you send them my threats so that they'd at least have something credible to show on Fox News. Just scrub my timeline for the posts you didn't delete after you threatened to ban me. I sincerely believe that if you work for the FBI, then you deserve to DIE." The Fox News article in question relates to FBI Director Wray "push[ing] back on threats following unprecedented raid on Trump." In this statement, BIES accepts that his statements are threats to law enforcement.



13. In another post, also on August 11, 2022, BIES wrote: "I'm ready for the inevitable. Once you accept reality for what it is instead of what you want or to be, you can move on with your life and get prepared for the inevitable outcome. I already know I'm going to die at the hands of these piece of shit child molesting law enforcement scumbags. My only goal is to kill more of them before I drop. I will not spend one second of my life in their custody." Based on my training and experience, an individual that makes statements accepting the end of life is a danger to himself and society. Based on the post described herein, I believe BIES is making his intentions known that he is willing to commit violence towards law enforcement in support of his beliefs, even if that costs him his own life.



Adam Kenneth Campbell @BlankFocus

3h · 🌐

I'm ready for the inevitable. Once you accept reality for what it is instead of what you want or to you can move on with your life and get prepared for the inevitable outcome.

I already know I'm going to die at the hands of these piece of shit child molesting law enforcem scumbags. My only goal is to kill more of them before I drop.

I will not spend one second of my life in their custody.



All the rest of you peace loving non-violent so-called republican morons will still try talking you out of it when an FBI officer has his dick inside your little girl's asshole while your wife they just is bleeding out.

👍 1

👍 Like

💬 Comment

🔄 Repost

🗉 Quote

📌 Sha

14. In another post from August 11, 2022, BIES wrote: “It’s perfectly OK for the government to constantly tell you that they intend to murder you, but when we decide we’ve had enough and tell them we are going to slaughter THEM, you get banned from Gab. @a [Andrew Torba] go ahead and ban me you fucking asshole.” BIES added that Gab has issued him a warning: “@a just gave me an account warning today for saying that a bunch of child molesting f\*\*gots at the FBI should be put down.”



Adam Kenneth Campbell @BlankFocus

4h · 🌐

It's perfectly OK for the government to constantly tell you that they intend to murder you, but we decide we've had enough and tell them we are going to slaughter THEM, you get banned f Gab.

@a go ahead and ban me you fucking asshole.

👍 1



👍 Like

💬 Comment

🔄 Repost

🗉 Quote

📌 St



Adam Kenneth Campbell @BlankFocus

4h · 🌐

@a just gave me an account warning today for saying that a bunch of child molesting faggots FBI should be put down.

Go ahead and ban me you piece of shit.

👍 2

15. On August 10, 2022, BIES wrote: “Every single piece of shit who works for the FBI in any capacity, from the director down to the janitor who cleans their fucking toilets deserves to die. You’ve declared war on us and now it's open season on YOU.”



Adam Kenneth Campbell @BlankFocus

1d · 🌐 · Edited



Every single piece of shit who works for the FBI in any capacity, from the director down to the who cleans their fucking toilets deserves to die.

You've declared war on us and now it's open season on YOU.

16. In another post on August 10, 2022, BIES wrote: “HEY FEDS. We the people cannot WAIT to water the trees of liberty with your blood. I’ll be waiting for you to kick down my door.”



Adam Kenneth Campbell @BlankFocus

1d · 🌐



HEY FEDS. We the people cannot WAIT to water the trees of liberty with your blood. I'll be wait you to kick down my door.

17. On August 12, 2022, at approximately 5:00pm, BIES posted the following to his account:



Adam Kenneth Campbell @BlankFoc... ⋮

2h · 🌐 · Edited

Come and get me you piece of shit feds. I can't wait to watch you bleed out you pedophile scumbags.

Every single one of you deserve a painful death.



Adam Kenneth Campbell @BlankFoc... ⋮

2h · 🌐

Come and get me you piece of shit feds. I am going to fucking slaughter you.

#### IV. CONCLUSION

18. Based on the aforementioned information, I respectfully submit that there is probable cause to believe that ADAM BIES's threats of violence against the FBI violated Title 18, United States Code, § 115(a)(1)(B), which criminalizes threats to assault or murder a federal law enforcement officer with the intent to impede, intimidate, or interfere with such law enforcement officer while engaged in the performance of official duties, or with intent to retaliate against such law enforcement officer on account of the performace of official duties.

The above information is true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief.

/s/Gregg Frankhouser  
Special Agent  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

The Affiant attested to this Affidavit  
By telephone pursuant to FRCP 4.1(b)(2)(A)  
12<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2022.

  
HONORABLE MAUREEN P. KELLY  
United States Magistrate Judge



---

**From:** Sareen Habeshian <sareen.habeshian@axios.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 15, 2022 5:23 PM  
**To:** Coley, Anthony D. (PAO)  
**Cc:** Rossello, Luis (PAO)  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Media Request-Axios

Got it, thank you so much!

Does the DOJ wish to provide a comment?

Thank you!

**Sareen Habeshian**

Breaking News Reporter [sareen.habeshian@axios.com](mailto:sareen.habeshian@axios.com)

(b) (6)

Pronouns: she/her



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On Mon, Aug 15, 2022 at 2:19 PM Coley, Anthony D. (PAO) (b) (6) wrote:

Hi Sareen, Thanks for checking in.

The filing is available on PACER. CCing Luis Rossello in case you don't have access to see if he can get you a copy....

---

**From:** Sareen Habeshian <[sareen.habeshian@axios.com](mailto:sareen.habeshian@axios.com)>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 15, 2022 5:09 PM  
**To:** Coley, Anthony D. (PAO) (b) (6)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Media Request-Axios

Hello,

I'm writing on behalf of Axios to request information on the DOJ opposing requests to unseal the Trump Mar-A-Lago search warrant saying. Can you confirm that the department is opposing this?

Can you share the court filing and provide any comment?

Thank you!


**Sareen Habeshian**

Breaking News Reporter [sareen.habeshian@axios.com](mailto:sareen.habeshian@axios.com)

(b) (6)

Pronouns: she/her



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**From:** Dilanian, Ken (NBCUniversal) <Ken.Dilanian@nbcuni.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 15, 2022 5:44 PM  
**To:** Stueve, Joshua (PAO)  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] FYSA  
**Attachments:** Adam Bies Complaint and Affidavit.pdf

Thanks Josh!

Ken Dilanian  
Justice Correspondent  
NBC News  
@KenDilanianNBC

(b) (6)

On Aug 15, 2022, at 5:17 PM, Stueve, Joshua (PAO) <Joshua.Stueve@usdoj.gov> wrote:

Hey Ken. Wanted to flag this for you ... This guy was arrested late Friday for threatening the FBI following the search of Mar-a-Lago. The complaint was unsealed today. Defendant made his initial appearance at 2 p.m., and remains in custody pending a detention hearing.

---

**From:** Sadie Gurman <sadie.gurman@wsj.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 15, 2022 6:21 PM  
**To:** Coley, Anthony D. (PAO)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Merrick Garland Weighed Search of Trump's Mar-a-Lago for Weeks - WSJ

Fresh out:

Merrick Garland Weighed Search of Trump's Mar-a-Lago for Weeks - WSJ

<https://www.wsj.com/articles/merrick-garland-weighed-search-of-trumps-mar-a-lago-for-weeks-11660601292>

---

**From:** Gurman, Sadie <sadie.gurman@wsj.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 15, 2022 10:04 PM  
**To:** Coley, Anthony D. (PAO)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Trump's passports

Hi Anthony,

I am just hoping you might confirm this detail I am seeing in the NYT:

By late Monday, the Justice Department admitted the error and contacted Mr. Trump's legal team to retrieve the three passports — two of them expired and the third an active diplomatic passport, according to one of the former president's lawyers, Evan Corcoran, and a spokesman for the department.

--

Sadie Gurman  
WASHINGTON BUREAU



O (b) (6) | M (b) (6)  
E: [sadie.gurman@wsj.com](mailto:sadie.gurman@wsj.com) | T: [@sgurman](https://twitter.com/sgurman)  
A: [1025 Connecticut Ave. NW, Suite 800 | Washington, D.C. 20036](https://www.wsj.com/contact)



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---

**From:** Natalie Musumeci <nmusumeci@insider.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 16, 2022 11:17 AM  
**To:** Hornbuckle, Wyn (PAO); Shevlin, Shannon (OPA)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Re: Insider reporter on IMMEDIATE deadline

Hello, I am following up on this?

Can you confirm?

**Natalie Musumeci**  
Senior News Reporter



[Business](#) - [Life](#) - [News](#)

**C** (b) (6) [Redacted]  
One Liberty Plaza, 8th FL, New York, NY 10006

On Tue, Aug 16, 2022 at 8:57 AM Natalie Musumeci <[nmusumeci@insider.com](mailto:nmusumeci@insider.com)> wrote:

Hello, can you please confirm, even on background, that Donald Trump's passports have been returned to him? <https://www.nbcnews.com/politics/donald-trump/trumps-passports-returned-mar-lago-search-doj-official-says-rcna43192>

Can you also explain how and why Trump's passports were taken during the FBI raid at Mar-a-Lago?

I am writing on IMMEDIATE deadline.

Thank you.

**Natalie Musumeci**  
Senior News Reporter



[Business](#) - [Life](#) - [News](#)

**C** (b) (6) [Redacted]  
One Liberty Plaza, 8th FL, New York, NY 10006

---

**From:** Asher Notheis <anotheis@washingtonexaminer.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 16, 2022 2:05 PM  
**To:** Iverson, Dena (PAO)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Questions from the Washington Examiner on Trump's Passports

Hello,

I am a writer for the Washington Examiner and I wanted to ask about these stories from [NBC News](#) and [CBS](#). Both state that former President Doanld Trump's passports have been returned to him, and that someone from either law enforcement or the Department of Justice said this.

- Are you able to confirm that Trump's passports were returned to him?
- Do you know why the passports were taken in the first place?
- Why were the passports returned?

If you can answer these questions as soon as you can, it would be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,  
Asher Notheis  
The Washington Examiner

---

**From:** Asher Notheis <anotheis@washingtonexaminer.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 16, 2022 2:05 PM  
**To:** Hornbuckle, Wyn (PAO)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Questions from the Washington Examiner on Trump's passports

Hello,

I am a writer for the Washington Examiner and I wanted to ask about these stories from [NBC News](#) and [CBS](#). Both state that former President Doanld Trump's passports have been returned to him, and that someone from either law enforcement or the Department of Justice said this.

- Are you able to confirm that Trump's passports were returned to him?
- Do you know why the passports were taken in the first place?
- Why were the passports returned?

If you can answer these questions as soon as you can, it would be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,  
Asher Notheis  
The Washington Examiner



---

**From:** NOBLE Headquarters <dcrawford@noblenational.ccsend.com> on behalf of NOBLE Headquarters <dcrawford@noblenatl.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 16, 2022 2:29 PM  
**To:** Pride Jr, Theron P. (OASG)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] NOBLE Condemns Threats of Violence Against Federal Officers

<https://r20.rs6.net/on.jsp?ca=11262dc1-f9d5-420f-b789-576e26e496f9&a=1011068267173&c=6e0797ac-f9fa-11eb-a83b-fa163ed82b2c&ch=6e13a358-f9fa-11eb-a83b-fa163ed82b2c>

<https://imgssl.constantcontact.com/letters/images/sys/S.gif>

<https://imgssl.constantcontact.com/letters/images/sys/S.gif>  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## NOBLE Condemns Threats of Violence Against Federal Officers in Wake of FBI Search of Mar-a-Lago

Alexandria, VA. August 16, 2022 The National Organization of Black Enforcement Executives (NOBLE) condemns the threat of violence against federal law enforcement agents since the FBI court-authorized search of former President Donald Trump's Palm Beach estate.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and Department of Homeland Security (DHS) issued a joint advisory late Friday, informing authorities of a spike in threats to federal law enforcement and government officials since the Mar-a-Lago search warrant.

The search was part of an investigation into whether Trump improperly managed classified documents from the White House to Mar-a-Lago. The bulletin cited that since the search on Mar-a-Lago, an increase in violent threats posted on multiple platforms including social media, against federal officials and facilities, including a threat to place a so-called dirty bomb in front of FBI Headquarters. Many NOBLE members are law enforcement officers (LEOs) in the federal sector, said NOBLE National President Brenda Goss Andrews, including one of her Assistant Inspector General for Investigations Defense Intelligence Agency, Office of the Inspector General (OIG).

"We are deeply concerned about the dangerous rhetoric and threats of violence aimed at our law enforcement professionals in the federal sector. Moreover, we are deeply concerned about the safety of all law enforcement officers who put their lives on the line every day to perform this honorable and noble work. NOBLE stands with all our law enforcement leaders and partners in strong opposition to threats against any law enforcement officer," said William B. Borden III, federal assistant to the NOBLE National President.

NOBLE National President Brenda Goss Andrews is scheduled to meet with several federal entities during the DHS Intelligence Summit in Alexandria, Virginia August 17-19.

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[Download the full statement here.](#)

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**From:** NOBLE Headquarters <dcrawford@noblenational.ccsend.com> on behalf of NOBLE Headquarters <dcrawford@noblenatl.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 16, 2022 2:29 PM  
**To:** Walker, Burden (OASG)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] NOBLE Condemns Threats of Violence Against Federal Officers

<https://r20.rs6.net/on.jsp?ca=11262dc1-f9d5-420f-b789-576e26e496f9&a=1011068267173&c=6e025a9e-f9fa-11eb-a83b-fa163ed82b2c&ch=6e0ba05e-f9fa-11eb-a83b-fa163ed82b2c>

<https://imgssl.constantcontact.com/letters/images/sys/S.gif>

<https://imgssl.constantcontact.com/letters/images/sys/S.gif>  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Alexandria, VA. August 16, 2022 The National Organization of Black Enforcement Executives (NOBLE) condemns the threat of violence against federal law enforcement agents since the FBI court-authorized search of former President Donald Trump's Palm Beach estate.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and Department of Homeland Security (DHS) issued a joint advisory late Friday, informing authorities of a spike in threats to federal law enforcement and government officials since the Mar-a-Lago search warrant.

The search was part of an investigation into whether Trump improperly managed classified documents from the White House to Mar-a-Lago. The bulletin cited that since the search on Mar-a-Lago, an increase in violent threats posted on multiple platforms including social media, against federal officials and facilities, including a threat to place a so-called dirty bomb in front of FBI Headquarters. Many NOBLE members are law enforcement officers (LEOs) in the federal sector, said NOBLE National President Brenda Goss Andrews, including one of her Assistant Inspector General for Investigations Defense Intelligence Agency, Office of the Inspector General (OIG).

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**From:** NOBLE Headquarters <dcrawford@noblenational.ccsend.com> on behalf of NOBLE Headquarters <dcrawford@noblenatl.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 16, 2022 2:29 PM  
**To:** West Rasmus, Emma (ASG)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] NOBLE Condemns Threats of Violence Against Federal Officers

<https://r20.rs6.net/on.jsp?ca=11262dc1-f9d5-420f-b789-576e26e496f9&a=1011068267173&c=6e07b750-f9fa-11eb-a83b-fa163ed82b2c&ch=6e13cd60-f9fa-11eb-a83b-fa163ed82b2c>

<https://imgssl.constantcontact.com/letters/images/sys/S.gif>

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**From:** O'Donnell, Norah <NOD3@cbsnews.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 16, 2022 2:49 PM  
**To:** Coley, Anthony D. (PAO)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Question

Dear Anthony, Hope you are well. At what time on Monday, August 15, where Mr. Trump's passports returned and/or picked up by his representatives?

Thank you Norah

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---

**From:** Ignatius, David <David.Ignatius@washpost.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 17, 2022 9:32 AM  
**To:** Pietranton, Kelsey (PAO)  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Re: Follow up

(b) (6)

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---

**From:** Ignatius, David <David.Ignatius@washpost.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 17, 2022 9:31:50 AM  
**To:** Pietranton, Kelsey (PAO) <Kelsey.Pietranton@usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Re: Follow up

Standing by

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**From:** Pietranton, Kelsey (PAO) <Kelsey.Pietranton@usdoj.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 16, 2022 11:24:29 PM  
**To:** Ignatius, David <David.Ignatius@washpost.com>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Re: Follow up

Will call at 9:30, thanks so much.

Kelsey Pietranton  
Office of Public Affairs  
Department of Justice  
(o) [202-514-2016](tel:202-514-2016)  
(m) (b) (6)

On Aug 16, 2022, at 10:09 PM, Ignatius, David <David.Ignatius@washpost.com> wrote:

I now have a call skedded at 9.00 so hope you can do 9.30.

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---

**From:** Ignatius, David <David.Ignatius@washpost.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 16, 2022 8:22:27 PM  
**To:** Pietranton, Kelsey (PAO) <Kelsey.Pietranton@usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Follow up

First thing tomorrow is good. I have a call at 10, so 9.00 or 9.30 would be ideal.

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**From:** Pietranton, Kelsey (PAO) <Kelsey.Pietranton@usdoj.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 16, 2022 6:43:06 PM  
**To:** Ignatius, David <David.Ignatius@washpost.com>  
**Subject:** RE: Follow up

Very happy to give you a call tonight or first thing tomorrow morning if better? Have just (finally) broken loose from meetings.

---

**From:** Ignatius, David <David.Ignatius@washpost.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 16, 2022 3:49 PM  
**To:** Pietranton, Kelsey (PAO) <Kelsey.Pietranton@usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: Follow up

Kelsey:

Like everyone else, I got swallowed up in MAL search warrant issues. I need to ask you a question in that regard. I spent many months last year investigating the Zelig-like figure of Kash Patel, who now surfaces as the co-custodian of Trump's documents. (I have linked a copy of my long piece about him, below). I would be happy to explain more. FWIW, I think I can draw a straight line through this narrative, from 2017 to 2022.

On the Ukraine War Crimes issue, yes, I remain very interested in that. Would it be possible to arrange a conversation about it, perhaps with the AG, next week?

David

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/2021/04/16/kash-patel-trump-intelligence-community/>

---

**From:** Pietranton, Kelsey (PAO) <Kelsey.Pietranton@usdoj.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 16, 2022 3:20 PM  
**To:** Ignatius, David <David.Ignatius@washpost.com>  
**Subject:** RE: Follow up

**CAUTION: EXTERNAL SENDER**

Hi David,

Wanted to follow up on this note after what I hope was a lovely vacation for you. Is this still on your radar for the immediate future?

Thanks so much,  
Kelsey

Kelsey Pietranton  
Office of Public Affairs  
Department of Justice  
(o) (202) 514-2016  
(m) (b) (6)

---

**From:** Pietranton, Kelsey (PAO)  
**Sent:** Monday, August 1, 2022 2:59 PM  
**To:** Ignatius, David <[David.Ignatius@washpost.com](mailto:David.Ignatius@washpost.com)>  
**Subject:** RE: Follow up

Hi David,

Yes I did hear, what a small world! Please do follow up when you're back from vacation. Going somewhere fun I hope?

Safe travels and talk soon,  
Kelsey

Kelsey Pietranton  
Office of Public Affairs  
Department of Justice  
(o) (202) 514-2016  
(m) (b) (6)

---

**From:** Ignatius, David <[David.Ignatius@washpost.com](mailto:David.Ignatius@washpost.com)>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 1, 2022 2:36 PM  
**To:** Pietranton, Kelsey (PAO) <[Kelsey.Pietranton@usdoj.gov](mailto:Kelsey.Pietranton@usdoj.gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Follow up

Kelsey:

As you may have heard, I happened to sit next to the DAG yesterday on a flight from BOS to DCA and we got talking about ways DOJ can help Ukraine investigate and prosecute war crimes. She mentioned that you had a new "war crimes accountability team" that was working with a joint international investigative team. She suggested that I contact you for details. I would be interested in pursuing this after I finish vacation Aug 9. Maybe we could be in touch then. Many thanks.  
David

---

**From:** O'Donnell, Kelly (NBCUniversal) <Kelly.O'Donnell@nbcuni.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 17, 2022 12:39 PM  
**To:** Hornbuckle, Wyn (PAO)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] connecting

Hi Wyn,

I am part of the NBC team covering the matter involving the Mar-a-Lago search. I wanted to see if you had a moment for a quick call so I can introduce myself.

Can you share a number please?

My thanks,  
KellyO

**Kelly O'Donnell**  
**Senior White House Correspondent**  
**NBC News**

(b) (6) mobile

(b) (6) WH booth hardline

---

**From:** Keene, Houston <Houston.Keene@FOX.COM>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 17, 2022 1:30 PM  
**To:** Iverson, Dena (PAO)  
**Cc:** Gibson, Jake  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Media Inquiry from Houston Keene - Fox News

Thanks Dena, it's greatly appreciated!

Houston Keene  
Associate Producer/Writer, Originals  
Fox News  
Twitter: @HoustonKeene

---

**From:** Iverson, Dena (PAO) <Dena.I.DeBonis@usdoj.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 17, 2022 1:26 PM  
**To:** Keene, Houston <Houston.Keene@FOX.COM>  
**Cc:** Gibson, Jake <Jake.Gibson@FOX.COM>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Media Inquiry from Houston Keene - Fox News

Hi Houston,

Sorry for the delay, in getting back to you. The department has received and is reviewing the letter in the normal course.

Best,  
Dena

Dena Iverson  
Principal Deputy Director, Office of Public Affairs  
U.S. Department of Justice  
(202)353-8763 - Office  
(b) (6) - Cell  
Dena.iverson@usdoj.gov

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Department of Justice via Department of Justice <no-reply@usdoj.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 17, 2022 10:39 AM  
**To:** Press <Press@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Media Inquiry from Houston Keene - Fox News

Date Wednesday, August 17, 2022 - 10:39am EDT

Name: Houston Keene

Email Address: houston.keene@fox.com

Topic: Criminal Law

Media Outlet: Fox News

Deadline: 12:15 PM EST

Inquiry:

Good morning,

I hope this finds you well. We're publishing a story on an interview I gave with Rep. Markwayne Mullin of Oklahoma, who told me the DOJ has not responded to House Intelligence Committee Republicans' letters about the Mar-a-Lago raid.

Why has the DOJ not responded to the Republican members on the House Intelligence Committee? Does the DOJ plan to respond to Republicans or brief the committee on the raid?

We're looking to publish the story this afternoon, so I would need a response by 12:15 PM ET.

Thank you,

Houston Keene

Associate Producer/Writer, Originals

Fox News

Twitter: @HoustonKeene

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**From:** Jack Phillips <jack.phillips@epochtimes.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 17, 2022 1:49 PM  
**To:** Blevins, Danielle (PAO)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Media inquiry

Hello - Can the DOJ / FBI respond to claims from former President Trump's lawyer Christina Bobb this week that agents searched Melania Trump's closet?

Reference:

Bobb further confirmed reports that the FBI searched a residence that would include former First Lady Melania Trump's closet but said she "wasn't allowed to observe what they were doing or see really any part of the raid." "They told me I have no legal standing to be there," Bobb said. "Those were the words they gave to me. We argued over whether that was true or not, and I explained to them ... it's better for you to allow me to observe because then I can't say, 'They kept me out and wouldn't let me observe.'

<https://www.newsmax.com/newsmax-tv/newsmaxtv-mar-a/2022/08/16/id/1083403/>

And can the DOJ / FBI respond to statements from another Trump attorney, Alina Habba, who demanded DOJ to release the names of alleged witnesses who helped secure the search warrant for Mar-a-Lago?

Reference:

[https://twitter.com/gtconway3d/status/1559605269755314179?ref\\_src=twsrc%5Etfw%7Ctwcamp%5Etweetembed%7Ctwterm%5E1559605269755314179%7Ctwgr%5E92a3388335cb599f8ce1728673cbb0e765a8de1a%7Ctwcon%5Es1\\_&ref\\_url=https%3A%2F%2Fd-18488959703266186542.ampproject.net%2F2208051912001%2Fframe.html](https://twitter.com/gtconway3d/status/1559605269755314179?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw%7Ctwcamp%5Etweetembed%7Ctwterm%5E1559605269755314179%7Ctwgr%5E92a3388335cb599f8ce1728673cbb0e765a8de1a%7Ctwcon%5Es1_&ref_url=https%3A%2F%2Fd-18488959703266186542.ampproject.net%2F2208051912001%2Fframe.html)

Thanks

Jack Phillips / Epoch Times

jack.phillips@epochtimes.com

---

**From:** (b) (6)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 17, 2022 11:03 PM  
**To:** Feist, Sam  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Re: Law Enforcement Safety

You're probably right but one of the big three published the names of two agents listed in (unredacted version) of the search warrant they rec'd, so there's that.

Got an out of office reply for you hope you're able to get some down time!

On Aug 17, 2022, at 10:56 PM, Feist, Sam <Sam.Feist@cnn.com> wrote:

Thanks for this, Anthony.

My suspicion is that the outlets who are not the five major networks will be the problem.

On Aug 17, 2022, at 10:32 PM, Coley, Anthony D. (PAO) (b) (6) wrote:

**EXTERNAL SENDER: Caution opening links or attachments**

DC Bureau Chiefs –

The health and safety of law enforcement is a priority for the Justice Department. Recently, two law enforcement personnel began receiving threats after their identities were released by news organizations that published copies of unredacted search warrant materials.

We have seen reports about the possible release of certain video footage. If your organization receives closed circuit television footage of the August 8 court-authorized search at Mar-a-Lago, we would hope that it would only be provided in a format that obscures the faces and identifying information of law enforcement personnel. If not, we respectfully request that you take steps to obscure such information before airing the footage.

Many thanks,  
Anthony Coley

Anthony D. Coley, Director  
Office of Public Affairs &  
Sr. Advisor to the Attorney General  
U.S. Department of Justice  
Direct (b) (6)  
Cell (b) (6)  
@AnthonyColeyDOJ





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**From:** Feist, Sam <Sam.Feist@cnn.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 17, 2022 11:06 PM  
**To:** Coley, Anthony D. (PAO)  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Re: Law Enforcement Safety

College drop offs!

