

Verdict[®]

A News Publication from Judicial Watch



AUGUST 2018
VOLUME 24 / ISSUE 8
WWW.JUDICIALWATCH.ORG

JW Sues To Expose DOJ FISA Warrant Abuses And Stonewalling Congress

JW seeks Justice Dept. Communications with Congress about FISA warrants against Trump presidential campaign staff



U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, D.C.

Judicial Watch on May 9, 2018 filed a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) lawsuit against the U.S. Department of Justice for all records of communications between both the Justice Department and the Federal Bureau of Investigation with members of the Senate Judiciary Committee and the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence regarding the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (FISA) warrants against foreign policy advisor Carter Page and other members of the Trump campaign (*Judicial Watch v. U.S. Department of Justice* (No. 1:18-cv-01088)).

The suit was filed after both the Justice Department and the FBI, a division of the Justice Department, failed to

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JW Fights State Department For Accounting Of Weiner's Emails

State claims only 3,000 of "hundreds of thousands" of Clinton emails were agency records

Judicial Watch announced on May 31 that it is fighting the State Department for a full production of records responsive to a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) lawsuit for the Hillary Clinton emails found by the FBI on Anthony Weiner's laptop. According to then-FBI Director James Comey, Weiner's laptop contained "hundreds of thousands" of emails of former Secretary Clinton.

Weiner is an ex-congressman and the incarcerated husband of former Clinton top aide Huma Abedin. He was convicted of having sexually explicit communications with teenage girls. In October 2016, FBI investigators from its New York field office discovered Abedin's emails on Weiner's laptop, including data

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Former Congressman Anthony Weiner

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FBI headquarters
building,
Washington, D.C.

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respond to separate February 9, 2018 FOIA requests for:

“Any records of communications between DOJ officials and Members of the U.S. Senate Committee on the Judiciary (“USSCJ”) and/or their staff members regarding USSCJ’s attempts to acquire the applications and renewals for FISA warrants against Carter Page and any other members of President Trump’s presidential campaign, as well as any records relating to or forming the basis of those FISA warrant applications/renewals from June 1, 2016 to the present.

“Any records of communications between DOJ officials and Members of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence (“HPSCI”) and/or their staff members, regarding HPSCI’s attempts to acquire the applications and renewals for FISA warrants against Carter Page and any other members of President Trump’s presidential campaign, as well as any records relating to or forming the basis of those FISA warrant appli-



FBI headquarters building, Washington, D.C.

★ ★ ★
“The Deep State doesn’t want Congress, Judicial Watch or the American people to see the full extent of its abuses targeting the Trump campaign and now President Trump.”

~ *Judicial Watch President*
Tom Fitton

★ ★ ★
 cations and renewals from June 1, 2016 to the present.”

Over the last year, the Justice Department and FBI have withheld or stonewalled on documents about the FISA court warrants targeting of the Trump campaign, “Spygate” documents, the Clinton-DNC anti-Trump dossier, the genesis of Obama’s Trump-Russia investigation, the Clinton email investigation and anti-Trump FBI text messages.

“Judicial Watch’s latest federal FOIA lawsuit aims to uncover details of the Justice Department/FBI obstruction and contempt for Congress on ‘Spygate,’” stated Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton. “The Deep State doesn’t want Congress, Judicial Watch or the American people to see the full extent of its abuses targeting the Trump campaign and now President Trump.”

The lawsuit is the latest of more than two dozen active lawsuits Judicial Watch has filed relating to the Justice Department cover-up of the abuses and the stonewalling of Congress related to the year-long Mueller investigation into alleged Russian collusion in the 2016 election.

On February 2, 2018, Republicans on the House Intelligence Committee released a memo detailing government surveillance abuse during the 2016 campaign. This document points out that the “minimally



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JW Statement On Justice Department IG Report On Clinton Email Investigation

By Tom Fitton



JUDICIAL WATCH

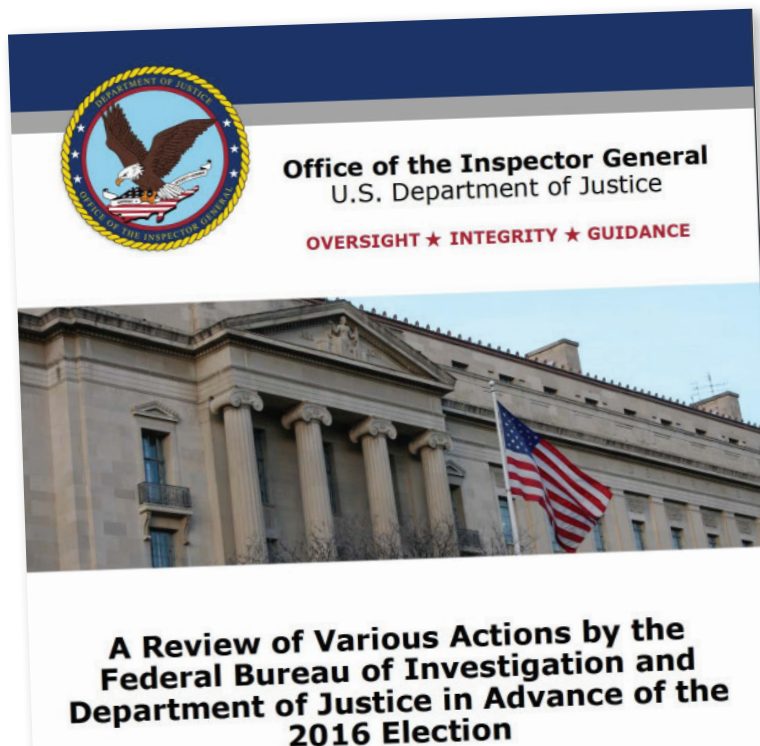
I released the following statement on behalf of Judicial Watch in response to the June 14 Justice Department Inspector General's (IG) report on the Hillary Clinton email investigation, released June 14, 2018:

The IG report has destroyed the credibility of the Department of Justice and the FBI. It confirms what Judicial Watch has investigated and revealed for nearly two years. The Obama Justice Department/FBI investigation of Clinton was rushed, half-baked, rigged

and irredeemably compromised by anti-Trump and pro-Clinton bias and actions. As Judicial Watch uncovered the Clinton email scandal, it is outrageous to see a politicized FBI and Justice Department then so obviously refuse to uphold the rule of law.

The IG report details repeated Justice Department/FBI deference to Hillary Clinton, her aides and their lawyers. Americans should examine the report and judge for themselves whether the over-the-top deference to Hillary Clinton can be explained as anything other than political, especially from agencies that at the same time were actively collaborating with the Clinton campaign's Fusion GPS to spy on and target then-candidate Trump. The IG report details how at least five top FBI agents and lawyers exchanged pro-Clinton and anti-Trump communications.

U.S. Department of Justice Inspector General Report on Hillary Clinton email investigation



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The IG report has destroyed the credibility of the Department of Justice and the FBI.

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The IG shares the concerns of Judicial Watch and millions of Americans that this bias cast a cloud over the credibility of the Clinton email and Russia investigations.

As Judicial Watch has demonstrated through its independent investigations and lawsuits, there is more than enough evidence that Clinton knowingly and intentionally mishandled classified information while using a non-government email system to conduct government business.

Will the Sessions Justice Department now do the right thing and conduct a Clinton email investigation properly? Or, will it let James Comey and Loretta Lynch have the last word on Hillary Clinton's evident email crimes?

In the meantime, Judicial Watch will continue its ongoing Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) lawsuits and investigations into the Clinton email scandal and the related Obama administration cover-up.

Judicial Watch has numerous lawsuits and document productions regarding the issues raised by the IG, including the conduct of Andrew McCabe, the Clinton-Lynch tarmac meeting, the Strzok-Page communications, the FBI investigation into Hillary Clinton, and Justice Department collusion with

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Cover Story

Investigation

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corroborated” Clinton-DNC dossier was an essential part of the FBI’s and Justice Department’s application for surveillance warrants to spy on Page.