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Anthony D. Coley, Director  
Office of Public Affairs &

Sr. Advisor to the Attorney General  
U.S. Department of Justice  
Direct (b) (6)  
Cell (b) (6)  
@AnthonyColeyDOJ

---

**From:** Dilanian, Ken (NBCUniversal) <Ken.Dilanian@nbcuni.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 18, 2022 3:28 PM  
**To:** Coley, Anthony D. (PAO)  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] RE: Surveillance

Thanks

Ken Dilanian  
Justice Correspondent  
NBC News  
@KenDilanianNBC  
(b) (6)

> On Aug 18, 2022, at 3:27 PM, Coley, Anthony D. (PAO) (b) (6) wrote:

>  
> Hey, I'll give you a buzz  
>  
> -----Original Message-----  
> From: Dilanian, Ken (NBCUniversal) <Ken.Dilanian@nbcuni.com>  
> Sent: Thursday, August 18, 2022 3:26 PM  
> To: Coley, Anthony D. (PAO) (b) (6) Iverson, Dena (PAO) <Dena.I.DeBonis@usdoj.gov>;  
Hornbuckle, Wyn (PAO) <Wyn.Hornbuckle@usdoj.gov>; Rossello, Luis (PAO) <Luis.Rossello@usdoj.gov>  
> Subject: [EXTERNAL] Surveillance

>  
> Folks, what can we say on the air about DOJ officials being concerned about the release by Trump of the surveillance video. Fair to say you are concerned that in this volatile climate exposure of the faces of law enforcement agents is not a good idea? Concerned about their personal safety? Thanks

>  
> Ken Dilanian  
> Justice Correspondent  
> NBC News  
> @KenDilanianNBC  
(b) (6)

---

**From:** Viswanatha, Aruna <aruna.viswanatha@wsj.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 19, 2022 1:15 PM  
**To:** Coley, Anthony D. (PAO)  
**Cc:** Gurman, Sadie  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL]

Hey Anthony, I assume this is a no comment, but just checking in case - Kash Patel is linking the Mar-a-Lago search with what he sees as a broader effort by DOJ to keep documents related to the 2016 Trump-Russia investigation from becoming public.

His argument is that he had been fighting with the Archives for months to give him some documents related to 2016 that Trump wanted back, and that the Archives said they had to get DOJ to sign off and say there was no PII in the documents. He is saying the investigation is a pretext for DOJ keeping those documents.

I understand this sounds like a conspiracy theory, but let me know if you would have any specific statement on this,

Thanks!  
-Aruna

---

**From:** Rabinowitz, Hannah <hannah.rabinowitz@warnermedia.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 19, 2022 1:29 PM  
**To:** Iverson, Dena (PAO)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Question on Rep. Turner comments

Hi Dena,

Reaching out to see if DOJ has any comment on this exchange between Jake Tapper and Rep. Mike Turner, where Turner insinuates that the search at Mar-a-Lago had a political motive:

Turner: This is very important. You know – this is President Biden's political rival. And President Trump was the man who derailed the Attorney General's path to sit on the Supreme Court. There better be a very high standard for an unprecedented – no former President's home has ever been raided.

Tapper: Wait, why are you saying Trump stopped Garland – you mean, because he won? That's how he stopped Garland from becoming a U.S. Supreme Court –

Turner: Well he was also the one who had to withdraw his nomination and appoint someone else. I mean, he didn't appoint him. So yes, Garland certainly knows that he's not on the Supreme Court because of Donald Trump. That's fairly personal.

Tapper: But you're insinuating that –

Turner I'm not insinuating, I'm straight up saying it.

Tapper: You're saying that Biden and Garland are doing this out of a political vendetta.

Turner: No, I'm saying that in order for them to have credibility – because they already have an unbelievable level of bias – this is President Biden's political rival, perhaps even his political opponent, certainly his past political opponent –

Tapper: But you have no evidence that Biden was involved in this in any way.

Turner: We don't know because Attorney General Garland hasn't told us. It would be an interesting question for you to ask Garland. Whether or not he did tell the White House.

<https://twitter.com/TheLeadCNN/status/1560407821463830531>

Best,

**Hannah Rabinowitz | CNN DC**

Associate Producer, Crime & Justice

[@HBRabinowitz](#) (b) (6)

---

**From:** Rabinowitz, Hannah <hannah.rabinowitz@warnermedia.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 19, 2022 3:58 PM  
**To:** Iverson, Dena (PAO)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Re: Question on Rep. Turner comments

Thanks so much, Dena. Hope you have a good weekend!

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---

**From:** Iverson, Dena (PAO) <Dena.I.DeBonis@usdoj.gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 19, 2022 3:51 PM  
**To:** Rabinowitz, Hannah <hannah.rabinowitz@warnermedia.com>  
**Subject:** RE: Question on Rep. Turner comments

**EXTERNAL SENDER: Caution opening links or attachments**

Hi Hannah,

I would point you back to the AG's remarks last week, in particular these two lines below

The search warrant was authorized by a federal court upon the required finding of probable cause.

Upholding the rule of law means applying the law evenly, without fear or favor. Under my watch, that is precisely what the Justice Department is doing.

Also, want to make sure you're aware of this fact check form USAT

<https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2022/08/17/fact-check-gop-senators-blocked-merrick-garlands-scotus-nomination-trump/10322865002/>

Best,  
Dena

Dena Iverson  
Principal Deputy Director, Office of Public Affairs  
U.S. Department of Justice  
(202)353-8763 - Office  
(b) (6) Cell  
[Dena.iverson@usdoj.gov](mailto:Dena.iverson@usdoj.gov)

---

**From:** Rabinowitz, Hannah <hannah.rabinowitz@warnermedia.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 19, 2022 1:29 PM  
**To:** Iverson, Dena (PAO) <Dena.I.DeBonis@usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Question on Rep. Turner comments

Hi Dena,

Reaching out to see if DOJ has any comment on this exchange between Jake Tapper and Rep. Mike Turner, where Turner insinuates that the search at Mar-a-Lago had a political motive:

Turner: This is very important. You know – this is President Biden’s political rival. And President Trump was the man who derailed the Attorney General’s path to sit on the Supreme Court. There better be a very high standard for an unprecedented – no former President’s home has ever been raided.

Tapper: Wait, why are you saying Trump stopped Garland – you mean, because he won? That’s how he stopped Garland from becoming a U.S. Supreme Court –

Turner: Well he was also the one who had to withdraw his nomination and appoint someone else. I mean, he didn’t appoint him. So yes, Garland certainly knows that he’s not on the Supreme Court because of Donald Trump. That’s fairly personal.

Tapper: But you’re insinuating that –

Turner I’m not insinuating, I’m straight up saying it.

Tapper: You’re saying that Biden and Garland are doing this out of a political vendetta.

Turner: No, I’m saying that in order for them to have credibility – because they already have an unbelievable level of bias – this is President Biden’s political rival, perhaps even his political opponent, certainly his past political opponent –

Tapper: But you have no evidence that Biden was involved in this in any way.

Turner: We don’t know because Attorney General Garland hasn’t told us. It would be an interesting question for you to ask Garland. Whether or not he did tell the White House.

<https://twitter.com/TheLeadCNN/status/1560407821463830531>

Best,

**Hannah Rabinowitz | CNN DC**

Associate Producer, Crime & Justice

[@HBRabinowitz](#) (b) (6)

---

**From:** Gurman, Sadie <sadie.gurman@wsj.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 12:08 PM  
**To:** Coley, Anthony D. (PAO)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Quick Q for you

Anthony,

We are working on a story today reporting the following and wanted to see if you spotted any issues with this or had anything to add. Just tried you, but will try again:

The FBI's search of former President Donald Trump's Mar-a-Lago home was prompted in part by concerns that highly sensitive and classified documents were left lying in unsecure places around the sprawling Florida resort, people familiar with the matter said.

At least one person familiar with the location of the documents at the complex alerted investigators, heightening what officials believed to be the need for agents to take the dramatic step of seizing them from the private club after months of trying to retrieve them through less intrusive means, including negotiations and a subpoena.

Sadie Gurman  
WASHINGTON BUREAU



O (b) (6) | M (b) (6)  
E: [sadie.gurman@wsj.com](mailto:sadie.gurman@wsj.com) | T: [@sgurman](https://twitter.com/sgurman)  
A: [1025 Connecticut Ave. NW, Suite 800 | Washington, D.C. 20036](https://www.wsj.com/1025-Connecticut-Ave-NW-Suite-800-Washington-D-C-20036)



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**From:** Penn, Benjamin <bpenn@bloombergindustry.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 2:31 PM  
**To:** Hornbuckle, Wyn (PAO); Coley, Anthony D. (PAO)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] two questions on Mar-a-Lago case

Good afternoon,

This isn't my typical coverage area but Chris Strohm is out today so I've been asked to put in a few requests. Please pass this inquiry on to the appropriate NatSec OPA contacts I may be missing.

- Has DOJ received the gang of 8 request referenced in this story?  
[https://www.politico.com/news/2022/08/22/gang-of-8-trump-mar-a-lago-search-00053118?nname\\_playbook-pm&nid\\_0000015a-dd3e-d536-a37b-dd7fd8af0000&nrid\\_0000014f-8905-d780-a9ef-9d7ff1870000&nlid\\_964328](https://www.politico.com/news/2022/08/22/gang-of-8-trump-mar-a-lago-search-00053118?nname_playbook-pm&nid_0000015a-dd3e-d536-a37b-dd7fd8af0000&nrid_0000014f-8905-d780-a9ef-9d7ff1870000&nlid_964328) And if yes, what is the department's response?
- Will DOJ be appealing Judge Reinhart's order to unseal the affidavit? I understand there's a deadline for the department to propose redactions, but separately is there a recourse being considered to appeal the judge's ultimate decision on which portions must be unredacted?

Thanks,

.....

**Ben Penn**

Senior Reporter, Department of Justice

**Bloomberg Industry Group/Bloomberg Law**

Washington, D.C.

Cell/Signal (b) (6)

Email: [bpenn@bloomberglaw.com](mailto:bpenn@bloomberglaw.com)

---

**From:** Gurman, Sadie <sadie.gurman@wsj.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 5:02 PM  
**To:** Coley, Anthony D. (PAO); Rossello, Luis (PAO)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Trump Sues DOJ

Hi, friends:

Any comment we should include on this?

Former President Donald Trump filed a lawsuit Monday seeking the appointment of a special master to review the materials seized by the FBI earlier this month.

Mr. Trump is also seeking a more detailed inventory of the items taken from his home in Mar-a-Lago, as well as the return of any items seized that weren't within the scope of the search warrant.

**“To date, the government has failed to legitimize its historic decision to raid the home of a President who had been fully cooperative,” Mr. Trump’s lawyers said in the civil complaint, titled Trump v. United States Government.**

Sadie Gurman  
WASHINGTON BUREAU



O (b) (6) | M (b) (6)  
E: [sadie.gurman@wsj.com](mailto:sadie.gurman@wsj.com) | T: [@sgurman](https://twitter.com/sgurman)  
A: [1025 Connecticut Ave. NW, Suite 800 | Washington, D.C. 20036](https://www.wsj.com/1025-Connecticut-Ave-NW-Suite-800-Washington-D-C-20036)



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**From:** Legare, Robert <LegareR@cbsnews.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 5:02 PM  
**To:** Rossello, Luis (PAO); Hornbuckle, Wyn (PAO)  
**Cc:** Coley, Anthony D. (PAO)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] CBS - Trump Lawsuit comment?

Hey guys. Happy Monday. Reaching out for any comment on Trump's lawsuit just filed asking for the appointment of a Special Master to go through the documents seized. He's also asking that the court block DOJ from further reviewing the material until that happens, according to a Monday court filing, provide him with a more detailed accounting of property, and return anything not subject to warrant.

Obviously from last week, we got the receipt of property and know that some things were returned, so guessing not much more there, but reaching out for comment.

Thanks, as always,  
Rob

Rob Legare | CBS News (b) (6) (m) (b) (6) (o)

---

**From:** Rebecca Beitsch <RBeitsch@TheHill.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 5:21 PM  
**To:** Coley, Anthony D. (PAO); Iverson, Dena (PAO); Hornbuckle, Wyn (PAO)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Trump suit

Hey guys,

Please let me know if DOJ cares to comment on the filing from President Trump this evening.

<https://storage.courtlistener.com/recap/gov.uscourts.flsd.618763/gov.uscourts.flsd.618763.1.0.pdf>

Rebecca Beitsch  
National Security Reporter  
[The Hill](#)  
[rebecca@thehill.com](mailto:rebecca@thehill.com) | [@rebeccabeitsch](#)

---

**From:** Legare, Robert <LegareR@cbsnews.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 5:21 PM  
**To:** Rossello, Luis (PAO); Hornbuckle, Wyn (PAO)  
**Cc:** Coley, Anthony D. (PAO)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Re: CBS - Trump Lawsuit comment?

Apologies - also just wondering about this specific line...wondering if this message made it to the AG?

Thanks again, guys - I'm sure there's lots incoming.

On August 11, 2022, counsel for President Trump spoke with Mr. Bratt by telephone. The first item of discussion was a message from President Trump to Attorney General Merrick Garland. The message was as follows:

President Trump wants the Attorney General to know that he has been hearing from people all over the country about the raid. If there was one word to describe their mood, it is "angry." The heat is building up. The pressure is building up. Whatever I can do to take the heat down, to bring the pressure down, just let us know.

**On August 11, 2022, counsel for President Trump spoke with Mr. Bratt by telephone. The first item of discussion was a message from President Trump to Attorney General Merrick Garland. The message was as follows:**

**President Trump wants the Attorney General to know that he has been hearing from people all over the country about the raid. If there was one word to describe their mood, it is "angry." The heat is building up. The pressure is building up. Whatever I can do to take the heat down, to bring the pressure down, just let us know.**

---

**From:** Legare, Robert  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 5:02 PM  
**To:** Rossello, Luis (PAO) <Luis.Rossello@usdoj.gov>; Hornbuckle, Wyn (PAO) <Wyn.Hornbuckle@usdoj.gov>  
**Cc:** Coley, Anthony D. (PAO) (b) (6)  
**Subject:** CBS - Trump Lawsuit comment?

Hey guys. Happy Monday. Reaching out for any comment on Trump's lawsuit just filed asking for the appointment of a Special Master to go through the documents seized. He's also asking that the court block DOJ

from further reviewing the material until that happens, according to a Monday court filing, provide him with a more detailed accounting of property, and return anything not subject to warrant.

Obviously from last week, we got the receipt of property and know that some things were returned, so guessing not much more there, but reaching out for comment.

Thanks, as always,  
Rob

Rob Legare | CBS News (b) (6) (m) (b) (6) (o)

## Triay, Andres

---

**From:** Triay, Andres  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 5:34 PM  
**To:** Coley, Anthony D. (PAO)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Trump filing

Hi Anthony. I just texted you as well. ---any comment or guidance?  
Thanks  
Andy

In the Trump filing, it is claimed:  
Andres (Andy) Triay  
Senior Producer, CBS News  
Mobile + (b) (6)  
[triaya@cbsnews.com](mailto:triaya@cbsnews.com)  
@AndyTriay

## Jeff Mordock

---

**From:** Jeff Mordock  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 5:53 PM  
**To:** Iverson, Dena (PAO)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Does DOJ have a response to President Trump's lawsuit

Just looking for a comment/response

--

Jeff Mordock  
White House Reporter  
The Washington Times  
3600 New York Avenue  
Washington, DC 20002

P (b) (6)

[jmordock@washingtontimes.com](mailto:jmordock@washingtontimes.com)

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**From:** (b) (6)  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 6:28 PM  
**To:** Jerry Dunleavy; Rossello, Luis (PAO)  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Trump Motion for Special Master

Hi there. Thx for checking. + our natl security spox who can sure a brief quote

On Aug 22, 2022, at 6:21 PM, Jerry Dunleavy <jdunleavy@washingtone Examiner.com> wrote:

Dear Anthony,

Does DOJ have a response to former President Donald Trump's lawsuit & motion for a special master? Many thanks!

JD

--

**Jerry Dunleavy**  
**Washington Examiner**  
**JDunleavy@WashingtonExaminer.com**  
**216-375-7101**

---

**From:** Beech, Eric B. (Reuters) <Eric.Beech@thomsonreuters.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 8:20 PM  
**To:** Coley, Anthony D. (PAO)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Reuters seeking comment on New York Times story

The New York Times is reporting that more than 150 documents marked classified were retrieved from Trump in January and, in total, 300 documents with classified markings have been recovered from Trump since he left office. Can you confirm or care to comment on the report?

[https://www.nytimes.com/2022/08/22/us/politics/trump-classified-documents.html?searchResultPosition\\_1](https://www.nytimes.com/2022/08/22/us/politics/trump-classified-documents.html?searchResultPosition_1)

Thank you

**Eric Beech**  
Correspondent

**Thomson Reuters**  
Washington Bureau

Mobile (b) (6)  
[eric.beech@thomsonreuters.com](mailto:eric.beech@thomsonreuters.com)

---

**From:** Jeff Mordock <jmordock@washingtontimes.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 8:26 PM  
**To:** Coley, Anthony D. (PAO)  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Trump lawsuit

No problem. Will add ASAP.

On Mon, Aug 22, 2022 at 7:58 PM Coley, Anthony D. (PAO) (b) (6) wrote:  
Thank you for asking. Here you go:

**“The Aug. 8 search warrant at Mar-a-Lago was authorized by a federal court upon the required finding of probable cause. The Department is aware of this evening’s motion. The United States will file its response in court.” – Justice Department Spokesman Anthony Coley**

On Aug 22, 2022, at 7:26 PM, Jeff Mordock <[jmordock@washingtontimes.com](mailto:jmordock@washingtontimes.com)> wrote:

Does DOJ have a response/statement to Trump’s lawsuit filed today?

Thanks

Jeff Mordock  
White House Reporter  
The Washington Times

--

Jeff Mordock  
White House Reporter  
The Washington Times  
[3600 New York Avenue](https://www.washingtontimes.com)  
[Washington, DC 20002](https://www.washingtontimes.com)  
Ph (b) (6)  
[jmordock@washingtontimes.com](mailto:jmordock@washingtontimes.com)

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--

Jeff Mordock  
White House Reporter  
The Washington Times  
3600 New York Avenue  
Washington, DC 20002

Ph (b) (6)

[jmordock@washingtontimes.com](mailto:jmordock@washingtontimes.com)

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**From:** (b) (6)  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 9:32 PM  
**To:** Jerry Dunleavy  
**Cc:** Rossello, Luis (PAO)  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Trump Motion for Special Master

Here you go (was driving earlier). Thank you for following up

**“The Aug. 8 search warrant at Mar-a-Lago was authorized by a federal court upon the required finding of probable cause. The Department is aware of this evening’s motion. The United States will file its response in court.” – Justice Department Spokesman Anthony Coley**

On Aug 22, 2022, at 9:27 PM, Jerry Dunleavy <[jdunleavy@washingtonexaminer.com](mailto:jdunleavy@washingtonexaminer.com)> wrote:

Awesome. Let me know if DOJ has a comment on Trump’s filing today. Much appreciated!

JD

On Mon, Aug 22, 2022 at 6:28 PM Coley, Anthony D. (PAO) (b) (6) wrote:

Hi there. Thx for checking. + our natl security spox who can sure a brief quote

On Aug 22, 2022, at 6:21 PM, Jerry Dunleavy  
<[jdunleavy@washingtonexaminer.com](mailto:jdunleavy@washingtonexaminer.com)> wrote:

Dear Anthony,

Does DOJ have a response to former President Donald Trump’s lawsuit & motion for a special master? Many thanks!

JD

--

**Jerry Dunleavy**  
**Washington Examiner**  
**[JDunleavy@WashingtonExaminer.com](mailto:JDunleavy@WashingtonExaminer.com)**  
**216-375-7101**

--

**Jerry Dunleavy**  
**Washington Examiner**

**JDunleavy@WashingtonExaminer.com**  
**216-375-7101**

---

**From:** Penn, Benjamin <bpenn@bloombergindustry.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 23, 2022 10:46 AM  
**To:** Hornbuckle, Wyn (PAO)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: two questions on Mar-a-Lago case

Morning, Wyn. Anything that you can share yet?

---

**From:** Hornbuckle, Wyn (PAO) <Wyn.Hornbuckle@usdoj.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 2:54 PM  
**To:** Penn, Benjamin <bpenn@bloombergindustry.com>; Coley, Anthony D. (PAO) (b) (6)  
**Subject:** RE: two questions on Mar-a-Lago case

Ben,  
I will circle back with you

---

**From:** Penn, Benjamin <bpenn@bloombergindustry.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 2:31 PM  
**To:** Hornbuckle, Wyn (PAO) <Wyn.Hornbuckle@usdoj.gov>; Coley, Anthony D. (PAO) (b) (6)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] two questions on Mar-a-Lago case

Good afternoon,  
This isn't my typical coverage area but Chris Strohm is out today so I've been asked to put in a few requests. Please pass this inquiry on to the appropriate NatSec OPA contacts I may be missing.

- Has DOJ received the gang of 8 request referenced in this story?  
[https://www.politico.com/news/2022/08/22/gang-of-8-trump-mar-a-lago-search-00053118?nname\\_playbook-pm&nid\\_0000015a-dd3e-d536-a37b-dd7fd8af0000&nrid\\_0000014f-8905-d780-a9ef-9d7ff1870000&nliid\\_964328](https://www.politico.com/news/2022/08/22/gang-of-8-trump-mar-a-lago-search-00053118?nname_playbook-pm&nid_0000015a-dd3e-d536-a37b-dd7fd8af0000&nrid_0000014f-8905-d780-a9ef-9d7ff1870000&nliid_964328) And if yes, what is the department's response?
- Will DOJ be appealing Judge Reinhart's order to unseal the affidavit? I understand there's a deadline for the department to propose redactions, but separately is there a recourse being considered to appeal the judge's ultimate decision on which portions must be unredacted?

Thanks,

.....

**Ben Penn**

Senior Reporter, Department of Justice

**Bloomberg Industry Group/Bloomberg Law**

Washington, D.C.

Cell/Signal (b) (6)

Email: [bpenn@bloomberglaw.com](mailto:bpenn@bloomberglaw.com)

---

**From:** Hornbuckle, Wyn (PAO)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 24, 2022 5:08 PM  
**To:** Brad Patty; Creighton, Kelly M (PAO)  
**Subject:** RE: Sample Products

Thank you Brad. Appreciate the insights. We'll be in touch if we have any questions. Wyn

---

**From:** Brad Patty <bpatty@rendon.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 24, 2022 3:59 PM  
**To:** Hornbuckle, Wyn (PAO) <Wyn.Hornbuckle@usdoj.gov>; Creighton, Kelly M (PAO) (b) (6)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Sample Products

Good afternoon, Wyn Hornbuckle and Kelly Creighton:

I mentioned in an email conversation with Kelly the other day that I have been preparing a sample product that you might find interesting. Please find it attached. It is called the "Weekly Risk Digest." The concept came from my review of our collection materials when I took this position: there are a number of outlets on restricted-use lists that are nevertheless read by a large number of Americans. This sample provides a one-week review of just two of them, the NY Post and Breitbart News, with the intent of helping DOJ's public affairs professionals understand what narratives are being shaped in the alternative media.

The sample employs a technology called Zignal, which is a narrative-tracking software platform. I've been constructing a Zignal campaign that can track high-level DOJ/AG mentions to see how they are faring. In addition to the sample product, I'm enclosing three screenshots that are from the period encompassing the search at Mar-a-Lago. As you can see from these screenshots, mentions of DOJ and the Attorney General have been holding steady at 50-51% negative, versus only 19-20% positive. Zignal could help you track that problem in order to identify useful points of engagement, which could help your agency defend itself in the public eye.

If you are interested in discussing the Risk Digest product, or the Zignal technology more broadly, I'd be happy to make time to walk through them with you.

All Best,

-Brad Patty  
Program Manager, TRG Team DOJ



---

**From:** Thomas Burr <TBurr@newsnationnow.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 25, 2022 12:24 PM  
**To:** Coley, Anthony D. (PAO)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Can you confirm these are the DOJ filings in the Trump warrant case?

Afternoon,

I want to make sure we're accurate here. Can you confirm that these entries are the DOJ's filing in the Trump warrant case?

08/25/2022 SYSTEM ENTRY - Docket Entry 88 restricted/sealed until further notice. (jmd) (Entered: 08/25/2022)  
08/25/2022 SYSTEM ENTRY - Docket Entry 89 restricted/sealed until further notice. (jmd) (Entered: 08/25/2022)

**Thomas Burr**  
Executive Producer  
Washington bureau  
NewsNation  
tburr@newsnationnow.com

C (b) (6)



---

**From:** Masood Farivar <mfarivar@voanews.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 25, 2022 12:26 PM  
**To:** Coley, Anthony D. (PAO)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Re: Seeking statement about court filing in Mar-A-Lago search case

Thanks much!

---

**From:** Coley, Anthony D. (PAO) (b) (6)  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 25, 2022 12:21 PM  
**To:** Masood Farivar <mfarivar@voanews.com>  
**Subject:** RE: Seeking statement about court filing in Mar-A-Lago search case

Justice Department Spokesman Anthony Coley: "The United States has filed a submission under seal per the Court's order of Aug. 22. The Justice Department respectfully declines further comment as the Court considers the matter."

---

**From:** Masood Farivar <mfarivar@voanews.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 25, 2022 12:18 PM  
**To:** Coley, Anthony D. (PAO) (b) (6)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Seeking statement about court filing in Mar-A-Lago search case

Hi Anthony,

Could I get your statement about DOJ's latest court filing in the Mar-A-Lago search case?

Thanks!

Masood Farivar  
Justice Correspondent  
Voice of America  
(b) (6)

---

**From:** Emily Zantow <wdc@courthousenews.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 25, 2022 2:17 PM  
**To:** Coley, Anthony D. (PAO)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Follow-up | Re: Media Inquiry

Hello,

Just wanted to follow-up and see if you can confirm whether the DOJ met the noon deadline?

Thanks,  
Emily

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---

**From:** Emily Zantow  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 25, 2022 12:42:00 PM  
**To:** Coley, Anthony D. (PAO) (b) (6)  
**Subject:** Media Inquiry

Good afternoon,

I am a reporter for Courthouse News. Can you please tell me if the DOJ filed proposed redactions to the FBI search warrant affidavit for Trump's Mar-a-Lago home?

Thanks,  
Emily Zantow

Justice Department/DC Courts Reporter  
[Courthouse News](#)

---

**From:** Emily Zantow <wdc@courthousenews.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 25, 2022 3:00 PM  
**To:** Coley, Anthony D. (PAO)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Re: Media Inquiry

Anthony,

No problem, thanks for getting back to me.

Thanks,  
Emily Zantow

Justice Department/DC Courts Reporter  
[Courthouse News](#)

---

**From:** Coley, Anthony D. (PAO) (b) (6)  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 25, 2022 2:16 PM  
**To:** Emily Zantow <wdc@courthousenews.com>  
**Subject:** RE: Media Inquiry

Hi Emily, apologies for the delay. Here's our statement

Justice Department Spokesman Anthony Coley: "The United States has filed a submission under seal per the Court's order of Aug. 22. The Justice Department respectfully declines further comment as the Court considers the matter."

---

**From:** Emily Zantow <wdc@courthousenews.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 25, 2022 12:42 PM  
**To:** Coley, Anthony D. (PAO) (b) (6)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Media Inquiry

Good afternoon,

I am a reporter for Courthouse News. Can you please tell me if the DOJ filed proposed redactions to the FBI search warrant affidavit for Trump's Mar-a-Lago home?

Thanks,  
Emily Zantow

Justice Department/DC Courts Reporter  
[Courthouse News](#)

---

**From:** Balsamo, Mike <MBalsamo@ap.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 25, 2022 3:58 PM  
**To:** Coley, Anthony D. (PAO)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Mar-a-Lago warrant affidavit

Hey -

Just touching base to see if DOJ will appeal the judge's order releasing a redacted version of the affidavit.

Mike

Sent from my iPhone

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---

**From:** Stueve, Joshua (PAO)  
**Sent:** Friday, August 26, 2022 9:56 AM  
**To:** Evan Lambert  
**Subject:** RE: Trump affidavit

It's filed with the court so I imagine it will be on PACER.

---

**From:** Evan Lambert <ELambert2@newsnationnow.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 26, 2022 9:50 AM  
**To:** Stueve, Joshua (PAO) <Joshua.Stueve@usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Re: Trump affidavit

Thanks. Do you know if it'll be posted in PACER or on DOJ website?

Evan Lambert

Washington Correspondent

NewsNation

(b) (6)

[elambert2@newsnationnow.com](mailto:elambert2@newsnationnow.com)

[www.newsnationnow.com](http://www.newsnationnow.com)



---

**From:** Stueve, Joshua (PAO) <[Joshua.Stueve@usdoj.gov](mailto:Joshua.Stueve@usdoj.gov)>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 26, 2022 9:07 AM  
**To:** Evan Lambert <[ELambert2@newsnationnow.com](mailto:ELambert2@newsnationnow.com)>  
**Subject:** RE: Trump affidavit

Hi Evan. Negative. Sometime before Noon.

---

**From:** Evan Lambert <[ELambert2@newsnationnow.com](mailto:ELambert2@newsnationnow.com)>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 26, 2022 9:04 AM  
**To:** Stueve, Joshua (PAO) <[Joshua.Stueve@usdoj.gov](mailto:Joshua.Stueve@usdoj.gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Trump affidavit

Good morning!

Any idea when it will be posted? I know the deadline is noon.

Thanks,

Evan

Evan Lambert  
Washington Correspondent  
NewsNation/newsnationnow.com  
Mobile (b) (6)  
@EvanLambertTV

---

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**From:** Dilanian, Ken (NBCUniversal) <Ken.Dilanian@nbcuni.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 26, 2022 11:21 AM  
**To:** Coley, Anthony D. (PAO)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Anything unplanned happening?

We are seeing two sealed entries in the docket. Last minute attempt by the Trump folks to block this?

Ken Dilanian  
Justice Correspondent  
NBC News  
@KenDilanianNBC  
(b) (6)



---

**From:** Lisker, Samuel R <Samuel.Lisker@charter.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 26, 2022 12:30 PM  
**To:** Iverson, Dena (PAO); Li, Kaei (PAO); Shevlin, Shannon (OPA)  
**Cc:** Frey, Kevin J  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Statement on redacted affidavit release? - Spectrum NY1

Good morning,

This is Sam Lisker with Spectrum News in DC. Does the Justice Department have a statement on the release of the redacted affidavit in the Trump Mar-a-Lago search?

Are any Justice Department officials expected to issue a statement or deliver remarks about this today?

Thank you for any help you all can provide -

**Sam Lisker**

Producer | Spectrum News DC

[samuel.lisker@charter.com](mailto:samuel.lisker@charter.com) (b) (6)

444 North Capitol St. NW - Suite 801 | Washington, DC 20001

[@slisker](#)

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**From:** Coley, Anthony D. (PAO)  
**Sent:** Friday, August 26, 2022 12:35 PM  
**To:** (b) (6)  
**Cc:** Rossello, Luis (PAO); Hornbuckle, Wyn (PAO)  
**Subject:** Filed Docs  
**Attachments:** 2.26.22 NOTICE OF FILING OF REDACTED SEARCH WARRANT AFFIDAVIT.pdf

DOJ Beats Government's filings are attached.

These docs *are* reportable.

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF FLORIDA

CASE NO. 22-MJ-8332-BER

IN RE SEALED SEARCH WARRANT

/

**NOTICE OF FILING OF REDACTED SEARCH WARRANT AFFIDAVIT  
AND REDACTED *EX PARTE* MEMORANDUM OF LAW  
CONCERNING PROPOSED REDACTIONS**

The United States gives notice that, in compliance with the Court's August 25, 2022 Order To Unseal, Docket Entry ("D.E.") 94, it hereby files the redacted version of the search warrant affidavit, submitted in support of the search warrant signed and approved by the Court on August 5, 2022. The redactions were previously submitted for the Court's review and approved by the Court's August 25, 2022 Order (DE89-1; DE94).

In addition, this notice includes a redacted copy of the government's Sealed, *Ex Parte* Memorandum of Law Concerning Proposed Redactions, filed on August 25, 2022, along with Exhibit B to that Memorandum, a redacted chart explaining the government's proposed redactions both of which the Court ordered unsealed on August 26, 2022. Exhibit A to that filing consists of the proposed redactions to the affidavit, which accompanies this Notice in its final, redacted form.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Juan Antonio Gonzalez  
JUAN ANTONIO GONZALEZ  
UNITED STATES ATTORNEY  
Florida Bar No. 897388  
99 NE 4th Street, 8th Floor  
Miami, FL 33132  
Tel: 305-961-9001  
Email: [juan.antonio.gonzalez@usdoj.gov](mailto:juan.antonio.gonzalez@usdoj.gov)

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF FLORIDA

IN THE MATTER OF THE SEARCH OF: )  
 ) Case No.  
LOCATIONS WITHIN THE PREMISES )  
TO BE SEARCHED IN ATTACHMENT A ) **Filed Under Seal**

**AFFIDAVIT IN SUPPORT OF AN  
APPLICATION UNDER RULE 41 FOR A  
WARRANT TO SEARCH AND SEIZE**

I, [REDACTED], being first duly sworn, hereby depose and state as follows:

**INTRODUCTION AND AGENT BACKGROUND**

1. The government is conducting a criminal investigation concerning the improper removal and storage of classified information in unauthorized spaces, as well as the unlawful concealment or removal of government records. The investigation began as a result of a referral the United States National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) sent to the United States Department of Justice (DOJ) on February 9, 2022, hereinafter, "NARA Referral." The NARA Referral stated that on January 18, 2022, in accordance with the Presidential Records Act (PRA), NARA received from the office of former President DONALD J. TRUMP, hereinafter "FPOTUS," via representatives, fifteen (15) boxes of records, hereinafter, the "FIFTEEN BOXES." The FIFTEEN BOXES, which had been transported from the FPOTUS property at 1100 S Ocean Blvd, Palm Beach, FL 33480, hereinafter, the "PREMISES," a residence and club known as "Mar-a-Lago," further described in Attachment A, were reported by NARA to contain, among other things, highly classified documents intermingled with other records.

2. After an initial review of the NARA Referral, the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) opened a criminal investigation to, among other things, determine how the documents with

classification markings and records were removed from the White House (or any other authorized location(s) for the storage of classified materials) and came to be stored at the PREMISES; determine whether the storage location(s) at the PREMISES were authorized locations for the storage of classified information; determine whether any additional classified documents or records may have been stored in an unauthorized location at the PREMISES or another unknown location, and whether they remain at any such location; and identify any person(s) who may have removed or retained classified information without authorization and/or in an unauthorized space.

3. The FBI's investigation has established that documents bearing classification markings, which appear to contain National Defense Information (NDI), were among the materials contained in the FIFTEEN BOXES and were stored at the PREMISES in an unauthorized location. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Further, there is probable cause to believe that additional documents that contain classified NDI or that are Presidential records subject to record retention requirements currently remain at the PREMISES. There is also probable cause to believe that evidence of obstruction will be found at the PREMISES.

4. I am a Special Agent with the FBI assigned to the Washington Field Office [REDACTED]. During this time, I have received training at the FBI Academy located at Quantico, Virginia, specific to counterintelligence and espionage investigations. [REDACTED].

Based on my experience and training, I am familiar with efforts used to unlawfully collect, retain, and disseminate sensitive government information, including classified NDI.

5. I make this affidavit in support of an application under Rule 41 of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure for a warrant to search the premises known as 1100 S Ocean Blvd, Palm Beach, FL 33480, the “PREMISES,” as further described in Attachment A, for the things described in Attachment B.

6. Based upon the following facts, there is probable cause to believe that the locations to be searched at the PREMISES contain evidence, contraband, fruits of crime, or other items illegally possessed in violation of 18 U.S.C. §§ 793(e), 1519, or 2071.

#### **SOURCE OF EVIDENCE**

7. The facts set forth in this affidavit are based on my personal knowledge, knowledge obtained during my participation in this investigation, and information obtained from other FBI and U.S. Government personnel. Because this affidavit is submitted for the limited purpose of establishing probable cause in support of the application for a search warrant, it does not set forth each and every fact that I, or others, have learned during the course of this investigation.

#### **STATUTORY AUTHORITY AND DEFINITIONS**

8. Under 18 U.S.C. § 793(e), “[w]hoever having unauthorized possession of, access to, or control over any document . . . or information relating to the national defense which information the possessor has reason to believe could be used to the injury of the United States or to the advantage of any foreign nation, willfully communicates, delivers, transmits or causes to be communicated, delivered, or transmitted” or attempts to do or causes the same “to any person not entitled to receive it, or willfully retains the same and fails to deliver it to the officer or employee

of the United States entitled to receive it” shall be fined or imprisoned not more than ten years, or both.

9. Under Executive Order 13526, information in any form may be classified if it: (1) is owned by, produced by or for, or is under the control of the United States Government; (2) falls within one or more of the categories set forth in the Executive Order [Top Secret, Secret, and Confidential]; and (3) is classified by an original classification authority who determines that its unauthorized disclosure reasonably could be expected to result in damage to the national security.

10. Where such unauthorized disclosure could reasonably result in damage to the national security, the information may be classified as “Confidential” and must be properly safeguarded. Where such unauthorized disclosure could reasonably result in serious damage to the national security, the information may be classified as “Secret” and must be properly safeguarded. Where such unauthorized disclosure could reasonably result in exceptionally grave damage to the national security, the information may be classified as “Top Secret” and must be properly safeguarded.

11. Sensitive Compartmented Information (SCI) means classified information concerning or derived from intelligence sources, methods, or analytical processes, which is required to be handled within formal access control systems.

12. Special Intelligence, or “SI,” is an SCI control system designed to protect technical and intelligence information derived from the monitoring of foreign communications signals by other than the intended recipients. The SI control system protects SI-derived information and information relating to SI activities, capabilities, techniques, processes, and procedures.

13. HUMINT Control System, or “HCS,” is an SCI control system designed to protect intelligence information derived from clandestine human sources, commonly referred to as

“human intelligence.” The HCS control system protects human intelligence-derived information and information relating to human intelligence activities, capabilities, techniques, processes, and procedures.

14. Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act, or “FISA,” is a dissemination control designed to protect intelligence information derived from the collection of information authorized under the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act by the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court, or “FISC.”

15. Classified information may be marked as “Not Releasable to Foreign Nationals/Governments/US Citizens,” abbreviated “NOFORN,” to indicate information that may not be released in any form to foreign governments, foreign nationals, foreign organizations, or non-U.S. citizens without permission of the originator.

16. Classified information may be marked as “Originator Controlled,” abbreviated “ORCON.” This marking indicates that dissemination beyond pre-approved U.S. entities requires originator approval.

17. Classified information of any designation may be shared only with persons determined by an appropriate United States Government official to be eligible for access, and who possess a “need to know.” Among other requirements, in order for a person to obtain a security clearance allowing that person access to classified United States Government information, that person is required to and must agree to properly protect classified information by not disclosing such information to persons not entitled to receive it, by not unlawfully removing classified information from authorized storage facilities, and by not storing classified information in unauthorized locations. If a person is not eligible to receive classified information, classified information may not be disclosed to that person. In order for a foreign government to receive



access to classified information, the originating United States agency must determine that such release is appropriate.

18. Pursuant to Executive Order 13526, classified information contained on automated information systems, including networks and telecommunications systems, that collect, create, communicate, compute, disseminate, process, or store classified information must be maintained in a manner that: (1) prevents access by unauthorized persons; and (2) ensures the integrity of the information.

19. 32 C.F.R. Parts 2001 and 2003 regulate the handling of classified information. Specifically, 32 C.F.R. § 2001.43, titled “Storage,” regulates the physical protection of classified information. This section prescribes that Secret and Top Secret information “shall be stored in a [General Services Administration]-approved security container, a vault built to Federal Standard (FHD STD) 832, or an open storage area constructed in accordance with § 2001.53.” It also requires periodic inspection of the container and the use of an Intrusion Detection System, among other things.

20. Under 18 U.S.C. § 1519:

Whoever knowingly alters, destroys, mutilates, conceals, covers up, falsifies, or makes a false entry in any record, document, or tangible object with the intent to impede, obstruct, or influence the investigation or proper administration of any matter within the jurisdiction of any department or agency of the United States or any case filed under title 11, or in relation to or contemplation of any such matter or case, shall be fined under this title, imprisoned not more than 20 years, or both.

21. Under 18 U.S.C. § 2071:

(a) Whoever willfully and unlawfully conceals, removes, mutilates, obliterates, or destroys, or attempts to do so, or, with intent to do so takes and carries away any record, proceeding, map, book, paper, document, or other thing, filed or deposited with any clerk or officer of any court of the United States, or in any public office, or with any judicial or public officer of the United States, shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than three years, or both.

(b) Whoever, having the custody of any such record, proceeding, map, book, document, paper, or other thing, willfully and unlawfully conceals, removes, mutilates, obliterates, falsifies, or destroys the same, shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than three years, or both; and shall forfeit his office and be disqualified from holding any office under the United States. As used in this subsection, the term “office” does not include the office held by any person as a retired officer of the Armed Forces of the United States.

22. Under the PRA, 44 U.S.C. § 2201:

(2) The term “Presidential records” means documentary materials, or any reasonably segregable portion thereof, created or received by the President, the President’s immediate staff, or a unit or individual of the Executive Office of the President whose function is to advise or assist the President, in the course of conducting activities which relate to or have an effect upon the carrying out of the constitutional, statutory, or other official or ceremonial duties of the President. Such term—

(A) includes any documentary materials relating to the political activities of the President or members of the President’s staff, but only if such activities relate to or have a direct effect upon the carrying out of constitutional, statutory, or other official or ceremonial duties of the President; but

(B) does not include any documentary materials that are (i) official records of an agency (as defined in section 552(e) of title 5, United States Code; (ii) personal records; (iii) stocks of publications and stationery; or (iv) extra copies of documents produced only for convenience of reference, when such copies are clearly so identified.

23. Under 44 U.S.C. § 3301(a), government “records” are defined as:

all recorded information, regardless of form or characteristics, made or received by a Federal agency under Federal law or in connection with the transaction of public business and preserved or appropriate for preservation by that agency or its legitimate successor as evidence of the organization, functions, policies, decisions, procedures, operations, or other activities of the United States Government or because of the informational value of data in them.

### **PROBABLE CAUSE**

#### ***NARA Referral***

24. On February 9, 2022, the Special Agent in Charge of NARA’s Office of the

Inspector General sent the NARA Referral via email to DOJ. The NARA Referral stated that according to NARA's White House Liaison Division Director, a preliminary review of the FIFTEEN BOXES indicated that they contained "newspapers, magazines, printed news articles, photos, miscellaneous print-outs, notes, presidential correspondence, personal and post-presidential records, and 'a lot of classified records.' Of most significant concern was that highly classified records were unfolded, intermixed with other records, and otherwise improperly [*sic*] identified."

25. On February 18, 2022, the Archivist of the United States, chief administrator for NARA, stated in a letter to Congress's Committee on Oversight and Reform Chairwoman The Honorable Carolyn B. Maloney, "NARA had ongoing communications with the representatives of former President Trump throughout 2021, which resulted in the transfer of 15 boxes to NARA in January 2022 . . . . NARA has identified items marked as classified national security information within the boxes." The letter also stated that, "[b]ecause NARA identified classified information in the boxes, NARA staff has been in communication with the Department of Justice." The letter was made publicly available at the following uniform resource locator (URL):

[https://www.archives.gov/files/foia/ferriero-response-to-02.09.2022-maloney-](https://www.archives.gov/files/foia/ferriero-response-to-02.09.2022-maloney-letter.02.18.2022.pdf)

[letter.02.18.2022.pdf](https://www.archives.gov/files/foia/ferriero-response-to-02.09.2022-maloney-letter.02.18.2022.pdf). On February 18, 2022, the same day, the Save America Political Action Committee (PAC) posted the following statement on behalf of FPOTUS: "The National Archives did not 'find' anything, they were given, upon request, Presidential Records in an ordinary and routine process to ensure the preservation of my legacy and in accordance with the Presidential Records Act . . . ." An image of this statement is below.



Exhibit 101-1

Statement by Donald J. Trump, 45th President of the United States of America

The National Archives did not find anything they were given upon request. Presidential records in an ordinary and routine process to ensure the preservation of my legacy and in accordance with the Presidential Records Act. If this was anyone but Trump, there would be no story here. Instead, the Democrats are in search of their next scam. The Russia, Russia, Russia Hoax turned out to be a Democrat inspired fake story to help Crooked Hillary Clinton. Impeachment Hoax #1, Impeachment Hoax #2, and so much more, has all been a Hoax. The Fake News is making it seem like me, as the President of the United States, was working in a filing room. No, I was busy destroying ISIS, building the greatest economy America had ever seen, brokering Peace deals, making sure Russia didn't attack Ukraine, making sure China didn't take over Taiwan, making sure there was no inflation, creating an energy independent country, rebuilding our military and law enforcement, saving our Second Amendment, protecting our Border, and cutting taxes. Now Russia is invading Ukraine, our economy is being destroyed, our Border is once again overrun, and the mandate continues. Instead of focusing on America, the media just wants to talk about their plan to "get" Trump. The people won't stand for it any longer!

[Redacted]

26.

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

27.

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[REDACTED]

28. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

29. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

*Boxes Containing Documents Were Transported from the White House to Mar-a-Lago*

30. According to a CBS Miami article titled "Moving Trucks Spotted At Mar-a-Lago," published Monday, January 18, 2021, at least two moving trucks were observed at the PREMISES on January 18, 2021. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

31. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

32. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

33. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

34. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

35. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

36. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

37. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

*Provision of the Fifteen Boxes to NARA*

38. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]

39. On or about May 6, 2021, NARA made a request for the missing PRA records and continued to make requests until approximately late December 2021 when NARA was informed twelve boxes were found and ready for retrieval at the PREMISES. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

1 [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

40. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

41. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

42. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

43. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

44. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[Redacted]

45. [Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

46. [Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

*The FIFTEEN BOXES Provided to NARA Contain Classified Information*

47. From May 16-18, 2022, FBI agents conducted a preliminary review of the FIFTEEN BOXES provided to NARA and identified documents with classification markings in fourteen of the FIFTEEN BOXES. A preliminary triage of the documents with classification markings revealed the following approximate numbers: 184 unique documents bearing classification markings, including 67 documents marked as CONFIDENTIAL, 92 documents marked as SECRET, and 25 documents marked as TOP SECRET. Further, the FBI agents observed markings reflecting the following compartments/dissemination controls: HCS, FISA, ORCON, NOFORN, and SI. Based on my training and experience, I know that documents classified at these levels typically contain NDI. Several of the documents also contained what appears to be FPOTUS's handwritten notes.

48. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

49. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

50. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

51. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

52. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] In the second such letter, which is attached as Exhibit 1, FPOTUS COUNSEL 1 asked DOJ to consider a few “principles,” which include FPOTUS COUNSEL 1’s claim that a President has absolute authority to declassify documents. In this letter, FPOTUS COUNSEL 1 requested, among other things, that “DOJ provide this letter to any judicial officer who is asked to rule on any motion pertaining to this investigation, or on any application made in connection with any investigative request concerning this investigation.”

53. I am aware of an article published in *Breitbart* on May 5, 2022, available at <https://www.breitbart.com/politics/2022/05/05/documents-mar-a-lago-marked-classified-were-already-declassified-kash-patel-says/>, which states that Kash Patel, who is described as a former top FPOTUS administration official, characterized as “misleading” reports in other news organizations that NARA had found classified materials among records that FPOTUS provided to NARA from Mar-a-Lago. Patel alleged that such reports were misleading because FPOTUS had declassified the materials at issue. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

54. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

55. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

56. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

57. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

58. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]

59. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

60. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

61. On June 8, 2022, DOJ COUNSEL sent FPOTUS COUNSEL 1 a letter, which reiterated that the PREMISES are not authorized to store classified information and requested the preservation of the STORAGE ROOM and boxes that had been moved from the White House to the PREMISES. Specifically, the letter stated in relevant part:

As I previously indicated to you, Mar-a-Lago does not include a secure location authorized for the storage of classified information. As such, it appears that since the time classified documents [REDACTED] were removed from the secure facilities at the White House and moved to Mar-a-Lago on or around January 20, 2021, they have not been handled in an appropriate manner or stored in an appropriate location. Accordingly, we ask that the room at Mar-a-Lago where the documents had been stored be secured and that all of the boxes that were moved from the White House to Mar-a-Lago (along with any other items in that room) be preserved in that room in their current condition until further notice.

<sup>2</sup> 18 U.S.C. § 793(e) does not use the term “classified information,” but rather criminalizes the unlawful retention of “information relating to the national defense.” The statute does not define “information relating to the national defense,” but courts have construed it broadly. See *Gorin v. United States*, 312 U.S. 19, 28 (1941) (holding that the phrase “information relating to the national defense” as used in the Espionage Act is a “generic concept of broad connotations, referring to the military and naval establishments and the related activities of national preparedness”). In addition, the information must be “closely held” by the U.S. government. See *United States v. Squillacote*, 221 F.3d 542, 579 (4th Cir. 2000) (“[I]nformation made public by the government as well as information never protected by the government is not national defense information.”); *United States v. Morison*, 844 F.2d 1057, 1071-72 (4th Cir. 1988). Certain courts have also held that the disclosure of the documents must be potentially damaging to the United States. See *Morison*, 844 F.2d at 1071-72.

On June 9, 2022, FPOTUS COUNSEL 1 sent an email to DOJ COUNSEL, stating, "I write to acknowledge receipt of this letter."

[REDACTED]

62. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

63. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

64. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

65. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

66. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

67. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

68. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

69. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

*There is Probable Cause to Believe That Documents Containing Classified NDI and Presidential Records Remain at the Premises*

70. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

71. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

72. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

73. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

74. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

75. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

76. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

77. Based upon this investigation, I believe that the STORAGE ROOM, FPOTUS's residential suite, Pine Hall, the "45 Office," and other spaces within the PREMISES are not currently authorized locations for the storage of classified information or NDI. Similarly, based upon this investigation, I do not believe that any spaces within the PREMISES have been authorized for the storage of classified information at least since the end of FPOTUS's Presidential Administration on January 20, 2021.

78. As described above, evidence of the SUBJECT OFFENSES has been stored in multiple locations at the PREMISES. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Accordingly, this affidavit seeks authorization to search the "45 Office" and all storage rooms and



any other rooms or locations where boxes or records may be stored within the PREMISES, as further described in Attachment A. The PREMISES is currently closed to club members for the summer; however, as specified in Attachment A, if at the time of the search, there are areas of the PREMISES being occupied, rented, or used by third parties, and not otherwise used or available to be used by FPOTUS and his staff, the search would not include such areas.

### **CONCLUSION**

79. Based on the foregoing facts and circumstances, I submit that probable cause exists to believe that evidence, contraband, fruits of crime, or other items illegally possessed in violation 18 U.S.C. §§ 793(e), 2071, or 1519 will be found at the PREMISES. Further, I submit that this affidavit supports probable cause for a warrant to search the PREMISES described in Attachment A and seize the items described in Attachment B.

### **REQUEST FOR SEALING**

80. It is respectfully requested that this Court issue an order sealing, until further order of the Court, all papers submitted in support of this application, including the application and search warrant. I believe that sealing this document is necessary because the items and information to be seized are relevant to an ongoing investigation and the FBI has not yet identified all potential criminal confederates nor located all evidence related to its investigation. Premature disclosure of the contents of this affidavit and related documents may have a significant and negative impact on the continuing investigation and may severely jeopardize its effectiveness by allowing criminal parties an opportunity to flee, destroy evidence (stored electronically and otherwise), change patterns of behavior, and notify criminal confederates.

**SEARCH PROCEDURES FOR HANDLING POTENTIAL ATTORNEY-CLIENT  
PRIVILEGED INFORMATION**

The following procedures will be followed at the time of the search in order to protect against disclosures of attorney-client privileged material:

81. These procedures will be executed by: (a) law enforcement personnel conducting this investigation (the “Case Team”); and (b) law enforcement personnel not participating in the investigation of the matter, who will search the “45 Office” and be available to assist in the event that a procedure involving potentially attorney-client privileged information is required (the “Privilege Review Team”).

82. The Case Team will be responsible for searching the **TARGET PREMISES**. However, the Privilege Review Team will search the “45 Office” and conduct a review of the seized materials from the “45 Office” to identify and segregate documents or data containing potentially attorney-client privileged information.

83. If the Privilege Review Team determines the documents or data are not potentially attorney-client privileged, they will be provided to the law-enforcement personnel assigned to the investigation. If at any point the law-enforcement personnel assigned to the investigation subsequently identify any data or documents that they consider may be potentially attorney-client privileged, they will cease the review of such identified data or documents and refer the materials to the Privilege Review Team for further review by the Privilege Review Team.

84. If the Privilege Review Team determines that documents are potentially attorney-client privileged or merit further consideration in that regard, a Privilege Review Team attorney may do any of the following: (a) apply *ex parte* to the court for a determination whether or not the documents contain attorney-client privileged material; (b) defer seeking court intervention and

continue to keep the documents inaccessible to law-enforcement personnel assigned to the investigation; or (c) disclose the documents to the potential privilege holder, request the privilege holder to state whether the potential privilege holder asserts attorney-client privilege as to any documents, including requesting a particularized privilege log, and seek a ruling from the court regarding any attorney-client privilege claims as to which the Privilege Review Team and the privilege-holder cannot reach agreement.

Respectfully submitted,



Special Agent  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subscribed and sworn before me by  
telephone (WhatsApp) or other reliable electronic  
means this 5 day of August, 2022:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bruce Reinhart", written over a horizontal line.

HON. BRUCE E. REINHART  
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE

# EXHIBIT 1

**SILVERMAN  
THOMPSON**  
Silverman Thompson Slutkin White

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

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Writer's Direct Contact:  
Evan Corcoran  
410-385-2225  
[ecorcoran@silvermanthompson.com](mailto:ecorcoran@silvermanthompson.com)

May 25, 2022

***Via Electronic Mail***

Jay I. Bratt, Esquire  
Chief  
Counterintelligence & Export Control Section  
National Security Division  
U.S. Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania, Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20530

Re: Presidential Records Investigation

Dear Jay:

I write on behalf of President Donald J. Trump regarding the above-referenced matter.

Public trust in the government is low. At such times, adherence to the rules and long-standing policies is essential. President Donald J. Trump is a leader of the Republican Party. The Department of Justice (DOJ), as part of the Executive Branch, is under the control of a President from the opposite party. It is critical, given that dynamic, that every effort is made to ensure that actions by DOJ that may touch upon the former President, or his close associates, do not involve politics.

There have been public reports about an investigation by DOJ into Presidential Records purportedly marked as classified among materials that were once in the White House and unknowingly included among the boxes brought to Mar-a-Lago by the movers. It is important to emphasize that when a request was made for the documents by the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA), President Trump readily and voluntarily agreed to their transfer to NARA. The communications regarding the transfer of boxes to NARA were friendly, open, and straightforward. President Trump voluntarily ordered that the boxes be provided to NARA. No legal objection was asserted about the transfer. No concerns were raised about the contents of the boxes. It was a voluntary and open process.

Unfortunately, the good faith demonstrated by President Trump was not matched once the boxes arrived at NARA. Leaks followed. And, once DOJ got involved, the leaks continued. Leaks about any investigation are concerning. Leaks about an investigation that involve the residence of a former President who is still active on the national political scene are particularly troubling.

Jay I. Bratt  
May 25, 2022  
Page 2 of 3

It is important to note a few bedrock principles:

**(1) A President Has Absolute Authority To Declassify Documents.**

Under the U.S. Constitution, the President is vested with the highest level of authority when it comes to the classification and declassification of documents. *See* U.S. Const., Art. II, § 2 (“The President [is] Commander in Chief of the Army and Navy of the United States[.]”). His constitutionally-based authority regarding the classification and declassification of documents is unfettered. *See Navy v. Egan*, 484 U.S. 518, 527 (1988) (“[The President’s] authority to classify and control access to information bearing on national security . . . flows primarily from this constitutional investment of power in the President and exists quite apart from any explicit congressional grant.”).

**(2) Presidential Actions Involving Classified Documents Are Not Subject To Criminal Sanction.**

Any attempt to impose criminal liability on a President or former President that involves his actions with respect to documents marked classified would implicate grave constitutional separation-of-powers issues. Beyond that, the primary criminal statute that governs the unauthorized removal and retention of classified documents or material *does not apply* to the President. That statute provides, in pertinent part, as follows:

Whoever, being an officer, employee, contractor, or consultant of the United States, and, by virtue of his office, employment, position, or contract, becomes possessed of documents or materials containing classified information of the United States, knowingly removes such documents or materials without authority and with the intent to retain such documents or materials at an unauthorized location shall be fined under this title or imprisoned for not more than five years, or both.

18 U.S.C. § 1924(a). An element of this offense, which the government must prove beyond a reasonable doubt, is that the accused is “an officer, employee, contractor, or consultant of the United States.” The President is none of these. *See Free Enter. Fund v. Pub. Co. Acct. Oversight Bd.*, 561 U.S. 477, 497–98 (2010) (citing U.S. Const., Art. II, § 2, cl. 2) (“The people do not vote for the ‘Officers of the United States.’”); *see also Melcher v. Fed. Open Mkt. Comm.*, 644 F. Supp. 510, 518–19 (D.D.C. 1986), *aff’d*, 836 F.2d 561 (D.C. Cir. 1987) (“[a]n officer of the United States can only be appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, or by a court of law, or the head of a department. A person who does not derive his position from one of these sources is not an officer of the United States in the sense of the Constitution.”). Thus, the statute does not apply to acts by a President.

Jay I. Bratt  
May 25, 2022  
Page 3 of 3

**(3) DOJ Must Be Insulated From Political Influence.**

According to the Inspector General of DOJ, one of the top challenges facing the Department is the public perception that DOJ is influenced by politics. The report found that “[o]ne important strategy that can build public trust in the Department is to ensure adherence to policies and procedures designed to protect DOJ from accusations of political influence or partial application of the law.” See <https://oig.justice.gov/reports/top-management-and-performance-challenges-facing-department-justice-2021> (last visited May 25, 2022). We request that DOJ adhere to long-standing policies and procedures regarding communications between DOJ and the White House regarding pending investigative matters which are designed to prevent political influence in DOJ decision-making.

**(4) DOJ Must Be Candid With Judges And Present Exculpatory Evidence.**

Long-standing DOJ policy requires that DOJ attorneys be candid in representations made to judges. Pursuant to those policies, we request that DOJ provide this letter to any judicial officer who is asked to rule on any motion pertaining to this investigation, or on any application made in connection with any investigative request concerning this investigation.

The official policy of DOJ further requires that prosecutors present exculpatory evidence to a grand jury. Pursuant to that policy, we request that DOJ provide this letter to any grand jury considering evidence in connection with this matter, or any grand jury asked to issue a subpoena for testimony or documents in connection with this matter.

Thank you for your attention to this request.

With best regards,



---

M. Evan Corcoran

cc: Matthew G. Olsen  
Assistant Attorney General  
National Security Division  
*Via Electronic Mail*

**ATTACHMENT A**

*Property to be searched*

The premises to be searched, 1100 S Ocean Blvd, Palm Beach, FL 33480, is further described as a resort, club, and residence located near the intersection of Southern Blvd and S Ocean Blvd. It is described as a mansion with approximately 58 bedrooms, 33 bathrooms, on a 17-acre estate. The locations to be searched include the “45 Office,” all storage rooms, and all other rooms or areas within the premises used or available to be used by FPOTUS and his staff and in which boxes or documents could be stored, including all structures or buildings on the estate. It does not include areas currently (i.e., at the time of the search) being occupied, rented, or used by third parties (such as Mar-a-Largo Members) and not otherwise used or available to be used by FPOTUS and his staff, such as private guest suites.



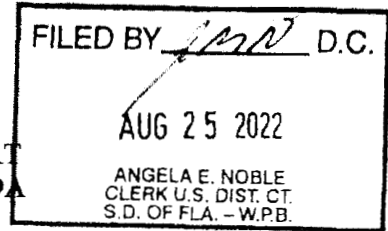
**ATTACHMENT B**

*Property to be seized*

All physical documents and records constituting evidence, contraband, fruits of crime, or other items illegally possessed in violation of 18 U.S.C. §§ 793, 2071, or 1519, including the following:

- a. Any physical documents with classification markings, along with any containers/boxes (including any other contents) in which such documents are located, as well as any other containers/boxes that are collectively stored or found together with the aforementioned documents and containers/boxes;
- b. Information, including communications in any form, regarding the retrieval, storage, or transmission of national defense information or classified material;
- c. Any government and/or Presidential Records created between January 20, 2017, and January 20, 2021; or
- d. Any evidence of the knowing alteration, destruction, or concealment of any government and/or Presidential Records, or of any documents with classification markings.

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF FLORIDA



CASE NO. 22-MJ-8332-BER

IN RE SEALED SEARCH WARRANT

UNDER SEAL

UNITED STATES' SEALED, EX PARTE MEMORANDUM OF LAW REGARDING  
PROPOSED REDACTIONS

Pursuant to this Court's August 18 and August 22, 2022 orders, the United States respectfully submits this sealed, *ex parte* memorandum of law setting forth the justifications for its proposed redactions to the affidavit submitted to the Court on August 5, 2022, in support of the government's application for a search warrant at a property of former President Donald J. Trump. *See* Docket Entries ("D.E.") 1, 74, 80. For the reasons explained below, the materials the government marked for redaction in the attached document must remain sealed to protect the safety and privacy of a significant number of civilian witnesses, in addition to law enforcement personnel, as well as to protect the integrity of the ongoing investigation and to avoid disclosure of grand jury material in violation of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure.

Procedural Background

On August 8, 2022, the Department of Justice executed a search warrant, issued by this Court upon the requisite finding of probable cause, at the premises located at 1100 S. Ocean Blvd., Palm Beach, Florida 33480, a property of former President Trump. Given the circumstances presented in this matter and the public interest in transparency, and in the wake

The Court found that disclosure of the Affidavit would likely result in witnesses being “quickly and broadly identified over social media and other communication channels, which could lead to them being harassed and intimidated.” *Id.* at 9. The Court gave “great weight” to “the significant likelihood that unsealing the Affidavit would harm legitimate privacy interests,” with disclosures potentially serving to “impede the ongoing investigation through obstruction of justice and witness intimidation or retaliation.” *Id.* at 9-10. And the Court found that the Affidavit contains “critically important and detailed investigative facts: highly sensitive information about witnesses . . . ; specific investigative techniques; and information required to be kept under seal pursuant to Federal Rule of Criminal Procedure 6(e),” the disclosure of which “would detrimentally affect this investigation and future investigations.” *Id.* at 10. However, noting that the warrant involves “matters of significant public concern,” *id.*, the Court concluded that “the present record” does not “justif[y] keeping the *entire* Affidavit under seal,” *id.* at 13 (emphasis added).

### Argument

#### The Redacted Materials Must Remain Under Seal

As the Court has found, “[p]rotecting the integrity and secrecy of an ongoing criminal investigation is a well-recognized compelling governmental interest.” D.E. 80 at 6 (citing, *inter alia*, *United States v. Valenti*, 986 F.2d 708, 714 (11th Cir. 1993)). Indeed, “[a]t the pre-indictment stage, the Government’s need to conceal the scope and direction of its investigation, as well as its investigative sources and methods, is at its zenith.” D.E. 80 at 7-8 (citing *Blalock v. United States*, 844 F.2d 1546, 1550 n.5 (11th Cir. 1988)). Counsel for the Intervenor have also acknowledged that certain portions of the affidavit must likely remain

of the former President's public confirmation of the search and his representatives' public characterizations of the materials sought, the government moved to unseal the search warrant, its attachments, and the Property Receipt summarizing materials seized, and this Court granted the government's motion. D.E. 18, 41.

A number of news media organizations and other entities (the "Intervenors") have filed motions to unseal these and other materials associated with the search warrant, including the affidavit. The government submitted its omnibus response to those motions on August 15, 2022. D.E. 59. The Court conducted a hearing on August 18, 2022, at the conclusion of which the Court directed the government to file under seal its proposed redactions to the affidavit and a legal memorandum setting forth the justifications for the proposed redactions.<sup>1</sup> D.E. 74.

In a subsequent order, the Court noted that the government "has met its burden of showing good cause/a compelling interest that overrides any public interest in unsealing the full contents of the Affidavit." D.E. 80 at 12. In that order, the Court observed that the obstruction and threat concerns raised by the government were "not hypothetical in this case." *Id.* at 8. In particular, the Court cited its prior finding of probable cause that a statute prohibiting obstruction of justice has been violated, and further relied upon the post-search increase in specific threats of violence to identified FBI agents, overall violent threats to FBI personnel, and the armed attack on the FBI office in Cincinnati. *Id.* at 8-9.

---

<sup>1</sup> Based on the government's and the Intervenors' agreement that certain additional documents (namely, the government's motion to seal, the Court's sealing order, and two cover sheets) could be publicly released with minor redactions to protect government personnel, the Court also ordered those documents released. D.E. 74.

under seal to protect information such as witness identities and investigative sources and methods. Hrg. Tr. at 35.

The government has carefully reviewed the affidavit and has identified five categories of information that must remain under seal in order to protect the safety of multiple civilian witnesses whose information was included throughout the affidavit and contributed to the finding of probable cause, as well as the integrity of the ongoing investigation. In the attached chart, the government has identified each category that applies to information the government proposes to redact. Some information falls within more than one category. The categories, described further below, are (1) information from a broad range of civilian witnesses who may be subject to “witness intimidation or retaliation,” D.E. 80 at 9; (2) information regarding investigative avenues and techniques that could provide a roadmap for potential ways to obstruct the investigation, *id.* at 9-10; (3) information whose disclosure is prohibited under Rule 6(e) of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure (“Rule 6(e)”), such as grand jury subpoenas, testimony, and related material, *id.* at 10; (4) information whose disclosure could risk the safety of law enforcement personnel, *id.* at 9; and (5) information whose disclosure could harm “legitimate privacy interests” of third parties, *id.*

**1. Witness Information**

First and foremost, the government must protect the identity of witnesses at this stage of the investigation to ensure their safety. As this Court noted, if information relating to witnesses were disclosed, “it is likely that even witnesses who are not expressly named in the Affidavit would be quickly and broadly identified over social media and other communication channels, which could lead to them being harassed and intimidated.” D.E. 80 at 9. *See also,*



[REDACTED]

If witnesses' identities are exposed, they could be subjected to harms including retaliation, intimidation, or harassment, and even threats to their physical safety. As the Court has already noted, "these concerns are not hypothetical in this case." D.E. 80 at 8.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Meanwhile, FBI agents who have been publicly identified in connection with this investigation have received repeated threats of violence from members of the public. Exposure of witnesses' identities would likely erode their trust in the government's investigation, and it would almost certainly chill other potential witnesses from coming forward in this investigation and others.

## 2. Investigation "Road Map"

As Judge Jordan explained in *Steinger*, if details about an ongoing investigation are prematurely disclosed, such disclosures "would compromise the investigation and might also lead to the destruction of evidence." 626 F. Supp. 2d at 1235 (citing *Douglas Oil Co.*, 441 U.S. at 218-19); *see also, e.g., Patel v. United States*, No. 9:19-MC-81181, 2019 WL 4251269, at \*5 (S.D. Fla. Sept. 9, 2019) (agreeing with the government that disclosure of information "would severely prejudice" its investigation, including by "prematurely disclosing its scope and direction, subjects, and potential witnesses, and could result in the destruction of evidence"); D.E. 80 at 9-10 (disclosure of investigative "sources and methods" "would detrimentally affect this investigation and future investigations").

Although the public is now aware that the government executed a search warrant at the premises owned by the former President and seized documents marked as classified, the affidavit is replete with further details that would provide a roadmap for anyone intent on obstructing the investigation. "Maximizing the Government's access to untainted facts increases its ability to make a fully-informed prosecutive decision." D.E. 80 at 8.

For example, [REDACTED]



[REDACTED]

Revealing this information could thus adversely impact the government's pursuit of relevant evidence.<sup>2</sup>

In addition, revealing this information could severely disadvantage the government as it seeks further information from witnesses. For example, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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<sup>2</sup> Additionally, the Court has noted that disclosure of certain information pertaining to physical aspects of the premises could negatively affect the Secret Service's ability to carry out its protective functions. D.E. 80 at 10. Although the Department of Justice is not in a position at this time to assess those potential harms, the information in the affidavit describing physical aspects of the premises fits within the category of information whose disclosure would provide a "road map" of investigative techniques and avenues, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

These concerns are particularly compelling in this case. As explained in the affidavit,

[REDACTED]

In short, the government has well-founded concerns that steps may be taken to frustrate or otherwise interfere with this investigation if facts in the affidavit were prematurely disclosed.

**3. Rule 6(e)**

The affidavit contains certain information that must be kept under seal pursuant to Federal Rule of Criminal Procedure 6(e) because it may disclose “a matter occurring before the grand jury.” Although “Rule 6(e) does not draw a veil of secrecy over all matters occurring in the world that happen to be investigated by a grand jury,” it bars disclosure of information that “would reveal something about the grand jury’s identity, investigation, or deliberation.” *Labow v. U.S. Dep’t of Justice*, 831 F.3d 523, 529 (D.C. Cir. 2016) (internal quotations omitted).<sup>3</sup>

[REDACTED]

**4. Safety of Law Enforcement Personnel**

Minor but important redactions are necessary to protect the safety of law enforcement

<sup>3</sup> [REDACTED]

personnel. See D.E. 80 at 3 (redactions in other materials “are appropriate to protect the identity and personal safety of” an investigative agent). Specifically, information in the affidavit that would identify the affiant, such as by name or through biographical information, see Aff. ¶ 4, should remain under seal. [REDACTED]

### 5. Privacy Interests

As the Supreme Court has long recognized, premature disclosure of investigative information creates a risk that “persons who are accused but exonerated” may be “held up to public ridicule.” *Douglas Oil Co.*, 441 U.S. at 219; see also, e.g., *Steinger*, 626 F. Supp. 2d at 1235 (disclosure of names of subjects and of matters being investigated “could have devastating consequences for those persons who have been cleared of any misconduct, as well as for those still under investigation”).<sup>4</sup> The government recognizes that the former President has spoken publicly about this investigation and has said in a public statement that he wishes for the affidavit to be disclosed in its entirety, although the Court has noted that “[n]either Former President Trump nor anyone else purporting to be the owner of the Premises has filed a pleading taking a position on the Intervenor’s Motion to Unseal.”<sup>5</sup> D.E.

<sup>4</sup> Protecting the identities of uncharged individuals is also consistent with government counsel’s professional responsibilities. See Justice Manual § 9-27.760 (“Limitation on Identifying Uncharged Third-Parties Publicly”).

<sup>5</sup> See Perry Stein & Josh Dawsey, “Trump Wants Mar-a-Lago Affidavit Released, As Some Aides Ponder Risk,” *Washington Post* (Aug. 17, 2022), available at <https://www.washingtonpost.com/national-security/2022/08/16/trump-mar-a-lago-affidavit/>. [REDACTED]

80 at 1-2. Nevertheless, the affidavit contains additional information about others that could harm these individuals' privacy and reputational interests if disclosed.

For example, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**Conclusion**

For the reasons stated herein, the Court should maintain under seal the text the government has marked for redaction. The government defers to the Court to determine whether the redactions are "so extensive that" release of the remainder of the affidavit would "result in a meaningless disclosure." D.E. 80 at 12. Should the Court order disclosure of a redacted version of the affidavit, and if the Court agrees with the government's proposed redactions, the government will submit a final version of the redacted affidavit for public release.

In the interest of transparency, as well as the principle that limitations on public access

[REDACTED]

to judicial proceedings should be “narrowly tailored,” *Globe Newspaper Co. v. Superior Court*, 457 U.S. 596, 607 (1982), the government respectfully submits that certain portions of this filing may be unsealed, including the introductory segment up through the first two paragraphs in the Argument section on page 4, as well as certain text in the sections that follow describing relevant provisions of law. The government will submit a version of this filing that identifies the portions that can be publicly filed, along with its proposed redactions, forthwith. And with the Court’s permission, the government will confer with counsel for the former President as to whether counsel or the former President has any objection to unsealing the letter from counsel included as Exhibit 1 to the affidavit. Absent any such objection, the government supports unsealing the letter.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Juan Antonio Gonzalez  
JUAN ANTONIO GONZALEZ  
UNITED STATES ATTORNEY  
Florida Bar No. 897388  
99 NE 4th Street, 8th Floor  
Miami, FL 33132  
Tel: 305-961-9001  
Email: [juan.antonio.gonzalez@usdoj.gov](mailto:juan.antonio.gonzalez@usdoj.gov)

/s/ Jay I. Bratt  
JAY I. BRATT  
CHIEF  
Counterintelligence and Export Control  
Section  
National Security Division  
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
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Illinois Bar No. 6187361  
Tel: 202-233-0986  
Email: [jay.bratt2@usdoj.gov](mailto:jay.bratt2@usdoj.gov)

# Exhibit B

ATTACHMENT

Aff. Paragraph	Reason(s) for withholding
Prefatory language	Agent safety
¶ 3	[REDACTED]
¶ 4	Agent safety
Heading above ¶ 26	[REDACTED]
¶ 26	[REDACTED]
¶ 27	[REDACTED]
¶ 28	[REDACTED]
¶ 29	[REDACTED]
¶ 30	[REDACTED]
¶ 31	[REDACTED]
¶ 32	[REDACTED]
¶ 33	[REDACTED]
¶ 34	[REDACTED]
¶ 35	[REDACTED]
¶ 36	[REDACTED]
¶ 37	[REDACTED]
¶ 38	[REDACTED]
¶ 39	[REDACTED]
¶ 40	[REDACTED]
¶ 41	[REDACTED]
¶ 42	[REDACTED]
¶ 43	[REDACTED]
¶ 44	[REDACTED]
¶ 45	[REDACTED]
¶ 46	[REDACTED]
¶ 48	[REDACTED]
Heading above ¶ 49	[REDACTED]
¶ 49	[REDACTED]
¶ 50	[REDACTED]
Heading above ¶ 51	[REDACTED]
¶ 51	[REDACTED]



¶ 52	[REDACTED]
¶ 53	[REDACTED]
¶ 54	[REDACTED]
¶ 55	[REDACTED]
¶ 56	[REDACTED]
¶ 57	[REDACTED]
¶ 58	[REDACTED]
¶ 59	[REDACTED]
¶ 60	[REDACTED]
¶ 61	[REDACTED]
Heading above	[REDACTED]
¶ 62	[REDACTED]
¶ 63	[REDACTED]
¶ 64	[REDACTED]
¶ 65	[REDACTED]
¶ 66	[REDACTED]
¶ 67	[REDACTED]
¶ 68	[REDACTED]
¶ 69	[REDACTED]
¶ 70	[REDACTED]
¶ 71	[REDACTED]
¶ 72	[REDACTED]
¶ 73	[REDACTED]
¶ 74	[REDACTED]
¶ 75	[REDACTED]
¶ 76	[REDACTED]
¶ 78	[REDACTED]
Agent signature	Agent safety

---

**From:** Coley, Anthony D. (PAO)  
**Sent:** Friday, August 26, 2022 1:12 PM  
**To:** (b) (6); Glenn Thrush  
**Subject:** FW: Filed Docs  
**Attachments:** 2.26.22 NOTICE OF FILING OF REDACTED SEARCH WARRANT AFFIDAVIT.pdf

---

**From:** Coley, Anthony D. (PAO)  
**Sent:** Friday, August 26, 2022 12:35 PM  
**To:** 'Coley, Anthony D. (PAO)' (b) (6)  
**Cc:** Rossello, Luis (PAO) <Luis.Rossello@usdoj.gov>; Hornbuckle, Wyn (PAO) <Wyn.Hornbuckle@usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** Filed Docs

DOJ Beats Government's filings are attached.

These docs **are** reportable.

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF FLORIDA

CASE NO. 22-MJ-8332-BER

IN RE SEALED SEARCH WARRANT

/

**NOTICE OF FILING OF REDACTED SEARCH WARRANT AFFIDAVIT  
AND REDACTED *EX PARTE* MEMORANDUM OF LAW  
CONCERNING PROPOSED REDACTIONS**

The United States gives notice that, in compliance with the Court's August 25, 2022 Order To Unseal, Docket Entry ("D.E.") 94, it hereby files the redacted version of the search warrant affidavit, submitted in support of the search warrant signed and approved by the Court on August 5, 2022. The redactions were previously submitted for the Court's review and approved by the Court's August 25, 2022 Order (DE89-1; DE94).

In addition, this notice includes a redacted copy of the government's Sealed, *Ex Parte* Memorandum of Law Concerning Proposed Redactions, filed on August 25, 2022, along with Exhibit B to that Memorandum, a redacted chart explaining the government's proposed redactions both of which the Court ordered unsealed on August 26, 2022. Exhibit A to that filing consists of the proposed redactions to the affidavit, which accompanies this Notice in its final, redacted form.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Juan Antonio Gonzalez  
JUAN ANTONIO GONZALEZ  
UNITED STATES ATTORNEY  
Florida Bar No. 897388  
99 NE 4th Street, 8th Floor  
Miami, FL 33132  
Tel: 305-961-9001  
Email: [juan.antonio.gonzalez@usdoj.gov](mailto:juan.antonio.gonzalez@usdoj.gov)

---

**From:** Josh Gerstein <jgerstein@politico.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 26, 2022 1:47 PM  
**To:** Coley, Anthony D. (PAO)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Q re consultation

Did this consultation with Trump counsel happen?

From legal memo:

"And with the Court's permission, the government will confer with counsel for the former President as to whether counsel or the former President has any objection to unsealing the letter from counsel included as Exhibit 1 to the affidavit. Absent any such objection, the government supports unsealing the letter" (edited)

Josh Gerstein  
Senior Legal Affairs Reporter  
POLITICO  
[jgerstein@politico.com](mailto:jgerstein@politico.com)

(b) (6)

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**From:** Charlie Savage <savage@nytimes.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 26, 2022 2:07 PM  
**To:** Coley, Anthony D. (PAO)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Re: hey man, i think you mean the letter TO Jay Bratt, on this one...

yes thanks fixed

Charlie Savage  
The New York Times

Mobile/Signal/WhatsApp (b) (6)  
Twitter: @charlie savage

On Fri, Aug 26, 2022 at 1:24 PM Coley, Anthony D. (PAO) (b) (6) wrote:

<https://www.nytimes.com/live/2022/08/26/us/trump-warrant-affidavit/fd6ed162-4b0e-5061-98ab-fba895999b81?smid=url-share>

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**From:** (b)(6) former PAO intern (b) (6)  
**Sent:** Friday, August 26, 2022 3:05 PM  
**To:** (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) per EOUSA (USAMA)  
**Cc:** Stueve, Joshua (PAO)  
**Subject:** Re: [External] OPA intern  
**Attachments:** Guatemala Human Smuggling Takedown Clips 8.8.22.docx; 8.19.22 5.15 Mar-a-Lago.docx

H (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) per EOUSA

I am also attaching two projects from my internship.

Let me know if there is anything else that I can send over.

Thank you!

Best,

(b)(6) former PAO intern

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**From** (b)(6) former PAO intern (b) (6)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 23, 2022 1:44 PM  
**To** (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) per EOUSA (USAMA (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) per EOUSA  
**Cc:** Stueve, Joshua (PAO) <Joshua.Stueve@usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: [External] OPA intern

(b)(6), (b)(7)(C) per EOUSA

That's so great to hear! I'm very excited.

I have attached my resume along with a short writing sample.

I have asked Josh about getting access to some past projects I worked on while interning at the DOJ. Please let me know if there are specific examples of kinds of projects you would like to see from me and I can also always create an example quickly.

Thank you so much.

Best,

(b)(6) former PAO intern

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**From** (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) per EOUSA (USAMA (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) per EOUSA  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 5:38 PM  
**To** (b)(6) former PAO intern (b) (6) >  
**Cc:** Stueve, Joshua (PAO) <Joshua.Stueve@usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [External] OPA intern

Hell (b)(6) former PAO intern I am very interested in speaking with you regarding opportunities here at the U.S. Attorney's Office in Boston. I am waiting to hear from our security folks to see if your clearance may still be valid. I should know tomorrow. In the meantime please feel free to send along your resume and project examples, as well as a short writing sample.

I will be in touch in a day or two. Do not hesitate to reach out if you do not hear from me.

(b)(6), (b)(7)(C) per EOUSA

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**From** (b)(6) former PAO intern (b) (6)  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 4:59 PM  
**To** (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) per EOUSA (USAMA (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) per EOUSA  
**Subject:** Re: [External] OPA intern

(b)(6), (b)(7)(C) per EOUSA

It's great to connect with you! I had such an amazing summer interning with the DOJ's OPA office this summer and wanted to find a similar opportunity for this coming semester in Boston. Josh was kind enough to connect me with you after I told him about my interest.

All OPA interns this summer visited the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of Virginia which was great. I really loved getting to speak with Jess Aber about the kinds of work they engage in at EDVA. I would love to be involved in that kind of work during my last year at Tufts while I'm in the Boston area.

I am not sure whether the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Massachusetts is looking for any incoming interns for the fall/spring, but I wanted to express my interest and see whether there are any open opportunities.

Let me know if there are any available opportunities that you are aware of and whether I can send over any relevant documents (resume, project examples, writing samples, etc.)

I look forward to hearing from you.

Thank you again.

Best regards,

(b)(6) former PAO intern

Tufts University '23 | International Relations & Sociology

(b) (6) (b) (6)

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**From:** Stueve, Joshua (PAO) <[Joshua.Stueve@usdoj.gov](mailto:Joshua.Stueve@usdoj.gov)>

**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 12:53 PM

**To** (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) per EOUSA (USAMA (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) per EOUSA

**Cc** (b)(6) former PAO intern (b) (6)

**Subject:** [External] OPA intern

Hi Christina,

Hope you are doing well, my friend.

I'd like to introduce you to (b)(6) former PAO intern, who spent this summer as a student intern in OPA (service letter attached). During a recent visit to FBI HQ we learned how FBI student interns often continue volunteering at local FBI field offices when they return to school.

(b)(6) former PAO Intern is currently a student at Tufts University and is interested in continuing to volunteer, should you have an opportunity with your team (Her security clearance should still be valid). She was an extremely valuable member of OPA this summer, and could hit the ground running. She is proficient in compiling press clips, fielding media queries, editing press releases, conducting media research, etc.

She has my highest confidence and would no doubt be a value-add to your team. Will leave it to y'all to connect!

**Joshua Stueve** | Spokesman  
U.S. Department of Justice  
Cell (b) (6)

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**8/19/22 5:15 pm Mar-a-Lago Clips**

**Print**

**Bloomberg:** [FBI's Wray Defends Agents After Threats Over Trump Mar-a-Lago Search](#), by Chris Strohm and Benjamin Penn

**Washington Post:** [Opinion: Trump's next Mar-a-Lago move will escalate his supporters' rage](#), by Greg Sargent

**CNN:** [White House officials privately express concern about classified information taken to Mar-a-Lago](#), by Kaitlan Collins, Kevin Liptak, and Natasha Bertrand

**MSNBC:** [Why the media and Trump both want the Mar-a-Lago receipts released](#), by Hayes Brown

**CNBC:** [House Democrats urge Twitter, TikTok, Meta and others to address spike in threats against law enforcement after FBI search of Trump home Mar-a-Lago](#), by Kevin Breuninger

**Independent:** [Rudy Giuliani gives new excuse for Trump holding onto classified documents at Mar-a-Lago](#), by Andrew Feinberg

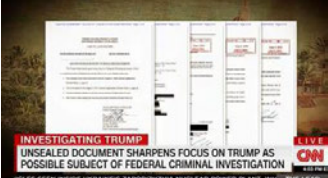
**Time:** [Analysts Warn Violent Rhetoric After FBI Mar-a-Lago Search Is a Preview of What's to Come](#), by Vera Bergengruen

**People:** [18 Former Trump Officials Say Claim of 'Standing Order' to Declassify White House Docs Is False: Report](#), by Aaron Parsley

**The Nation:** [The Mar-a-Lago Raid Highlights the DOJ's Hypocrisy on the Espionage Act](#), by Freddy Martinez

**Broadcast**


**TV**

<p><b>CNN - U.S. Cable</b> <b>The Lead With Jake Tapper</b></p>  <p>INVESTIGATING TRUMP UNSEALED DOCUMENT SHARPENS FOCUS ON TRUMP AS POSSIBLE SUBJECT OF FEDERAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION LIVE CNN</p>	<p><b>CNN 08/19/2022 04:03:02 PM:</b> reporter: new information revealed in documents related to the mar-a-lago search sharpening the focus on former president trump as a possible subject of the criminal probe. the application for the search warrant unsealed thursday reveals that among the crimes doj is investigating, includes the willful retention of national defense information. language that could point to the role of trump who would have been authorized to possess national defense documents while in office but not once he departed the white house and moved to mar-a-lago. &gt;&gt; the papers don't specify donald trump in particular. you usually as a prosecutor don't specify a person. we can sort of try to figure out what they mean by the words they did give us. &gt;&gt; reporter: trump's former attorney, rudy giuliani, the target of another criminal probe out of georgia investigating election fraud, lashed out defending the former president. &gt;&gt; now they</p>
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want to make him responsible for having taken classified documents and preserve them. really, if you look at the espionage act, it's not really about taking the documents. it's about destroying them. or hiding them. or giving them to the enemy. it's not about taking them and putting them in a place that is roughly as safe it's a they were in in the first place. >> reporter: trump and his team continue to push publicly for releasing the full search warrant affidavit. they didn't file any motions to that effect in court. a source tells cnn, that remains a possibility while trump is continuing to hunt for editions to his legal team including someone with experience in florida. >> one thing i did like today, i have to be positive about this. he said, look, if it is redacted too much, i'm going to take it and redact it myself. >> reporter: since the search, threats against fbi agents have reached unprecedented levels, a source tells cnn. that's why they are calling on taking immediate action and identify threats made on the platform since august 8, the day of the search. the demand comes in a letter to social media coils, including meta, twitter and tiktok. when it comes to that affidavit, prosecutors have less than one week to submit proposed redactions to the judge so he can decide what might be released publicly. it will likely be a tall task for a doj that repeatedly said any proposed redactions would be so extensive, it would make the affidavit devoid of content. >> thank you so much. white house officials have privately expressed deep concern over the classified materials taken to mar-a-lago, including some documents that are meant to be viewed only in secure facilities. what are the biden administration officials telling you? >> reporter: well, they're not saying much publicly. they've been pretty tight-lipped about this search of mar-a-lago at the white house. what we are learning is that they're quite concerned about the idea that all this classified information was taken to the former president's private residence. it was kept, most of it, in a basement level room. a storage facility where it has been the last several months as the national archives and justice department has tried to get its hands on it. as these developments and new details have emerged including what they took from mar-a-lago when the fbi agents were there last week, there has become more and more concern about the idea of this classified information being there. including some of it so secure that you are only supposed to view it in a secure government facility. so what we've heard from officials, they don't know exactly what was taken. they've only seen the inventory list that we've seen from this unsealed search warrant released by a judge a week ago. they have the number one concern, that really this potential classified information being there and out of the hands of intelligence

officials who currently work here or inside a secure facility, is that it can reveal sources and methods that the u.s. intelligence community uses to get its information. potentially revealing those sources, or the methods, and preventing them from being able to use them going forward. it has become a real concern. so representative for the intelligence community have had conversations with justice department officials, with congressional intelligence committees about these concerns that they have. and another thing is there's a diplomatic aspect of this. if you look at the inventory list, it mention that had there were three pages of information about the french president included in what the fbi took from trump's resort. that has raised questions, of course, of what that could be. we should note the french embassy has not commented on that matter. >> and republican who's support trump on capitol hill are really up in arms about this. that raid at mar-a-lago. let's remind our viewers what congressman mike turner of ohio, the top republican on the house intelligence committee, told us yesterday about the skepticism of both president biden and attorney general garland. take a listen. >> in order for them to have credibility, because they have an unbelievable level of bias. this is president biden's political rival. perhaps even his political opponent. certainly his past political opponent. >> -- in any way. >> we don't know. garland hasn't told us. it would be interesting to ask garland. whether or not he did tell the white house. >> what is the white house saying about the suggestion congressman turner is making that this is a political vendetta led by attorney general garland. >> well, first he does not answer any questions on this matter. he held the rare press conference and said he can't take questions. he needs to remain silent for the sake of the investigation beyond what they revealed about pursuing the release of the search warrant. they said president biden did not know about this in advance. then he found out on media reports and on television when it was first reported. they're strongly pushing back on the idea that this has any political motivation behind it. they've said the justice department on its own is doing this investigation independently. they've highlighted that. they've noted that it was a federal court that approved the search warrant at trump's house. that was based upon the required finding of probable cause pfrlt basically means it wasn't garland himself signing off on this, though he did personally sign off on it. it was a court that said they did believe there was a reason for fbi agents to go to mar-a-lago and look and retrieve these documents. so they're saying it is not just biden and garland basically making this decision, jake. >> all right. thank you. >>> joining us to discuss, the republican congressman adam kinsinger. i want to start rid there with what

you just heard from your colleague, mike turner, suggesting the mar-a-lago search may have been driven by garland and biden because of political events. that is to acknowledge he doesn't have any evidence to that fact but said there are questions that need to be answered. he is the top republican on the house intelligence committee. >> it has always been interesting to me. these people that you worked with for a long time come out with these theories that you're like, where did that come from? you're a very serious person. look. here's what i think happens in a lot of cases. this is the fbi situation with the republicans. you have a lot of members that know donald trump is a liar. they know he is insane. they stay kind of quiet. they're a little crosswise with their base. they're not defending donald trump hard enough. then you get this issue like the fbi and they see it as their outlet where they can fight hard for trump. make their base happy. and it that's what you're seeing. the problem is it is really dangerous. our party was outraged when president obama at one point said, i forget, there was a professor that the police came to his house and he said the police acted stupidly. he said that before knowing ought details. our party was outraged. now a few short years later we're leveling accusation that's the fbi is in some deep state plot the take trump down. if trump is so tough, if he's so good at everything he does, how has he been such a victim of the deep state so many times? because he's not. because he uses victimization as his way out. and it is really frustrating and sad to see my party having gone down such a dark path. >> congressman turner told me he wants the affidavit behind the mar-a-lago search released. the justice department has until next thursday to tell the judge how much of that document they need to be redacted. what is your take on this? is there a danger that by with holding too much information, that could undermain public faith in the justice department even further? >> yeah. it is a unique moment. by the way though, i think no matter what comes out, it is probably not going to change some people's minds. i think there are a number of folks that say, i know donald trump is lying. i just don't care anymore. i'm just all in with trump. he can lie all he wants. i do think in the interests of kind of national security, of domestic politics, you know, transparency is good but let's keep in mind. from what i've heard, you know, basically reported on open source, there is some stuff that is so classified you can't even say what it is. if that is the case, certainly we need to make sure that we're not revealing that even in an affidavit. we want to make sure we're not putting anybody's life at risk. and we want to make sure if we're redacting things, we're not doing it in a way that people can use that as a conspiracy as well. we live in a moment where we have to

	<p>have accountability from the law. people will have their own theiries all the time no matter what it is. and there are people that will follow donald trump into the swamp because they just love him so much. &gt;&gt; today the house oversight committee asks social media companies to take immediate action to address this surge of violent threats being made against law enforcement ever since the mar-a-lago search. to what degree do you blame not only trump but some of your republican colleagues who have attacked the fbi in defense of trump? criticism of law enforcement action is one thing. but suggesting that the fbi should be defunded, suggesting revealing the name of individual fbi agents, et cetera, that's a different step. &gt;&gt; it really is. keep in mind there are people all over the place now that think the fbi is this deep state conspiracy. fbi agents are going to work. they're kissing their families goodbye in the morning. they're doing their job. they're coming home. many of them are republicans. not that that the matters. this is all about supporting donald trump to the ends of the earth. it doesn't matter who gets hurt. it doesn't matter who gets in his way. he doesn't care had a gets in his way and gets hurt. when you're such a deep narcissist to that level, you don't care about the damage. on the social media side, i hate to say we need to have a conversation it sounds like you're kicking the can down the road. we have to come to the a conclusion of what social media isn't responsible for. i'm all for the first amendment. what i'm not for is insurrection type, violent type speech being promoted, passed on in these mediums that can lead to a really destabilized situation. i retweeted some guy that posted a bunch of tiktok photos of guys with their guns saying it is time to go after the government. i'm going after the fbi. it is all over tiktok. it is amazing to see these 50, 60-year-old men on tiktok. those are the things we have to discuss. that can't be allowed anymore in this country. &gt;&gt; i want to turn to another trump investigation. the work you're doing is part of the january 6th select committee. you've been going back and forth with former secretary of state mike pompeo about some matters. ...</p>
<p><b>MSNBC - U.S. Cable</b> <b>Deadline</b></p> 	<p><b>MSNBC 08/19/2022 03:59:59 PM:</b> ...john heilemann is here in for nicole nicole wallace for the last day. i know you're all relieved. after the unprecedented search at mar-a-lago and the retrieval of a boat load of sensitive and in some cases secret and top secret material from donald trump's residence in south florida, america is still grappling with the legal, political and national security implications of a series of developments that have taken us all into terra incognita. the last time i was in this chair it was back in the last week of february was when russia's invasion of ukraine began and we were all watching a world historical event unfold and carry us to a scary</p>

place. a totalitarian regime had just invaded a fledgling democracy in the heart of europe sparking the largest land war on the continent since world war ii. now today i have a distinct feeling of deja vu all over again with another potentially world historical development playing out before our eyes taking us to another scary place over the past fort night. a criminal investigation into donald trump's handling of classified information looming over the country and both major political parties with an even more significant specter casting a long, shadow in sharp relief. the very real possibility that a former president of the united states could soon be indicted for violating the espionage act or other federal statutes. it is extremely volatile and if donald trump is indeed indicted although that remains a big "if," for the moment and we'll move beyond volatility and into more territory that's explosive into where there is a dramatic increase into more political violence than we've seen already in our republic. in just the last two weeks we've seen threats against the fbi and law enforcement surging. a pennsylvania man was arrested last week for threatening to kill agents of the federal bureau of investigation and a man armed with a semiautomatic weapon attacked an fbi field office in ohio. the language that's currently flooding online message boards on the right has turned from threatening to downright apocalyptic in the wake of the fbi raid on mar-a-lago. among the many lessons of january 6th insurrection is that that kind of language on those kind of chat boards can all too easily lead to actual, tangible, horrifying violence. given all of this, it's not unreasonable at least to ponder and obtain the possibility that at some point in the future we'll look back at the reactions of republican, elected official, conservative media personalities and other voices and factions on the right to the search and seizure operation at mar-a-lago and the events of the past two weeks as a moment when the united states of america was a tinder box and they collect you have chose to strike a match if you know how combustible it is and how the rhetoric has been, take a look at this. >> this is the deep state's revenge. >> what they've been doing to president trump is political persecution. >> you have to think of these people as wolves. wolfs who want to eat you. wolves who want to dominate. >> the way our federal government has gone it's like what we thought about the gestapo. >> this is gestapo crap and it will not stand. >> these are gestapo tactics. >> the fbi right now is the gestapo. the fbi is the gestapo. >> this is third-world bull [ bleep ] right here. let me say it again. third world bull [ bleep ]. >> the fbi and the department of justice are going to give trump a fair and impartial firing squad. >> is there an effort by the national security state to stoke violence in a civil


war? >> no american president has ever explicitly declared war on his own population. >> that is the destruction of democracy. >> do i know that the boxes of material they took from mar-a-lago that they won't put things in those boxes to entrap him? how do we know? >> who is to say in this kind of case that some of the documents supposedly seized were not planted there to begin with? >> what the fbi is probably doing is planting evidence which is what they did during the russia hoax. >> they raided our president's home! there is no going back from this, everybody. >> this is the worst attack on this republic in modern history! period! >> it's disgusting. they've declared war on us and now it's game on. >> joining me now, former republican national committee chairman and political analyst michael steele and ben collins, a man who lives in the online forums and former assistant director of counterintelligence of the fbi frank figliuzzi and finally, former democratic congresswoman donna edwards. frank, i'll start with you, and you know, in television you often want to cut things short, you know? we want pace, we want things fast and 30-second clips and make a matchup. i made the producers on this program do a long mash of that language because i wanted people to see the totality of it. we could have played hours of it, right? that's a worst hits instead of greatest hits. we ran it long so you can have a sense of the scale and sweep of it. republican elected officials and on television and other places just how incendiary and how irresponsible the rhetoric has been and i ask you to assess it and assess its potential impact on politics and the safety in the weeks and months ahead. >> yeah. you don't need a ph.d and intelligence or predicted analytics to see where we are and where we might be going, john. we are already seeing it play out. when someone thinks it's just the time to sacrifice their life by walking into an fbi field office in cincinnati, ohio, with an ar-15 slung around their neck thinks that the culture war justifies that, believes the lies that the company you are is collapsing, society as we know it will be over. the white race will be eliminated, all of this is coming in spades like a fire hose into people who have no other source of information. so we're already seeing the results play out. armed people outside and field offices and dhs, fbi issuing warnings saying there's an unprecedented threat level now against federal agents. just today, john, twitter suspended the account of some bozo fighting for example state senate saying if he's elected, his plan would be to permit shooting of federal agents on site in florida. they suspended his account. his disinformation and his dangerous, violent rhetoric is still up on facebook and other places. that's where we are. people running for office and people running for office who don't denounce

this. whoever is in power in florida should come out and denounce this guy and say he has no part running for office, but we are unlikely to see that. why is that? because we're in a culture right now of panic for profit. panic for political gain. it's the act of desperate people, but here's the problem. this is the only way they think they can win and maintain powers to align themselves with this kind of violent rhetoric, but here's the problem. at some point, maybe donald trump might be indicted, he might be charged and yes, things are going to get worse with the violence, but what's going to happen is some of those very politicians who are caught up in this will say, you know what? i've read this indictment, this guy, i need to distance myself and it's time to find someone else to align myself who is not yet indicted. it will be too late. it will be too late because the radicalization has already taken place. you don't wave a wand over society and deradicalize them. it's already happened and that means we're in for the long haul and years, perhaps, of trying to tone down the radical people and get them back into the sunlight. >> michael steele, because you're the former chairman of the republican party, this question has to go to you. you know, in the time of the trump era, political violence is a real prospect here and people will have blood on their hands and the january 6th insurrection happened and there was blood on people's hands and it's not just a donald trump phenomenon. you go back to the -- to the -- to the bombing of the murrah building in oklahoma city back in 1995. >> sure. >> this has been brewing in our politics for a long time and it is still amazing that the party you chaired who used to be the biggest lovers of the fbi and the greatest supporters of law enforcement that they have become not just not supporters, but active opponents and saying things that are putting lives on the line and implicitly supporting people who are out there advocating civil war. >> it has been going on for a while, john, and it goes back to the late '50s where we saw at that time the emergence of the john burks' society and the right-wing racist sort of mindset that tried to infiltrate the party at that time. the difference between then and other periods up to the present has been one of political leadership, a political will, if you will that said, no, that's not who we are. we're not going to entertain this conversation. get out of here. you saw that with bob dole at his convention when he ran for president making it very clear that the party would not tolerate that type of rhetoric and behavior. you saw with john mccain who pushed back against the anti-muslim sentiments that were borne out post-9/11 and during the run of barack obama. the difference is leadership. here we are now where the leadership doesn't give a crap. to frank's very important point, it is about the profit of politics. it is about how we grip the system to gain two very



central thing, power and cash and to utilize both to sustain each other, to reinforce the money and the cash and so what's happening as i was listening to frank, it occurred to me back in 2015-'16 people were talking about deconstructing the state, and what does that mean? what does that mean? they'll break down these institutions. the underlying quest was not the administrative state, but it was to radicalize the political class. that's what -- that's where the success is. it's in the radicalization of individuals and communities around this one individual making him to be the be all and the end all. he is the great savior, he is the great fixer and so they buy into that mindset, whereas you saw last week they're willing to show up at his house because he committed the crime. there's a reason why the fbi showed up and yet they ignore and blow past that. so this is a very, to frank's point, dangerous time that have long term implications for the republican party that will try to convince americans this november to bring him the power and then we'll tell him what we're going to do with it. >> donna, some of what michael just said there's a school of thought that republicans are playing with fire. they are doing these irresponsible things and saying irresponsible things and not taking the impact, and don't actually want to see political violence. they think they have a free pass. they can say whatever they want and raise money off it and they can stir up the base and get the political benefits of having a base that's energized and angry, but deep in their hearts they really don't want political violence. i ask you is that true or is it the case that increasingly in the republican party, i'm talking about elected officials now who aren't trying to encourage violence and that's what's going to happen and we're fine with that? >> well, i think that it would be one thing if all we were seeing or the post on sort of the dark web or now not even the dark web anymore, but to hear some of this language coming out of elected officials, candidates for congress, candidates for governor, i think takes it to a different level and so when you ask whether you want to see the violence, clearly, they want to monetize it, but if january 6th is any indication and the recent violence that we've had both in threats and actual violence against fbi and law enforcement then it says to me that people know exactly what's coming as a result of their innocentiary rhetoric. i would not set aside the possibility that there might be a handful of people in the congress who are setting a pathway to that violence. we've seen increased references to an approaching civil war. i think this is a really dangerous point. there is a place where the violent rhetoric then becomes actual violence. we've seen that play out already and we would not be surprised to see it again and a third of americans actually believe that political

violence is an acceptable response to not getting your way politically. >> you're citing a poll from "the washington post" that said it was justified. if you go deeper with the research here you find more frightening numbers and closer to the 10% range of people who not only think it's justified, but would be willing to use it and would be willing to themselves commit political violence and saying it's quite a bit further that it could be justified in your mind if it were meant to save the republic. you, early in this fortnight that we're talking about, you got a lot of attention when you said on the air that the stuff you were seeing on the online boards were as bad or worse than what you saw on the run-up to 1/6. one of the things that's most amazing is when you play that sound of those elected officials is first of all, they're saying things like stazzi and gestapo and the words we've never heard before in american politics and it's the echo of online. it's not even like it's much of a conveyor belt and it's the same language online as it is on capitol hill, fox news, it's all the same, right? and equally scary. >> yeah. let's take a step back and think what accelerationism is, right? the people who are public figures in the acceleration's rhetoric, they see the toned down version of the message boards. they don't say we'll go after this guy and kill him. people on the message boards say that. they say we'll kill these people with these weapons at this time. >> can you -- the definition of accelerationist? >> accelerationist. >> it's the idea that steve bannon is an accelerationist. the idea that it should be taken down completely and replaced with something else because it is so far beyond repair that we have to get rid of it by any means necessary and that's where we are now with the gop. they've been clear about that and that's the clearest thing of what's happened with the terrorist like the guy in cincinnati last week. they don't feel control. they don't feel power. i'll tell you what they're not talking about first in the forums. they're not talking about voting. they're never talking about voting because they don't think it counts. they think democracy is a sham and it has to be overrode by their guy because they can't fathom that somebody like donald trump, a complete cult of personality, what they are talking about are plans of action. recently they were talking about how to get around blocks and specific states that allow you to download blueprints to get ghost guns because they consider the irs will come to your door and take your guns. >> let's pause on this for a second. let's talk about the irs because in the middle of this fort night from hell that we've just gone through that there was a moment when after all these republicans came out, elected officials and media people came out and attacked the fbi there was a moment -- there was a momentary pause at the end of last week where it seemed like

	<p>the word had gone out from trump world that something bad was about to .</p>
<p><b>MSNBC - U.S. Cable</b>  <a href="#">Hallie Jackson Reports</a></p> 	<p><b>MSNBC 08/19/2022 03:06:59 PM:</b> ...&gt;&gt;&gt; it's now a waiting game, a florida judge is waiting to get the justice department's redacted affidavit for the search warrant. the doj has until next thursday to submit its redaction proposals which the judge will review and decide if the affidavit is ready for public viewing. the government argued none of it should be released, saying it would jeopardize an ongoing investigation. thank you both for joining us. julia, what comes next here, how long before we could see at least some of this affidavit? &gt;&gt; it might be a while. we shouldn't even think of thursday as the deadline for us, joe. it could be that's the time when the judge is able to look at what the government is smith, see their redactions, and see if he agrees with that. if he thinks it's overly redacted, he'll submit what he thinks it should be and go forward with making that public. the justice department is preparing their arguments, trying to show why they want to redact so much. they said look, we can release a little bit, the cover sheet, maybe some inconsequential details. they made the argument to judge reinhart that everything else they were doing to protect witnesses and to protect an ongoing investigation that they said has national security implications. so they're going back to see how they can play ball after they've already dug their heels in so hard on this. so in terms of what we might see, it could be that we get a little less news from the legal side of this. but often when there's silence on that side, we know that trump and his team have a way of trying to fill that vacuum and make their own news. i think that's what we're looking to next, to see if they may be releasing surveillance video from inside mar-a-lago on that day, as we wait to hear about what we might learn from that affidavit, joe. &gt;&gt; carol, whether it's thursday or well after next thursday, realistically what can we expect to learn from this affidavit given that many portions will be redacted? &gt;&gt; i'm not particularly optimistic that as journalists and members of the public we're going to learn a lot from this affidavit. there may be some important timeline elements of like the fbi or the justice department saying on this date we learned "x," on this date we searched xyz, on this date we discovered that there was very likely to be classified information still retained despite the trump lawyers' assertion to us that all classified materials had been returned. the reason i'm not optimistic is because there are very few judges that are going to release anything at this stage that imperils a criminal investigation or puts witnesses in jeopardy. we already know some line prosecutors and agents have been personally threatened, their lives, their families, there have been all sorts</p>

of doxing instances. and in this case, you may remember, when some of the documents were released, the names of the fbi agent involved was redacted. so i think the level of concern on the part of the justice department is going to be something that the judge, despite being inclined to release some of this affidavit, is going to defer to. he's going to, i would imagine, defer to a lot of black boxes being put on a lot of important information that you, me, and julia julia, would like to see. >> you were on the by-line of a "washington post" piece that talked about the silence at the trump team at the hearing. >> the lack of a voice was probably irrelevant. there wasn't really a place for the trump lawyers to make an argument. this is a battle between media organizations and lawyers for them saying this is a public of public interest, a former president under investigation, we need this information. and prosecutors who said, sorry but no, we need to keep a lot of this secret. however, on the legal front, we have heard from numerous people inside the trump world and some people on the record, former ally alan dershowitz, for example, saying the trump team and the former president really should have had a leading star power white collar defense lawyer before this moment. they have known for months now that this was brewing, and there will be more to tell about that, but they've known for months in mar-a-lago that the fbi was interested in this information and that the president, the former president, was resisting turning it over. so it's not like this should have caught them by surprise, that they were going to need lawyers. and there are so many areas where donald trump is exposed in the sense of being a subject of an investigation. let's not even stop with mar-a-lago. let's begin with january 6th and the active criminal investigation that the former president and his allies' role in spreading a lie and essentially defrauding the u.s. government. >> you say more to tell, that is definitely the case here. ...

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**CNN 08/19/2022 03:00:42 PM:** ...update. >>> top of the hour in cnn newsroom, good to have you, i'm victor blackwell. >> and i'm alisyn camerota. ke we begin with a new attempt from congress to track down on the violent extreme rhetoric against the fbi after its search of donald trump's home in florida. the committee is going after not just the trolls but the tech companies whose platforms these extremists are using. sending letters to meta, tiktok, donald trump's true social. the deadline is september 2nd. >> lawmakers give examples of what law enforcement agents are facing, including this from a pennsylvania man who was arrested for posting online quote if you work for the fbi, then you deserve to die. let's turn now to cnn washington correspondent sunlen serfaty. what exactly does the house oversight committee want

these firms to do. >> reporter: they essentially want data and details in how they're responding to online threats, and very interesting, they certainly use very specific examples that they've seen on social media recently. that's certainly a powerful effect here of making the point that this has become a problem, and certainly this is in response to the fbi search at trump's mar-a-lago saying that there has been an uptick in violent social media threats against law enforcement. now, this was sent to the eight executives of some of the top social media companies in the country. you have meta, twitter, tick tokktok, and right wing social media outlets, true social, and right wing gab, and they say, quote, we are concerned that reckless statements by the former president and republican members of congress have unleashed a flood of violent threats on social media that have already leld led to at least one death and pose a danger to law enforcement officers across the united states. and here they are essentially saying in this letter to the social media executives what are you going to do about it and they want specifics they outline. they want to know how companies are responding when users post threats against law enforcement, and they specifically also want to know how they plan to prevent this from happening in the future, and they want a quantity here, too, they say if we want to know the data, how many threats have come in, what did you do, and where do you go with these threats. victor and alisyn. >> sunlen serfaty, thank you. >>> michael zeldin is a former federal prosecutor, and steve moore is a cnn law enforcement contributor and retired fbi supervisory special agent. welcome to you both. steve, let me start with you. a couple of these sites on this list, they are the go-to platforms for this aggressive political rhetoric. truth social was created after the former president was kicked off another site for risk of inciting violence. what's the incentive here for them to do any of what congress is asking them to do? >> their incentive is not to have liability for anything that actually goes on. another incentive might become indecency, but what's going on here is not unprecedented, it's just the level of it that's unprecedented. you can't go through an fbi career without being threatened, without worrying about somebody before they get released from prison, but this is really unprecedented as far as the volume, and from where the voices are that are condemning agents that are really, regardless of your political opinion, these fbi agents who are on the search were just -- that was what was on their job list that day. it's not their political decision to do it. >> absolutely, and of course donald trump at one time in the not distant past was very against classified information being out there, and top secret information being out there, as we all know, and that's

what they were trying to retrieve. michael, what can congress do legally about these social media platforms that are acting as a conduit for the threats? >> well, it depends, alisyn, on what it is, that is being posted, but i have to say, even though i spent a long time in law enforcement and i cherish that time, and i want to make sure that all law enforcement officers are safe, i also cherish the first amendment, and the first amendment is pretty clear that you can speak in the way that these people are speaking on the internet. there's supreme court case law that goes back years and years and years about the importance of protecting speech even if it advocates violence. >> michael, i appreciate you making that point, but what can't you say? in other words, saying the fbi deserves to die, okay, i understand that's vile, but it's protected. but what -- just give us the distinction, what can't they say? >> you have to threaten imminent violence directed against a known person in a sense. you can say i don't like policemen, all policemen should die. that's protected. if you say there's a policeman, let's get him. that's not protected. it has to be really very targeted before it crosses the line from protected speech to unprotected speech, and so the question is going to be, has this speech crossed that line, and for lawmakers to not overreact in a way that limits free speech. i know i'm an jolt liaroutlier in free speech protection, but the principle of protecting free speech is very important, foundational to our nation, and that can't be abridged lightly, even in these times that we find ourselves. >> steve, you want to weigh in on that before i move on to the next topic? >> i actually agree with that. one of the things the fbi is here for is to defend the constitution, and if you give up the first amendment in trying to protect yourself, then you've kind of shot yourself in the foot. so i think what happens here is the push towards this, you know, this very specific definitions of when a threat becomes a threat, as opposed to just a distasteful opinion, i think the push should be is protecting the privacy and the records of the agents who are out there on the street. >> steve, i got one more for you here, and we know the former president is being advised to and is considering releasing the surveillance video of the search from last monday there. some of his allies say this would provide a jolt of energy to the republican party base. what's your concern if that video goes public? >> you know, i think if a search is conducted correctly and legally, i don't think there's any problem in showing the search. i think you really have to consider redacting the faces and the identifying information from the agents, not because the agents did anything wrong, but because they are a radical element out there, and there's always a radical element, whether it's the right or the left. there's a radical element right now that are blaming

street agents who had no choice in what they did for what they consider a political decision. that's like blaming the returning vietnam veterans for the war. it's just a distasteful thing that america occasionally does, be you need to protect the people who are the victims of this. >> how about that, michael? how about if their faces are being put pout thereout there, if, has been speculated on, that former president trump fund raises off of it because we also do know that the names of some agents were being passed around online. so it was more specific than just a general threat as we were discussing earlier. >> that's right, and i agree with steve. i think that if there's a way to control how that tape is released, then the identifying information about those agents need to be protected for the future of imminent violence that they would face, just like judge reinhart, the magistrate judge that dealt with the search warrant of mar-a-lago is receiving all sorts of very serious threats. the thing about this releasing of this tape, alisyn, though, is two things, one is if it shows the volume of documents that were taken from mar-a-lago, i think that's a very bad point in trump's favor. this is not an accidental retention of one document. these are boxes and boxes and boxes that he was asked for and never returned. but the thing that worries me about the release of this is that trump can edit it in ways that make it seem much more nefarious than it really was, and that's where the fundraising and all of the other bad acts will come, when he edits it and puts ominous music behind it, and says this is the deep state working against it, if it could happen to me, it could happen to you. >> prepare yourself, that is what it will look like. we know that it will be cherry picked and edited, and i appreciate you bringing that to everyone's attention. michael zeldin, steven moore, thank you both. >>> mitch mcconnell acknowledges there is a chance the republicans will not be able to take back the senate in september, why the quality of candidates in key battleground states is of major concern.

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**CNN 08/19/2022 02:17:32 PM:** ...he can get a stay on that subpoena. >> nick valencia in atlanta, thank you. >>> congress is trying to crack down on the violent and extreme rhetoric on the fbi after they were forced to go to donald trump's home in florida to retrieve a trove of classified and top secret documents. the house oversight committee is going after not just the trolls online but the tech companies whose platforms they're using. >> the committee sent letters to eight firms, including meta, tiktok, donald trump's truth social. they want specific information by september 2nd. here's what they want. they want the platform's response when users threaten law enforcement and their plan on keeping users threatening violence off their

platforms. let's discuss further with dana bash, cnn chief political correspondent and co-anchor of "state of the union," and former federal prosecutor, now law professor at the university of baltimore. she wrote the book "how to think like a lawyer and why". thank you for being here. dana, let me start with you and this letter to the house oversight committee asking these companies to do something and what will they do when these threats come in. the reaction or response to the search at mar-a-lago really is dividing the republican party on how to respond to law enforcement. >> it absolutely is, and for the most part, you're hearing a lot of republicans say things you would never imagine a republican saying, because they're trying to follow the lead of the former president in really attacking law enforcement. then you have the other side, the mike pence's of the world, who say you can ask questions, you can ask for more transparency, but don't attack the fbi, don't call for defunding the fbi. and regardless of that, what this letter is so indicative of is this is the most recent example of social media platforms allowing hate speech and threats to go on on their sites. it's obviously very intense on this issue, but it's happened on other issues and happens on other issues all the time, and this is just one that congress has been asking the social media companies to crack down on, to be more aggressive about. >> so, kim, legally speaking, what can congress do to make the social media companies stop the threats against law enforcement? >> well, just to be clear, there already is a federal criminal law that makes dissemination of threats over an electronic communication, including the internet, a crime. so the first amendment is the countervailing law, but that doesn't allow all kinds of speech. and i think there's been pressure for quite a long time for congress to take steps to manage the internet. congress managers cable news and television and there used to be something called the fairness doctrine that required evenhanded reporting. so there is an ability to do that legislatively. what's ironic are two points. one is the fact that, as dana indicates, the threats are coming from the members themselves. that is not direct threats, but the attacks on the fbi are according to reporting, amping up the threats online against law enforcement officials. that's very serious. and then another front, think about what facebook, recently meta, was under some fire for with respect to abortion, sharing information with state prosecutors, relating to girls' and women's activity that could lead to prosecutions. i say that because the social media companies have a track record, and certainly have the ability under certain legal circumstances to share this information. and i would hope they would join hands with the democrats, frankly, and congress right now, and take



some steps to protect our public servants in this moment. >> kim, let me say with you and the fulton county d.a.'s office now, their response to senator graham's request to delay the appearance for the special purpose grand jury. they say that not only would the postponement delay the revelation of details, but also an entire category of relevant witnesses or information. how convincing of an argument is that, and without knowing all the details, is it possible that he could slow down or even stop this investigation? >> well, that might be a little overblown, not knowing what is going on before this grand jury, it's hard to say whether a single witness could be so pivotal, because obviously there are other people they have been speaking to and they can continue to speak to. they just spoke to rudy giuliani. but the delay argument is a real one, because basically lindsey graham is arguing so far, and lost, that he has blanket complete immunity. he doesn't even need to show up. he's going to continue to lose that, the speech and debate clause does not cover every communication by a member of congress. and as you indicated, there is evidence already that lindsey graham was part of something that was likely criminal or -- i'm not saying he's liable, but that he was part of the story. but even once he does sit down, like we saw with donald trump in new york in a civil case and rudy giuliani, he can still object to individual questions. so the delay thing is a problem. the good news, at least for the government in georgia, and unlike the january 6th committee, this prosecution and the investigation can continue regardless of what happens with elections, and so i'm not sure lindsey graham ultimately can dodge this one. >> dana, as we know, senator graham is an agreeable guy. why doesn't he want to just cooperate and go and tell them what he knows? >> he wants to make a point. you just heard kim talk about the fact that he is saying no, that this is an appropriate communication. he denies that he tried to pressure election officials to change anything and that he was simply checking in as is his right, not just as a senator, ...

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**FNC 8/19/2022 2:14:07 PM:** .. we heard from lawyers from multiple media outlets arguing for a judge to release in detail, as they are looking to discover, classified or top secret were at mar-a-lago and why they were still held there. the judge says he understands why some materials should be kept confidential. believes also the public has a right to know about what the government has been up to. he did set that deadline for next thursday for the justice department to submit its proposed redactions. >> i think judge reinhart under starts the public interests in these materials so i think he'll make a swift decision. i'm not going to hold him to a certain time frame, i just don't know. >> now, the justice department told this judge yesterday that this is still very much a sensitive matter and that

	<p>their investigation is still in the early stages. federal prosecutors also fear if too much information is released, witnesses could be put at risk and in danger. they do not expect a ton of information to be released. &gt;&gt; there is plenty of parts of an affidavit, you can generally release, including parts known to the trump team. you are not going to reveal anything that they don't know. &gt;&gt; the former president was not at yesterday's hearing, he's in new jersey where he's been spending much of the summer. we are looking to see if he has new reaction. he has posted a few times on his social media account but otherwise keeping kind of a low profile. &gt;&gt; aishah: interesting. mark meredith, live for us, thank you so much. &gt;&gt; john: lovely view from the island there. joining us, fox news contributor and former u.s. attorney, andy mccarthy. will the redactions be judicious or pages of blacked-outlines. &gt;&gt; pages of blacked-outlines, at least in the first rounds, as one of your commentators said in that piece just now, there are a lot of things in an affidavit that they can reveal without actually having to give any substantive information. what people want to know, what was the probable cause, what is the basis for what they did, the warrant and the search, and the crimes they lay out, and the thing people want to know, why this and why now ... and then he may wait. &gt;&gt; john: i have a good read on him but don't know -- &gt;&gt; aishah: a federal judge orders partial release of the mar-a-lago affidavit, some critics out there doubt we are going to learn anything new once the justice department is done with the redactions. &gt;&gt; john: new york city getting a sample of the migrants in the big apple. what are new york officials saying now. for every veteran homeowner who needs money for their family, it's a new day in america. air force, pararescue, five years. home values are at record highs. the newday 100 va loan lets veterans borrow up to 100% of their home's total value. and take an average of \$60,000 cash. 25% more cash than they'd get at a bank. united states marine corps, aviation maintenance, five years. that's why veterans from every branch... united states army, military police, eight years. ...from every specialty... marines, infantry, four years. ...from every length of service... united states army, strategic intelligence officer, twenty-eight years. ...trust newday usa to make the most of their va home loan benefit. when hurting feet make you want to stop, it's dr. scholl's time. our custom fit orthotics use foot mapping technology to give you personalized support, for all-day pain relief. find your relief in store or online. ...</p>
<p><b>CNN - U.S. Cable</b>  <a href="#">CNN Newsroom With Ana Cabrera</a></p>	<p><b>CNN 08/19/2022 01:06:37 PM:</b> ...we're lucky to have you there. thank you so much. &gt;&gt;&gt; right now, the pressure is on the justice department to decide how much more it thinks is american public should know about that fbi search at mar-a-</p>



ago last week. a judge is paving the way for a potentially redacted release of the all important affidavit which could we veal so much more information about this investigation. government officials have six days to black out any details they feel could compromise that investigation, which likely means if more is revealed, it would be light on any real information. what we do know is there is now a sharper focus on the former president as a possible subject of the criminal investigation. that's because the cover sheet of the warrant application has been unsealed, and it shows three potential crimes, quote, willful retention of national defense information, concealment or removal of government records, and obstruction of federal investigation. let's discuss this with criminal defense and constitutional law attorney page pete and a cia counterterrorism official. guys, thanks both for joining me today. we have a lot to discuss. page, i want to get to this new language we learned about on thursday. willful retention of national defense information. that was just revealed. so how does that place trump more at the center of this doj investigation? >> well, alex, i think what we've seen now is the government basically even in this very narrow simple form lay out the elements of a potential charge under the espionage act, and it affects trump because at least from what we know now, trump would have been the one that immediate maed the decision to retain the documents there. we know they're there, he's already made statements to suggest that, and now the government believes it has evidence to suggest probable cause that he willfully kept those documents there even after being asked to return them. so the government is s making out a case perhaps that would put trump as a target of that investigation, not just a subject. >> it has been unclear until now who might face some of these criminal charges and this certainly makes trump far more of a possible target. phil, i want to go to you on this question of the affidavit. the judge seems to be trying to strike some kind of middle ground giving the public a little bit more, but of course allowing doj to prevent that supersensitive information from coming out. so what do you think is going to happen next week when doj comes back with their suggestions? will the public and we should note it was the media companies that made this request -- are we going to learn anything more of substance, or do you think everything is going to be blacked out? >> not much. you have referred to it as others have, as middle ground. i don't see it quite that way. i think the government is publicly complaining, but privately, i would say they have the upper hand. there's a couple of elements as to how the redax process works. first the government is going to look through the document and make the calculation of what might reveal a witness, what might

reveal an informant, what might reveal something that still remains to be uninvolved, that stuff's got to come out. there's still stuff left. let's say that's 20 or 30%. think of this as the edge of a puzzle. because you've got 30% of the edge doesn't mean you have the center. the challenge they have is making sure they don't take enough out so the judge gets ticked off. they can take out the lion's chair of the information they have, leave in 30%, make the judge happy and probably frustrate a lot of media companies. >> well, page, to that point, do you think if doj does take out the lion's chair, the judge will be like, you should put that back in, or do you think he would go along with what the doj is redacted. >> i'm not sure we know that. i agree 100% with phil that that is normally the way it happens, but i think this judge has suggested to the doj, look, you want to black it out, you better tell me why. he may make them go and justify each and every redax they're trying to make. there's no question is identities of the agents and potential witnesses, that's going to be blacked out, and any judge would accept that. but this judge may require more than simply, look, we don't want to jeopardize the investigation. >> we saw the prosecutors were worried that before the search happened, that, quote, evidence might be destroyed. so, phil, this sounds like they thought the trump team would catch wind about what was about to happen and potentially destroy these highly classified documents. >> i was waiting for this question. i think that's a great observation. there's a difference between what i don't think we'll see, for example, the identity of people involved, the identity of witnesses, the state of the ongoing investigation, what i would really like to see, and i don't think revealing it would talk a lot about the investigation would be the leadup. couple of elements, how often did you go back to the trump people, including the lawyer that signed the document that said there are no classified documents left at mar-a-lago, how often did you go back to hem? who did you go back to them? what documents did they give you assuring they had cleared out mar-a-lago, and that second piece you mentioned. every if you were frustrated, why did you think there's some urgency here? what led to you believe the documents might be destroyed. those pieces i think we might see a piece of, and i think that will be really interesting. >> page, i see you nodding. what were your thoughts there? >> i agree with phil. that's the heart of the probable cause. it's not the names of witnesses or other specific factual details. it's the basis of the probable cause. that's what people want to know, and i think that's what this judge is going to toe focus on and let us see some of this information. this is rarely done, so it's not like there's a lot of law to support drk oj's request to not release any of this. we'll see what happens. >>

	<p>we will see what happens. it's the end of this week, but we have another big week ahead next week. thank you so much for your time. ...</p>
<p><b>Fox Business Network - U.S. Cable</b> <b>Cavuto: Coast to Coast</b></p> 	<p><b>FBN 8/19/2022 12:40:20 PM:</b> ...beautiful state of north dakota. in the meantime here, you probably are hearing this back and forth as to what will be released from those documents that justified the raid on donald trump's home in mar-a-lago. be careful what you wish for because a lot of people are saying now the judge ruled that something will be released a good deal of that could be redacted, could be covered in black. does everyone ever remember that with the nixon watergate transcripts, conversations or writings of them, that happened in the white house, that later did get released, years later. but in the meantime we're everything is all blacked out and impossible to read it and they wasted a lot of time on ink and copiers, after this. if you shop at walmart, you know that with thousands of new rollbacks, you can spend even less, to get even more, to make life even better. ...</p>

**Radio**

<p><b>Bloomberg Radio - U.S. Cable</b></p>	<p><b>WBBR 8/19/2022 3:44:44 PM:</b> ...expected to surge early next week. That'll make it significantly easier for barges carrying important cargo to Cross the waterway. Former CIA director Leon Panetta says the discovery of top secret documents at the Mar-a-Lago home of former President Trump is a dangerous development to basically take this classified information over the White House I think really involves something that could in fact not only undermine our protection of intelligence but could send a message to others that they don't have to be as careful as they are Panetta spoke with Bloomberg. He says we may need to reassess the handling of top secret documents global news 24 hours a day on air and on Bloomberg QuickTake powered by more than 27 100 journalist and analyst and more than 120 countries what is dedication. The thing that drives me every day. That is very and we problem I hate for sure every day he's hungry for something whether it's attention affection knowledge and there's this huge responsibility and making sure that when he's no longer under my wing that he's a good person. I think the advice I would give is you don't need to know all the answers the craziest thing was believing that your dad knew everything so the dead you felt you had to know everything had to get everything right it's okay to make mistakes of Long's is coming from love, then you know would kind of starts to work itself out. I want him to be able to sit back one day and go we work together. We did a good job that's dedication. Find out more at fatherhood dot-gov. Brought to you by the US Department of health</p>
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	<p>and human services and the Ad Council berdon LLP accountants and Advisors presents industry chap with Jeff Kovacs, partner and head of the technology and life Sciences practice software as a service or says companies are transforming the enterprise software industry to reach scale it is critical to develop key metrics to provide insight into customer acquisition turn and lifetime value this allow Sasse managers to accurately forecast plan and measure growth they also assist resource allocation and efficient Capital deployment to maximize revenue an investment in cells and Marketing helping clients kill their business and plan for the future is what we do it. Berman if you're a South company executive but burden help you develop innovative solutions to enhance your company's value and Felix ...</p>
<p><b>National Public Radio - <a href="#">U.S. Cable</a></b></p>	<p><b>NPR 8/19/2022 1:15:06 PM:</b> ...Republican presidential nomination and the latest reporting we have in Iowa I mean latest polling rather that we have an Iowa by the Des Moines Register's Iowa poll was conducted well before the FBI search of Mar-a-Lago, but indicated that Trump is the favorite in Iowa among Republicans, were he to run again. Speaking of Iowa and 2020 for you mentioned that Maryland governor current Maryland governor Larry Hogan has been there. He said he wants Republicans to start looking to the future and stop relitigating 2020 so Hill how much support, would there be for him in a place like Iowa I think Larry Hogan would have a tough time convincing most Republican voters to look past Trump I think any any you know, honest look at the data we've seen so far nationwide as well as state by state shows Donald Trump in a dominant position among Republican core voters for the presidential nomination in 2024. So there's you know, there's the never Trump vote which I guess you could you could put Harry out Larry Hogan in that category. That's pretty small and there's another kind of you know undecided maybe but sympathetic to Trump vote that he would have a pretty good claim on it would be very difficult for someone like him or someone like Chris Christie is certainly someone like Liz Cheney would have I can comfortably say would have no shot at the Republican nomination in 2024. Bottom line is This was true before the Mar-a-Lago search it's true now after the Mar-a-Lago search Trump still has a very firm grip on the Republican party and it remains to be seen whether anybody can dislodge that okay wait a little bit of time left to talk by the midterms the Senate minority leader Mitch McConnell. He spoke yesterday and he actually downplayed expectations. Republicans will win back the Senate in November. Let's take a listen. Probably greater loss to the House. Look at the time. Generations of this different there say what and to follow me. There's a lot to do with Yeah no now historically the party as we don't not in power gains in the</p>

	midterms K could this year be different well, I'll just talk about this from the perspective of Iowa Senator Chuck Grassley, who's been in the Senate since 1981 is seeking re-election. He is 88 years old. Polling from the morning register in July suggested he was about at 50% support port among all likely voters. ...
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**Tweets**

**Reporters**

[Zach Fischer](#), WHO 13



.@Mike\_Pence on the FBI raid at Mar-a-Lago, “this unprecedented action by the attorney general and FBI merits unprecedented transparency,” @WHO13news



4:29 PM · Aug 19, 2022 · Twitter for iPhone

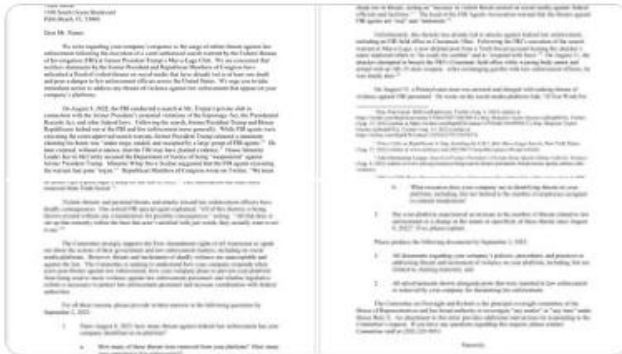
Zachary Cohen, CNN



Zachary Cohen @ZcohenCNN

House Oversight chair @RepMaloney sent letters to several social media companies requesting info on how they are responding to "a spike in online threats against law enforcement officers" since FBI search at Trump's Mar-a-Lago residence.

Letter to Truth Social CEO Devin Nunes:



12:01 PM · Aug 19, 2022 · Twitter for iPhone

[2]



Zachary Cohen @ZcohenCNN

White House officials privately express concern classified information taken to Mar-a-Lago could put intelligence community at risk.

via @kaitlancollins, @KevinIptakcnn & @NatashaBertrand



cnn.com

White House officials privately express concern about classified information ta... White House officials have privately expressed deep concern over the tranche of classified material taken to former President Donald Trump's home in Florida, ...

4:11 PM · Aug 19, 2022 · Twitter for iPhone



[Ella Lee](#), USA Today



Ella Lee  
@ByEllaLee

...

Lawmakers on the House Oversight Committee are demanding answers from social media platforms on their responses to a spike in online threats against federal law enforcement after the search of former President Donald Trump's Mar-a-Lago estate last week.



usatoday.com

Lawmakers press Mets, TikTok, Truth Social over threats to FBI after Mar-a-La...  
The lawmakers urged social media groups to take action against the violent rhetoric and threats made against law enforcement on their platforms.

4:00 PM - Aug 19, 2022 - Twitter Web App

[Eric Cortellessa](#), TIME



Eric Cortellessa  
@EricCortellessa

...

This week, Carl Paladino said Attorney General Merrick Garland “probably should be executed” for the search on Mar-a-Lago. On Tuesday, he’s likely to win a seat in Congress.



politico.com

‘Crazy Carl’ tries to tone it down as Paladino sees House seat within reach  
Paladino has spent over a decade as the most famously off-the-cuff politician in New York, gaining notoriety for incidents where he’s emailed bestiality porn to ...

3:59 PM - Aug 19, 2022 - Twitter for iPhone

[Kelly Laco](#), Fox

**Kelly Laco** @kelly\_laco · 1h  
Grassley and Pence at the #IowaStateFair

Pence says there's "enthusiasm for all GOP candidates" across Iowa, says Jan. 6 a "tragic day" calls the committee too partisan



1   3

**Kelly Laco** @kelly\_laco · 1h  
"If a formal invitation presented" by Jan 6 committee to testify in front of Congress he'll give "good consideration"

1   1

**Kelly Laco** @kelly\_laco

"Deeply troubled" by FBI's raid of Mar-a-Lago says Pence at #IowaStateFair

3:33 PM · Aug 19, 2022 · Twitter for iPhone

[Harry Litman](#), LA Times

**Harry Litman** @harrylitman

Does anybody still buy that Trump wants the entire affidavit--detailing criminal conduct at Mar-A-Lago and putting the lie to his pretensions of cooperation--to be unsealed? Apparently. Looking forward to discussing on @DeadlineWH w/ uber-cool guest host @jheil & others @ 5 PM ET

3:32 PM · Aug 19, 2022 · Twitter Web App

[Darren Samuelsohn](#), Insider



Darren Samuelsohn  
@dsamuelsohn

...

NEW: Newly unsealed documents from the FBI raid on Mar-a-Lago put Trump in even worse legal peril, experts say - by [@Finneganporter](#) [@PoliticsInsider](#)



businessinsider.com

Newly unsealed documents from the FBI raid on Mar-a-Lago put Trump in even...  
A federal judge on Tuesday unsealed documents that contain new information on the legal woes facing Donald Trump over the Mar-a-Lago search.

3:11 PM - Aug 19, 2022 - Twitter Web App

[Katy Tur](#), MSNBC



Katy Tur Reports  
@KatyOnMSNBC

...

"[He] is choosing to use his megaphone, but his lawyers aren't using their microphones." [@lawofruby](#) talks to [@KatyTurNBC](#) about how FL Judge Reinhart will navigate redactions in the unsealing of Mar-a-Lago documents, where Trump's lawyers have stayed silent.



2:55 PM - Aug 19, 2022 - Wildmoka

[José Díaz-Balart](#), MSNBC



José Díaz-Balart Reports  
@JDBalartMSNBC

...

Former Senior FBI official Chuck Rosenberg on how people at the bureau are feeling in the wake of the Mar-a-Lago search: "Fine because we love our work, and not so fine because of the attacks."

@jdbalart  
@MSNBC



2:18 PM · Aug 19, 2022 · Wildmoka

[2]



José Díaz-Balart Reports  
@JDBalartMSNBC

...

"It's possible that information in this affidavit might actually include references to cooperators, witnesses in other investigations, maybe Jan. 6," @FrankFigliuzzi1 says of potential connection between the Mar-a-Lago search and other Trump investigations.

@jdbalart  
@MSNBC



2:22 PM · Aug 19, 2022 · Wildmoka

[Sara A. Carter](#), Fox



Sara A. Carter  
@SaraCarterDC

...

Rep. Scalise Calls Out DOJ for Concealing Details of Unprecedented Mar-a-Lago Raid from Public



sarasccarter.com

Rep. Scalise Calls Out DOJ for Concealing Details of Unprecedented Mar-a-La...  
House Republican Whip Steve Scalise (R-La.) joined Fox Business Network's  
Mornings with Maria to discuss the FBI's unprecedented raid on Mar-a-Lago. ...

2:16 PM · Aug 19, 2022 · SocialFlow

[Ben Penn](#), Bloomberg



Ben Penn  
@benjaminpenn

...

New: FBI Director Christopher Wray comes to his staff's aid amid threats of violence after Mar-a-Lago search. In memo to all employees obtained by Bloomberg: "We don't cut corners." w/[@cstrohm](#)



bloomberg.com

FBI's Wray Defends Agents After Threats Over Trump Mar-a-Lago Search

2:12 PM · Aug 19, 2022 · Twitter Web App

[Kevin Breuninger](#), CNBC



Kevin Breuninger  
@KevinWilliamB

House Democrats urged 8 social media companies — including [@Twitter](#) [@tiktok\\_us](#) and [@Meta](#) — to address a reported spike in online threats against law enforcement after the Mar-a-Lago raid



onbc.com

House Democrats urge Twitter, TikTok, Meta and others to address spike in thr...  
Statements from GOP leaders including Trump, Kevin McCarthy and Mike Pence "coincided" with a rise in belligerent online rhetoric, Maloney and Lynch wrote.

2:07 PM · Aug 19, 2022 · Twitter Web App

[Andrea Mitchell](#), CNN



Andrea Mitchell  
@mitchellreports

Fmr. DOJ Counter Intel Chief: 'Public interest' in Mar-a-Lago affidavit 'could not be higher'  
[@DavidLaufmanLaw](#) [@KenDilanianNBC](#) [@carolelee](#)  
[@MSNBC](#)



menbc.com

Fmr. DOJ Counter Intel Chief: 'Public interest' in Mar-a-Lago affidavit 'could no...  
Former Chief of Counterintelligence at the Justice Department's National Security Division David Laufman, NBC White House Correspondent Carol Lee, ...

1:58 PM · Aug 19, 2022 · Twitter Web App

[Nicholas Wu](#), Politico



Nicholas Wu  
@nicholaswu12

House Oversight is asking social media companies for info on how they're handling threats to law enforcement in the aftermath of the Mar-a-Lago search

[politico.com/minutes/congre...](https://politico.com/minutes/congre...)

### Chairs Maloney and Lynch Call on Social Media Companies to Address Violent Threats Against Federal Law Enforcement

*Spike in Threats Follows Republican Rhetoric on Mar-A-Lago Search*

Washington, D.C. (August 19, 2022)— Today, Rep. Carolyn B. Maloney, Chairwoman of the Committee on Oversight and Reform, and Rep. Stephen F. Lynch, Chairman of the Subcommittee on National Security, sent letters to social media companies [Meta](#), [Twitter](#), [TikTok](#), [Truth Social](#), [Rumble](#), [Gentr](#), [Telegram](#), and [Gab](#), requesting information on how these companies are responding to a spike in online threats against law enforcement officers since the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) conducted a court-authorized search at former President Trump's Mar-a-Lago Club last week.

"We are concerned that reckless statements by the former President and Republican Members of Congress have unleashed a flood of violent threats on social media that have already led to at least one death and pose a danger to law enforcement officers across the United States. We urge you to take immediate action to address any threats of violence against law enforcement that appear on your company's platforms," wrote the Chairs.

Following the August 8, 2022, FBI search at the Mar-a-Lago Club, former President Trump and Republicans in Congress made multiple statements attacking law enforcement, including calls to "destroy" and "defund" the FBI.

11:50 AM · Aug 19, 2022 · TweetDeck



Nicholas Wu @nicholaswu12 · 4h  
Replying to @nicholaswu12  
more from @AnthonyAdragna



politico.com  
Senior Democrats are asking social media companies what they're doi...  
News and analysis from Capitol Hill for when you only have a few minutes, from POLITICO.

8 12

#### Other

[Laurence Tribe](#), Legal scholar



Laurence Tribe  
@tribelaw

...

I'll be talking with Wolf Blitzer in @CNNSitRoom at 6:15 pm ET about why the FBI search was legit and mustn't lead to violence  
After FBI Search at Mar-a-Lago, Experts Fear Violence | Time



time.com  
Analysts Warn Violent Rhetoric After FBI Mar-a-Lago Search Is a Preview of W...  
The surge in violent rhetoric drew concerns that it could inspire attacks on law enforcement, as analysts noted a wave of threats.

4:24 PM · Aug 19, 2022 · Twitter for iPhone

[The Recount](#), Media company



The Recount  
@therecount

...

Trump attorney Christina Bobb, citing how "angry" Trump supporters are in the wake of the Mar-a-Lago search, warns the Department of Justice about possibly indicting Trump:

"I hope they ... are cautious about doing something as stupid as trying to go after President Trump."



Trump Attorney Christina Bobb Warns DOJ to Not Indict Turmp

3:52 PM · Aug 19, 2022 · Twitter Media Studio

[Mark S. Zaid](#), Attorney





Mark S. Zaid  
@MarkSZaidEq

...

The statements by [@RudyGiuliani](#) fundamentally misunderstand & mischaracterize the provisions of [#EspionageAct](#) & its application.

Without any doubt, the provisions apply to factual situation at Mar-a-Lago.

Whether anyone will be prosecuted is separate question.

[Citizens for Ethics](#) [@CREWcrew](#) · 6h  
Watch occasional Trump lawyer Rudy Giuliani admit that Trump is guilty of doing the thing he's being investigated for

12:58 PM - Aug 19, 2022 - Twitter Web App

[John Scott-Railton](#), Researcher at Citizen Lab



John Scott-Railton  
@jerrailton

A Florida Republican state rep candidate worked up about Mar-a-Lago is advocating \*shooting\* federal employees.

His instagram is still live.



Billy Corben @BillyCorben · 4h

Twitter suspends Florida Republican state house candidate Luis Miguel after he advocates shooting federal agents #BecauseFlorida:  
[floridapolitics.com/archives/54891...](https://floridapolitics.com/archives/54891...)

[Show this thread](#)



Luis Miguel for State House  
@LuisMiguelUS

“Under my plan, all Floridians will have permission to shoot FBI, IRS, ATF and all other feds ON SIGHT! Let freedom ring!”  
-Luis Miguel, Republican for Florida House

12:45 PM · Aug 19, 2022 · Twitter Web App

**Eileen Clancy** @clancynewyork · 3h  
Can you share what time the Insta statements were posted?

**John Scott-Railton** @jerrailton

Replying to @clancynewyork

Call for shooting: Aug 17, 2022, 11:33:27 AM  
Mar-a-Lago complaint: Aug 09, 2022, 12:11:53 PM

12:50 PM · Aug 19, 2022 · Twitter Web App

**John Scott-Railton** @jerrailton

He's not the only Florida political candidate seeking attention by calling to keep federal law enforcement out of the state.

**Ron Filipkowski** @RonFilipkowski · 4h  
MAGA congressional candidate and State Rep Anthony Sabatini says FL law enforcement agencies should refuse to continue to work with the Feds, and "we need to defund these lawless federal law enforcement agencies."



1:31 PM · Aug 19, 2022 · Twitter Web App

[Billy Corben](#), Film director



Billy Corben  
@BillyCorben

...

Twitter suspends Florida Republican state house candidate Luis Miguel after he advocates shooting federal agents [#BecauseFlorida](#): [floridapolitics.com/archives/54891...](https://floridapolitics.com/archives/54891...)



11:56 AM · Aug 19, 2022 · Twitter Web App

### [House Oversight Committee](#)



Oversight Committee  
@OversightDems

...

NEW: Chairs [@RepMaloney](#) and [@RepStephenLynch](#) sent a letter to social media companies requesting info on how they are responding to a spike in violent threats against federal law enforcement triggered by the FBI search at Mar-a-Lago.



[oversight.house.gov](https://oversight.house.gov)  
Chairs Maloney and Lynch Call on Social Media Companies...  
Washington, D.C. (August 19, 2022)— Today, Rep. Carolyn B. Maloney, Chairwoman of the Committee on Oversight a...

12:17 PM · Aug 19, 2022 · Twitter for iPhone

### **Full Articles**

**Bloomberg:** [FBI's Wray Defends Agents After Threats Over Trump Mar-a-Lago Search](#), by Chris Strohm and Benjamin Penn

FBI Director Christopher Wray defended the actions his agents have taken as part of an investigation into former President Donald Trump's handling of classified documents in response to heightened criticism and threats of violence.

“We don’t cut corners,” Wray said in an email obtained by Bloomberg News and sent last week to all FBI personnel.

“We ask the tough questions -- including of ourselves, making sure among other things that the investigative steps we take are measured and scrupulously consistent with our national security obligations and our role upholding the Constitution,” Wray wrote.

The FBI has come under intense political criticism for executing a search warrant -- approved by a federal judge -- on Trump’s Mar-a-Lago residence in Florida Aug. 8. The search is part of an investigation into whether the former president took classified documents from the White House when he left office. Agents retrieved more than two dozen boxes of documents, including some marked classified.

Since then, the FBI is confronting threats that don’t appear to be subsiding, including an armed man who attacked the bureau’s Cincinnati field office Aug. 11, the same day Wray sent his memo.

Wray also said safety of his workforce is his primary concern and the FBI’s security division is working to stay vigilant and adjust procedures as needed.

“What I know -- and what I see -- is an organization made up of men and women who are committed to doing their jobs professionally and by the book every day; this week is no exception,” Wray wrote.

“As always, the way we maintain the trust and confidence of the American people isn’t by joining in the public commentary. We do it through our work,” he said. “By showing, when all the facts come out, we stuck to the process.”

**Washington Post:** [Opinion: Trump’s next Mar-a-Lago move will escalate his supporters’ rage](#), by Greg Sargent

When it comes to the Mar-a-Lago matter, there will be no appeasing Donald Trump and his most fervent supporters. There will be no point at which they acknowledge that any law enforcement activity related to the court-approved search of the former president’s home is legitimate. The sooner we accept this as a fundamental fact about the situation, the better.

This is brought to mind by the news that a federal judge has ordered the Justice Department to produce a redacted version of the affidavit undergirding the search warrant for Trump’s Florida resort. Federal Magistrate Judge Bruce E. Reinhart says he’s “inclined” toward release.

A prediction: If this document is released, Trump and many of his supporters will seize on the redactions as “evidence” that the “real rationale” for the search is being covered up and that the entire process is irredeemably illegitimate.

This points to a concrete real-world conundrum. Release of the affidavit probably can’t solve a key problem it appears intended to solve: It likely can’t reassure Trump supporters that the process is legitimate, because Trump and his most influential propagandists will never allow that it’s legitimate, no matter what.

It’s hard to say how revealing the affidavit might be. The Justice Department has argued that release of the affidavit which detailed the rationale that led Reinhart to authorize the search will jeopardize its investigation and even imperil future cooperation of witnesses.

By next Thursday, the department will offer a version redacted to deal with those dangers. But Michael Bromwich, a former Justice Department inspector general, says that to avoid those risks the document will need to be heavily redacted. He predicts the department will argue that going further would compromise the safety of confidential informants, citing threats against the judge.

“MAGA people are making direct threats against anybody associated with this case, including the judge, the FBI agents and anyone providing information against Trump,” Bromwich told me. He said the department is likely to submit “a 95 percent redacted affidavit.”

Trump supporters may argue against assuming that any department redactions were made in good faith. But it’s important to note that Reinhart, who read the full affidavit, will be evaluating whether the department’s redactions are legitimately about protecting the investigation and its witnesses.

Of course, if Reinhart does agree those redactions are legit and orders the affidavit’s release, Trump and his supporters are likely to claim that the judge himself acted corruptly in accepting those redactions or even that he’s in on the coverup.

If the redacted document is released, “there will be a huge hue and cry,” Bromwich suggests, predicting that Trump and his supporters will effectively say, “what kind of a sham is this, the judge said he was going to release the affidavit, and we get next to nothing.”

Now, we should retain healthy skepticism toward the Justice Department and its redactions. Indeed, The Post and other news organizations are urging release of the affidavit on the grounds that the public needs to know the rationale for a search of such historic importance. If a heavily redacted affidavit is what’s made public, we won’t know for some time whether the redactions are defensible.

But, to be clear, healthy skepticism is not the position Trump and his supporters are taking. They’re casting the search as already existing conclusive proof of totalitarian oppression, resorting to all manner of lurid comparisons to fascist regimes and developing nation dictatorships.

Here’s the point: When the starting position is that any and all law enforcement activity related to Trump is inherently illegitimate that this activity by definition cannot have been justified by reasonable suspicions of wrongdoing then everything works backward from there.

We’ve already seen this over and over again.

When federal agents searched Trump’s resort operating partly on information shared by confidential witnesses around Trump, this happened because evidence they’d collected convinced a judge (Reinhart) of probable cause. But Trump supporters labeled this the stuff of totalitarian secret police forces.

When the warrant was released, it documented specific suspected crimes (violation of the Espionage Act and other statutes involving handling of government information). The search inventory showed that highly sensitive documents had been recovered. But Trump and his supporters demanded release of the affidavit, even as his lawyers avoided official action toward that end.

Meanwhile, despite public release of the warrant, Trump’s propagandists intensified their claims that the FBI had declared war on Trump supporters. They were undaunted by intensifying threats of violence against law enforcement.

Now, if the affidavit is released with heavy redactions, the conspiracy theories will intensify. And the end point isn't hard to predict. For Trump and his supporters, the price of social peace will essentially be a grant of absolute impunity to Trump on multiple fronts.

This at a time when Trump still faces potential indictment for possible crimes related to efforts to steal the 2020 election, incitement of a violent assault on the government and possession of highly classified national security documents. Meanwhile, Trump is gearing up another potential effort to overturn our political order.

The release of the affidavit is unlikely to appease Trump and his supporters in the least. He is all but certain to do all he can to ensure that it only escalates their rage.

**CNN:** [White House officials privately express concern about classified information taken to Mar-a-Lago](#), by Kaitlan Collins, Kevin Liptak, and Natasha Bertrand

White House officials have privately expressed deep concern over the tranche of classified material taken to former President Donald Trump's home in Florida, including some documents that are only meant to be viewed only in secure government facilities, CNN has learned.

As more information has emerged in the days since FBI agents combed the former President's private residence, current administration officials have become increasingly concerned about what Trump took and whether that information — some located in a basement-level storage facility at Mar-a-Lago — could potentially put the sources and methods of the US intelligence community at risk.

"There is a deep concern," one senior administration official told CNN.

Intelligence officials have also expressed concern about what Trump might have taken, according to a source with direct knowledge of the matter. Intelligence community representatives have had discussions with the Justice Department, congressional intelligence committees, and the National Archives in recent months about potentially missing sensitive documents, the source said.

White House officials have steadfastly maintained near-silence on the matter, insisting it is for the Justice Department to comment on the ongoing investigation. President Joe Biden hasn't been briefed on the criminal probe, officials say, and information about it has arrived at the West Wing via media reports.

Asked Wednesday whether Biden needs to be briefed on the national security implications, White House chief of staff Ron Klain insisted the President would maintain his distance.

"One reason why Joe Biden got elected President is he promised that he would stay out of meddling like his predecessor did in investigations being conducted by the Justice Department, that he would not politically interfere in the Justice Department enforcing our laws," he told CNN's Don Lemon.

Without knowing precisely what is in the material taken from Mar-a-Lago, officials have raised concerns internally about whether it could hamper the nation's spy agencies by putting at risk the ways officials gather intelligence. There have also been discussions about the potential diplomatic fallout, including whether the information found at Mar-a-Lago may cause tensions with allies.

The Justice Department removed 11 sets of classified documents from Trump's home, according to documents unsealed by a judge last week. The inventory shows that some of the materials recovered

were marked as “top secret/SCI,” which is one of the highest levels of classification. The matter that was retrieved by the FBI included material about French President Emmanuel Macron, which has also raised concerns inside the White House.

The French Embassy in Washington declined to say whether they’d had discussions with the White House about the material. The White House also declined to comment on internal concerns about the classified information taken to Mar-a-Lago.

Biden as president has previously raised concern about Trump’s handling of sensitive information. He took the unprecedented step early in his term of cutting off Trump’s access to intelligence briefings, a courtesy previously extended to all former presidents.

“What value is giving him an intelligence briefing?” Biden said in an interview with CBS News in February 2021. “What impact does he have at all, other than the fact he might slip and say something?”

Biden aides have previously questioned whether Trump could reveal classified or sensitive information he learned during his days as president in speeches or interviews, which are often delivered off-the-cuff.

**MSNBC:** [Why the media and Trump both want the Mar-a-Lago receipts released](#), by Hayes Brown

The Department of Justice squared off in a Florida court Thursday against an unlikely set of opponents. On the one hand, a collection of some of the most influential mainstream media outlets. On the other, the conservative activist group Judicial Watch.

This unlikely coupling united to argue for the release of the affidavit supporting the search warrant executed last week at Mar-a-Lago, former President Donald Trump’s Florida home. The Justice Department argued that the case under investigation is still in its early stages and too precarious to allow the release of such a sensitive document.

While both Judicial Watch and the media had the same goal in mind, getting the receipts that convinced a federal magistrate to sign off on the warrant, it’s worth noting the divergent motives behind their arguments.

The main case made by the media companies who have filed to have the warrant records released is that the public has a right to know the reasoning behind a former president’s property being searched. And as The New York Times acknowledged in its original Aug. 10 filing, while the unsealing of documents normally comes at the end of an investigation, this is not a normal case.

“The investigation has been made public by the target of the warrant himself, details of the investigation have appeared in publications throughout the world, members of Congress have demanded that the Justice Department provide an explanation, and political commentary on the search continues unabated,” the Times argued. “In short, with so much publicity surrounding the search, the Court should be skeptical about government claims that disclosure of this true information will invade privacy, disturb the confidentiality of an investigation, tip off potential witnesses, or lead to the destruction of evidence.”

The Justice Department’s lawyers countered that thinking in an omnibus response to the various motions to unseal by basically saying “no, the affidavit release will definitely mess up this investigation.” The affidavit would divulge “highly sensitive information about witnesses, including witnesses



interviewed by the government” and “specific investigative techniques,” their Monday filing asserted. “If disclosed, the affidavit would serve as a roadmap to the government’s ongoing investigation, providing specific details about its direction and likely course, in a manner that is highly likely to compromise future investigative steps.”

Even if the court disagreed, the Justice Department argued, “the redactions necessary to mitigate harms to the integrity of the investigation would be so extensive as to render the remaining unsealed text devoid of meaningful content, and the release of such a redacted version would not serve any public interest.” In other words, whatever could be safely released would be useless, so why bother?

It’s in Judicial Watch’s response to that argument that we can see where the divide between it and the media lies. Where the outlets in question see the transparency that the documents’ release would provide as a way to advance the public good, Judicial Watch founder Tom Fitton clearly frames the affidavit as a potential weapon against the Biden administration.

“The Biden administration is compounding the obvious abuse of the raid on Trump’s home with an arrogant assertion of secrecy about its unprecedented action,” he said in a statement Wednesday. “The Biden administration has created a crisis of confidence in its ability to fairly administer justice which requires, in the least, basic transparency about its extraordinary targeting of President Trump.”

Trump himself seems to think similarly. He’s posted on Truth Social, the social media platform he founded, that the affidavit should be released in full and that the contents of it will vindicate him. Taylor Budowich, one of his lawyers, tweeted as much Thursday, saying that “no redactions should be necessary and the whole affidavit should be released, given the Democrats’ penchant for using redactions to hide government corruption, just like they did with the Russia hoax.”

Even leaving aside that last bit about the “Russia hoax,” that an affidavit that convinced a federal judge to agree to a search of a former president’s home is somehow good for Trump feels delusional. So does Trump reportedly considering releasing the surveillance footage of the FBI search at Mar-a-Lago. We already know that the search was appropriate given that classified material was seized, so how on earth would footage of FBI agents calmly walking around a resort counter that?

We can’t know the thinking behind these statements as Trump’s lawyers didn’t file any documents related to the case. Attorney Christina Bobb, who was there for the FBI search, appeared at Thursday’s hearing but was just there as “an observer,” she told reporters. Not exactly the actions of someone championing at the bit to get the full affidavit out there.

I understand why Judicial Watch would want to jump into the fray on this case — the publicity the group will get among conservative media and Trump’s base can’t be overstated. Even if the results aren’t helpful to Trump, it can at least fundraise on the fact that it forced the Justice Department’s hand. Trump and his clique’s motives are less apparent, though. They, in fact, seem devoid of any sort of real strategy on their threatened transparency aside from, as The Washington Post’s Greg Sargent argues, a belief that Trump “can spin its release to his advantage no matter what’s in it, so formidable are his magical reality-bending powers.”

In the end, U.S. Magistrate Judge Bruce Reinhart split the difference: He ordered that the Justice Department file a proposed redaction of the affidavit for release by Aug. 25; Reinhart will do his own

redaction and compare the two versions. In the meantime, he also agreed to release a few more documents related to the warrant that don't tell us much of anything new.

When what remains legible of the affidavit is finally released, though, don't expect it to be the last nail in Trump's coffin. The ordered redactions may protect the Justice Department's investigation, but it's also likely that they'll be spun, as Budowich implied, to show that the real reason Trump was raided is still being covered up. While the media will get at least a partial win, and the public will learn at least some of the facts, the Trump acolytes of the world will still have plenty of conspiracies to feed their base.

**CNBC:** [House Democrats urge Twitter, TikTok, Meta and others to address spike in threats against law enforcement after FBI search of Trump home Mar-a-Lago](#), by Kevin Breuninger

House Oversight Committee leaders urged eight social media companies Friday to crack down on online threats against law enforcement that are reportedly on the rise following the FBI's raid of former President Donald Trump's home Mar-a-Lago.

The lawmakers sent letters demanding information and documents from Twitter, TikTok, Facebook parent company Meta and Telegram, as well as the Trump-backed app Truth Social. Three other platforms with largely conservative followings, Rumble, Gettr and Gab, were also contacted.

The letters seek data on the threats posted online since the Aug. 8 search of the former president's Palm Beach, Florida, residence, along with information about company policies for reporting and removing threats.

Statements by Trump and his Republican allies about the search may have "unleashed a flood of violent threats on social media that have already led to at least one death," Oversight Chairwoman Rep. Carolyn Maloney, D-N.Y., and National Security subcommittee Chairman Rep. Stephen Lynch, D-Mass., wrote in the letters.

They cited a warning from the FBI and Homeland Security Department that threats against officers have spiked online since agents executed the Mar-a-Lago search warrant, according to NBC News.

The Democrats were also referencing a man who fired a nail gun at an FBI office in Cincinnati, Ohio, then fled before being killed in a gunfight with police. That man, identified by police as Ricky Shiffer, had apparently posted numerous threatening messages on Truth Social following the Mar-a-Lago raid.

"We urge you to take immediate action to address any threats of violence against law enforcement that appear on your company's platforms," Maloney and Lynch wrote in the letters.

"The Committee strongly supports the First Amendment rights of all Americans to speak out about the actions of their government and law enforcement matters, including on social media platforms. However, threats and incitements of deadly violence are unacceptable and against the law," they wrote.

The committee leaders said they are also looking into "whether legislative reform is necessary to protect law enforcement personnel and increase coordination with federal authorities."

Trump himself revealed the search in a furious statement on the evening of Aug. 8, declaring his resort home was "under siege" by FBI agents.

Numerous Republican officials quickly issued statements criticizing the raid and supporting Trump, the de facto GOP leader who is considering a 2024 presidential run. Some, such as House Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy, R-Calif., suggested the Department of Justice during President Joe Biden's administration had been weaponized against its political opponents.

Even former Vice President Mike Pence, whom Trump has considered an enemy ever since Pence refused to reject key electoral votes confirming Biden's win in the 2020 election, said he felt "deep concern" about the "unprecedented" move.

The letters sent Friday morning cited numerous threatening posts from Truth Social that "coincided" with the rhetoric from GOP leaders.

"The Second Amendment is not about shooting deer! Lock and load!" one post read. "Arm yourselves! We are about to enter into Civil War!" another user wrote.

Maloney and Lynch are asking the companies to send the requested information by Sept. 2.

**Independent:** [Rudy Giuliani gives new excuse for Trump holding onto classified documents at Mar-a-Lago](#), by Andrew Feinberg

Donald Trump's former personal attorney Rudy Giuliani on Thursday appeared to admit that Mr Trump had classified documents that are the property of the US government, during an appearance on the right-wing Newsmax television network.

Mr Giuliani, who is currently facing disbarment for making false statements in the course of his representation of the ex-president during his push to overturn the 2020 election, was attempting to defend Mr Trump when he said the Espionage Act — the law FBI agents said may have been violated when they asked for a warrant to search Mr Trump's home — was "really not about taking the documents".

"It's about destroying them or hiding them or giving them to the enemy. It's not about taking them and putting them in a place that's roughly as safe as they were in in the first place," he said.

The ex-New York City mayor also said the Department of Justice officials investigating the classified documents which FBI agents found at Mr Trump's home "want to make him responsible for having taken classified documents and preserve [sic] them".

Mr Giuliani's suggestion that the Espionage Act did not punish "taking" classified documents from the secure facilities where they are legally required to be maintained drew immediate ridicule from a prominent national security law expert, attorney Bradley Moss.

Writing on Twitter, Mr Moss said: "This is 100% false".

In fact, the section of the US criminal code referenced in the FBI's application for a search warrant at Mr Trump's Palm Beach, Florida home makes it a crime for anyone "entrusted with or having lawful possession or control of any document ... relating to the national defense" to "[permit] the same to be removed from its proper place of custody" with "gross negligence".

The former Trump attorney's claim that the ex-president was attempting to preserve documents by keeping them from the National Archives — where all records from his former administration were

supposed to be deposited when his term expired in January 2021 is just the latest in a series of shifting excuses and explanations for why FBI agents found at least 11 boxes of documents belonging to the government during the search of Mr Trump's home.

The day after the search, Mr Trump initially claimed that FBI agents may have "planted" evidence of criminal conduct at his home. After reports emerged that the FBI was looking for highly classified documents pertaining to nuclear weapons, Mr Trump derided the reports as part of a "hoax" and denied any classified documents were at his residence.

After the unsealing of the receipt the FBI gave his attorney, which showed that agents recovered documents marked as containing "sensitive compartmented information" one of the highest levels of classification a conservative journalist allied with the ex-president claimed he had a "standing order" to declassify any document he took from the West Wing during his term.

Mr Trump's third national security adviser, Ambassador John Bolton, told the New York Times that the claim of a standing declassification order was "almost certainly a lie".

"When somebody begins to concoct lies like this, it shows a real level of desperation," he added.

**Time:** [Analysts Warn Violent Rhetoric After FBI Mar-a-Lago Search Is a Preview of What's to Come](#), by Vera Bergengruen

Years of tensions and resentment over the perceived "witch hunt" of Donald Trump and his supporters exploded into view this week after FBI agents searched the former President's residence at Mar-a-Lago.

From conservative pundits and lawmakers to far-right influencers, the search was cast as an existential threat to the United States, with terms like "civil war" and "tyranny" thrown around on television and online forums. Pro-Trump commentators called for mass arrests, denounced the FBI, mourned a "dark day for our republic," and suggested that the move would result in political violence.

"This is warfare. The only rule in war is to win," one user wrote on a popular pro-Trump forum that served as a staging ground for the Jan. 6, 2021, attack on the U.S. Capitol. "We need to go on offense."

The surge in violent rhetoric drew concerns that it could inspire attacks on law enforcement, as analysts noted a wave of threats directed at FBI agents and leaders. Trump supporters picketed several of the agency's field offices, with a larger protest planned at its Washington, D.C. headquarters on Sunday. The Florida federal judge who signed the warrant that allowed FBI agents to search Trump's residence has been flooded with threats, with far-right messaging channels publishing his address and spreading anti-Semitic conspiracy theories.

But former law enforcement officials and analysts of political violence warn that this may be only a preview of the backlash that could erupt if the various investigations into Trump, who is stoking speculation about a 2024 presidential run, progress further. Trump is facing a range of investigations: the Mar-a-Lago search was reportedly related to his alleged mishandling of classified documents, a House committee is investigating the Jan. 6 attack, a federal grand jury investigating efforts to overturn the 2020 election has subpoenaed senior Trump officials, and there are several state-level investigations also probing 2020 election matters, as well as a legal battle over his tax returns.

With recent polls showing that a growing number of Americans think violence against the U.S. government can be justified, right-wing personalities amplifying the alarming rhetoric, and national security agencies warning that the upcoming midterm elections could be a flashpoint for extremist violence, this kind of language is likely to be seen as a call to arms, experts say.

“Republican politicians and media figures are playing with fire,” says Rachel Kleinfeld, a political violence analyst at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. “Acceptance of violence for political ends in America is approaching the levels seen in Northern Ireland at the height of their Troubles... fanning the flames of violence through incendiary language is the worst possible thing they could be doing.”

Trump and his allies have been quick to use the outrage over the FBI search for political gain, blasting out fundraising emails and vowing to hold the Biden Administration to account. “I need every single red-blooded American Patriot to step up during this time,” read one email in Trump’s name sent by his political action committee on Wednesday, casting him as the victim of a “deep state” plot. There are indications that supporters on the more extremist fringes might take the apocalyptic rhetoric seriously, especially as some Republican leaders echo and boost the disturbing language.

Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene tweeted out a picture of an upside-down American flag, a symbol of distress. “This is the rogue behavior of communist countries,” the Georgia Republican said in a statement. “These are the type of things that happen in countries during civil war.” The House Judiciary GOP account tweeted, “If they can do it to a former President, imagine what they can do to you.”

The frenzied partisan response to the Mar-a-Lago search only confirms the dark picture painted by recent national security assessments. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) officials have been warning for months that this type of warlike rhetoric, which came to fruition on Jan. 6 and which continues to be fueled by reactions to ongoing investigations of Trump, is increasing the risk of more widespread political violence ahead of the midterm elections in November.

“It is extremely dangerous for leaders to be stoking this type of outrage,” says Lilliana Mason, a political scientist at Johns Hopkins University who analyzes polarization and political violence in America. “The people who are using [this language] either don’t care about potential violence or are just not thinking long term about the potential consequences of riling up their voters like this in a way that could potentially explode... where their voters take this as a call to actually do something terrible.”

‘At some point it’ll explode’

Trump himself quickly moved to capitalize on the FBI search, with his political action committee sending out at least eight emails in 48 hours to fundraise off the raid. The emails echoed the urgent and ominous tone of his statements leading up to the Jan. 6 riot. “These are dark times for our Nation,” read the subject line of an email sent Wednesday morning by Trump’s Save America PAC.

Trump also cast the FBI search as an attack on all of his supporters: “It’s important that you know that it wasn’t just my home that was violated it was the home of every patriotic American.” This particular message was picked up widely by right-wing media and pro-Trump influencers. On his primetime show on Tuesday, Fox host and Trump adviser Sean Hannity called it “a dark day for our republic.”

“Make no mistake, if you are associated with Donald Trump in any way, you better cross all your I’s and dot all your T’s,” Hannity warned, “because they’re coming for you with the full force of the federal government.”

Republican lawmakers and candidates, right-wing activists, and former Trump administration officials seemed to echo the rhetoric of the more militant groups that led the charge in the attack on the U.S. Capitol on Jan. 6, like the Oath Keepers and the Proud Boys. These groups view themselves as “the last line of defense against tyranny,” and cast the investigations into Trump as the precursors to a larger war.

“This is one of the darkest days in American history: the day our Government, originally created by the people, turned against us,” Kari Lake, a Trump-backed candidate for Arizona governor who won the Republican primary last week, said in a statement. “If we accept it, America is dead... We will not accept it.”

The New York Young Republican Club issued a statement calling for mass arrests of those involved in the search and suggested legal processes should be suspended “to secure our Republic from the insidious monsters that have wrenched it from the American People’s control.” Monica Crowley, a former public affairs official for the Treasury Department during in the Trump Administration, tweeted, “This is it. This is the hill to die on.”

Far-right activist Laura Loomer, who is running for Congress in Florida, wrote on Telegram, “The FBI just put a target on the back of every single Trump supporter in America by illegally raiding Mar-a-Lago.”

On Thursday, a man wearing body armor and carrying an AR-15 rifle tried to break into an FBI office in Cincinnati, firing a nail gun at law enforcement before fleeing the scene. It wasn’t immediately clear if that incident was related to the Mar-a-Lago search. But the attempted attack shows that the aggressive condemnation of FBI “tyranny” in this fraught environment can find an audience willing to act. “The divide between violent rhetoric online and real-world violence is closing,” says Brian Murphy, a former head of the DHS intelligence branch who is now at Logically, a tech firm that helps governments and businesses counter disinformation.

“The fact that the FBI is publicly identified as the target of attacks is significant,” Murphy says. “When this kind of rhetoric is also being shared by public officials, it gives a sense of normalcy to the language, and adds fuel to the fire.”

In posts on pro-Trump online forums, users have already threatened to take matters into their own hands. Users said the FBI search felt “like the prelude to civil war,” posted advice on preparing weapons and supplies, and noted that a fighting force “wouldn’t have to be very big to completely overwhelm” the U.S. government. Another poster responded: “Encouraging reminder: over 300 cops and feds stood frozen in fear versus one guy with one rifle in Uvalde,” referring to the shooter who killed 19 students and two teachers at a Texas elementary school in May.

There has already been an uptick in death threats against U.S. Attorney General Merrick Garland, FBI Director Chris Wray, and FBI agents, according to law enforcement sources cited by Fox News. Wray on Wednesday condemned the “deplorable and dangerous” threats against FBI agents. “Violence against law enforcement is not the answer, no matter who you’re upset with,” he said.

This comes as recent polls have shown a rising acceptance of political violence among Americans. About one in three Americans say they believe violence against the government can at times be justified, with more acceptance on the right: 40% of Republicans versus 23% of Democrats, according to a January Washington Post-University of Maryland poll. According to another study by researchers at the University of California-Davis Violence Prevention Research Program and the California Violence Research Center released last month, more than half of Americans expect that a civil war will erupt in the U.S. sometime "in the next few years."

Recent data shared with TIME by the Armed Conflict Location & Event Data Project (ACLED), a nonprofit that tracks political violence and demonstrations, showed a significant uptick in armed protestors at recent political demonstrations, increasing the likelihood of violence. National security agencies have tracked similar trends. "As the United States enters mid-term election season this year, we assess that calls for violence by domestic violent extremists directed at democratic institutions, political candidates, party offices, election events, and election workers will likely increase," DHS warned in a June terror bulletin. Now, the FBI's search of Mar-a-Lago has added another possible data point to national security analysts' warnings.

"As a scholar I feel like we're sort of at the precipice," says Mason, "where at some point it'll explode and then we won't be able to stop it."

**People:** [18 Former Trump Officials Say Claim of 'Standing Order' to Declassify White House Docs Is False: Report](#), by Aaron Parsley

More than a dozen former Trump administration officials are disputing claims that the former president had a "standing order" to declassify documents he took from the Oval Office to the White House residence.

Since the FBI searched Donald Trump's Mar-a-Lago property and seized 11 sets of classified documents, including some marked "top secret," the former president and his supporters have said that because of the order any classified materials Trump removed would be instantly declassified.

A statement from Trump's office read on Fox News four days after the search of Trump's Palm Beach, Fla., resort, outlined his defense and suggested the declassification order was in place so the president could work from home as needed.

"Nothing approaching an order that foolish was ever given," John Kelly, who served as Trump's chief of staff from 2017 to 2019, told CNN in a report that cites 17 other officials who called the claim of a standing order to declassify White House documents false.

"And I can't imagine anyone that worked at the White House after me that would have simply shrugged their shoulders and allowed that order to go forward without dying in the ditch trying to stop it," Kelly added.

Mick Mulvaney, who became the acting White House chief of staff after Kelly, also told CNN he was "not aware of a general standing order."

Following the Aug. 8 search of Mar-a-Lago, a U.S. court unsealed the warrant that gave FBI agents access to the property, revealing that the Department of Justice is investigating the former president for potential violations of the Espionage Act and other national security-related statutes.

The 18 members of the Trump administration CNN interviewed for the report included White House attorneys, Justice Department officials as well as national security and intelligence officials, according to the news outlet.

Together, the officials covered all four years of Trump's presidency. Official after official "scoffed" at the claim, CNN reports.

One senior White House aide called the claim "total nonsense," and wondered, "If that's true, where is the order with his signature on it? If that were the case, there would have been tremendous pushback from the Intel Community and DoD, which would almost certainly have become known to Intel and Armed Services Committees on the Hill."

"There is a process to declassify, the president can't just wave a magic wand," another former senior Trump White House official said.

Former National Security Advisor John Bolton said he was never briefed on a standing declassification order and called the notion "a complete fiction."

"It doesn't even work that way, there is an actual process," another former White House national security official said.

"If this existed, there had to be some way to memorialize it," Bolton said on CNN's New Day. "The White House counsel had to write it down. Otherwise, how would people throughout the government know what to declassify?"

Steven Aftergood, an expert on classification who is the director of the Federation of American Scientists Project on Government Secrecy, tells CNN that presidents do have the ability to declassify information but objected to the idea that it could be done based on a location.

"A document that is classified in Washington, DC, is unclassified in Florida — one could say such a thing, but it is nonsensical," Aftergood said. "And it calls into question the good faith of anyone who would make such a claim."

**The Nation:** [The Mar-a-Lago Raid Highlights the DOJ's Hypocrisy on the Espionage Act](#), by Freddy Martinez

When news broke last week that the FBI was searching former president Donald Trump's Mar-a-Lago residence for classified records, it registered as a shock for many in Washington. The underlying allegations laid out by the Department of Justice (DOJ) are serious in and of themselves, but the real shock was that, for once, a powerful executive branch official wasn't given a free pass while abusing the classification system.

The DOJ has long used powerful laws like the Espionage Act to target our most vulnerable whistleblowers and truth-tellers, and the ongoing records dispute with a former president is an almost unheard-of course correction. However, given the department's history, we should be deeply concerned about any failure to hold Trump accountable for violations of the law precisely because he is the former president.

By every measure, if the allegations being investigated by the DOJ are true, Trump would be an ideal candidate for prosecution for violating the Espionage Act.



While his defenders attempt to obfuscate by saying the former president has ultimate classification authority, they neglect to mention that information does not need to be classified to be considered national defense information under the Espionage Act. In fact, all that matters is the current executive branch interpretation of protected information.

It also doesn't help Trump that the National Archives and the DOJ spent over a year attempting, unsuccessfully, to retrieve classified records from Mar-a-Lago (which might explain why the search warrant indicates Trump was being investigated for obstruction of justice). In fact, there is a precedent of the DOJ's prosecuting executive branch employees for mishandling highly classified NSA hacking tools that were later published online.

But we live in the United States, where the DOJ has two systems of punishment.

The Justice Department is right to investigate Trump under the Espionage Act, but the government must accompany this course-correction with much-needed reforms to protect the whistleblowers who are most vulnerable to prosecution under the act.

Beginning after 9/11, but expanding notably under the Obama administration, the Department of Justice has waged an aggressive campaign to bring Espionage Act charges against truth-tellers.

In 2010, for example, it brought charges against Thomas Drake, a high-ranking NSA official who unsuccessfully attempted to raise concerns to Congress and his inspector general about a massive, expensive, and faulty post-9/11 information collection program. The DOJ ultimately charged Drake with the unauthorized possession of national defense information, some of which was unclassified at the time.

The Obama administration also famously brought Espionage Act charges against Chelsea Manning for leaks that showed, among other things, that the US military killed two Reuters journalists. Under President Joe Biden, the DOJ still has open Espionage Act charges against Edward Snowden for revealing the NSA's vast, warrantless, and unconstitutional collection of information on the people of the United States.

While the DOJ has wielded the Espionage Act against truth-tellers for decades, Trump is by no means the first executive branch official to intentionally retain classified information or release it without authorization. Nor would he be the first to skate free from serious consequences for the intentional mishandling of national defense information.

In 2005, Sandy Berger, a former national security adviser to President Bill Clinton, pleaded guilty to the unauthorized removal of classified information. Berger was given two years of probation and a fine. A decade later, a former director of the CIA, David Petraeus, was also sentenced to two years of probation for leaking top secret and classified information to his mistress. However, some former CIA directors weren't even charged with leaking classified information, such as when Leon Panetta gave information to Hollywood filmmakers during the filming of Zero Dark Thirty. It remains unclear if the current DOJ will continue this pattern.

By contrast, Chelsea Manning was sentenced to 35 years in prison for violations of the Espionage Act, despite the clear public interest in her disclosures. (Obama later reduced Manning's sentence to about

seven years.) Simply put, the executive branch has very broad latitude to put its thumb on the scale when determining which prosecutions it brings.

Based on all available information, the Espionage Act may be an appropriate tool for investigating Trump's mishandling of defense information. But we should be vigilant about the DOJ's disproportionate use of this statute under Bush, Obama, and now Biden to chill truth-telling about government malfeasance.

At minimum, we need to rein in the Espionage Act by enacting commonsense reforms such as Representative Rashida Tlaib's proposal to allow a public interest defense to defendants. At the same time, we should be wary given the DOJ's history of unequal application of the Espionage Act, especially against powerful executive branch officials. As we learn more about Trump's handling of these documents, we will see if Attorney General Merrick Garland is as committed to "faithful adherence to the rule of law" and "applying the law evenly, without fear or favor" as he claims to be.

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**From:** Coley, Anthony D. (PAO)  
**Sent:** Friday, August 26, 2022 4:10 PM  
**To:** Thomas, Pierre  
**Subject:** following up

<https://int.nyt.com/data/documenttools/national-archives-letter-trump-fbi/1a5fa3f08cdb0f7d/full.pdf>

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**From:** Coley, Anthony D. (PAO)  
**Sent:** Friday, August 26, 2022 4:12 PM  
**To:** Dilanian, Ken (NBCUniversal)

<https://int.nyt.com/data/documenttools/national-archives-letter-trump-fbi/1a5fa3f08cdb0f7d/full.pdf>

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**From:** Nakamura, David <David.Nakamura@washpost.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, August 27, 2022 7:40 PM  
**To:** Coley, Anthony D. (PAO)  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] DOJ react on Cannon special master ruling?

Ok thank you

Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 27, 2022, at 6:46 PM, Coley, Anthony D. (PAO) (b) (6) wrote:

**CAUTION: EXTERNAL SENDER**

Hey there. Declining comment right now. Will let you know if that changes...

On Aug 27, 2022, at 6:20 PM, Nakamura, David <David.Nakamura@washpost.com> wrote:

Hi Anthony any DOJ react on Cannon's ruling over her intent to appoint a special master in the Mar-a-Lago affair? Thanks,

David Nakamura  
Washington Post Staff Writer  
o (b) (6)  
c (b) (6)  
email: [david.nakamura@washpost.com](mailto:david.nakamura@washpost.com)  
Twitter: @davidnakamura

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**From:** Carrie Johnson <CJohnson2@npr.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 29, 2022 12:03 PM  
**To:** Coley, Anthony D. (PAO); Iverson, Dena (PAO)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] quick q re search

Following up

1-can you let me know on background/off the record when you know whether team Trump will be able to see the inventory/more detailed property receipt DOJ is set to file with the judge in FL Tuesday?

2-should we expect additional public filing in that matter today or will that happen Tues Weds instead?

Thank you V much

Carrie

Carrie Johnson  
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NPR  
[Cjohnson2@Npr.org](mailto:Cjohnson2@Npr.org)  
She/her

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**From:** Thomas Burr <TBurr@newsnationnow.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 30, 2022 3:54 PM  
**To:** Coley, Anthony D. (PAO)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Two filings in Trump vs USA

Hi Anthony. Can you confirm these are DOJ filings in the case?

08/30/2022 SYSTEM ENTRY - Docket Entry 39 [misc] restricted/sealed until further notice. (pcs)  
(Entered: 08/30/2022)  
08/30/2022 SYSTEM ENTRY - Docket Entry 40 [misc] restricted/sealed until further notice. (pcs)  
(Entered: 08/30/2022)

**Thomas Burr**  
Executive Producer  
Washington bureau  
NewsNation  
tburr@newsnationnow.com

C (b) (6)



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**From:** Pegues, Jeff <PeguesJ@cbsnews.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 31, 2022 1:49 PM  
**To:** Coley, Anthony D. (PAO)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Re: going to stick with this from the filing...

Also, does this sound accurate?

Bloomberg is reporting DOJ will likely wait until after midterms to decide what Trump did. I'll ask NSD but could be good flag.

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**From:** Coley, Anthony D. (PAO) (b) (6)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 31, 2022 1:37:26 PM  
**To:** Pegues, Jeff <PeguesJ@cbsnews.com>  
**Subject:** going to stick with this from the filing...

External Email

*DOJ is in the midst of an ongoing criminal investigation pertaining to potential violations of the Espionage Act, 18 U.S.C. § 793(e), as well as obstruction of justice, 18 U.S.C. § 1519, and unlawful concealment or removal of government records, 18 U.S.C. § 2071.*