On February 7, 2018, House Intelligence Committee Chairman Devin Nunes wrote a letter to Judge Rosemary M. Collyer, the presiding judge at the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court (FISC), requesting transcripts of “any relevant FISC hearings associated with the initial FISA application or subsequent renewals related to electronic surveillance of Carter Page.” On February 15, Judge Collyer replied that the FBI and Department of Justice “possess most, if not all, of the responsive materials the Court might possess, and we have previously made clear to the Department, both formally and informally, that we do not object to any decision by the Executive Branch to release any such FISA materials to Congress.”

On April 6, 2018, *The Hill* reported that the Justice Department “agreed to allow additional access by the House Intelligence Committee to view four surveillance applications” against Page, calling it an “extraordinary accommodation.” The public still has not been told what was contained in those applications.

On May 3, 2018, Judicial Watch sued the Justice Department for copies of all transcripts of hearings before the FISC regarding applications for or renewals of FISA warrants relating to Page and/or former Trump National Security Advisor General Michael Flynn.

In February 2018, Judicial Watch sued the Department of Justice for FBI documents regarding the FISA warrant application submitted to — and responses from — the FISC related to alleged collusion between Russia and Trump campaign associates (*Judicial Watch v. U.S. Department of Justice* (No. 1:18-cv-00245)).

In January 2018, Judicial Watch

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Over the last year, the Justice Department and FBI have withheld or stonewalled on documents about the FISA court warrants targeting of the Trump campaign.

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sued the Justice Department for text messages and other records of FBI official Peter Strzok and FBI attorney Lisa Page (*Judicial Watch v. U.S. Department of Justice* (No. 1:18-cv-00154)). Strzok reportedly oversaw the FBI’s interviews of former National Security Advisor, General Michael Flynn; changed former FBI Director James Comey’s language about Hillary Clinton’s actions regarding her illicit email server from “grossly negligent” to “extremely careless”; played a lead role in the FBI’s interview of Clinton; and is suspected of being responsible for using the unverified dossier to obtain a FISA warrant in order to spy on President Trump’s campaign.

In May 2017, Judicial Watch sued the Justice Department for records of communications and payments between the FBI and former British intelligence officer Christopher Steele and his private firm, Orbis Business Intelligence (*Judicial Watch v. U.S. Department of Justice* (No. 1:17-cv-00916)).

And in April, Judicial Watch sued the Department of Justice for records about top Justice Department official Bruce Ohr’s and his wife Nellie Ohr’s involvement in the Trump dossier authored by Christopher Steele (*Judicial Watch v. U.S. Department of Justice* (No.1:18-cv-00490)) and (*Judicial Watch v. U.S. Department of Justice* (No.1:18-cv-00491)). **JW**

Message

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the Clinton campaign.

Inspector General Michael Horowitz, who was appointed by President Obama, has been investigating allegations of wrongdoing within the federal law-enforcement agencies since January 12, 2017. Horowitz opened a separate investigation into James Comey on April 20 over classified information stemming from his memo leaks.

Horowitz previously released a report stating that former FBI Deputy Director Andrew McCabe was dishonest with investigators about how sensitive information from the agency ended up in *The Wall Street Journal* in 2016, which was the basis for his termination and criminal referrals by Deputy

★ ★ ★
Judicial Watch will continue its ongoing Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) lawsuits and investigations into the Clinton email scandal and the related Obama administration cover-up.
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Attorney General Rod Rosenstein last May. Former Attorney General Loretta Lynch, who met with former President Bill Clinton just days before Hillary's FBI interview, also was a subject of Horowitz's report.

The entire Inspector General's report may be accessed at the Judicial Watch website: <http://jwatch.us/618OIG> 

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Emails

From page 1

indicating the emails went through Clinton's private non-"state.gov" email system.

The court filing comes in the May 2015 lawsuit Judicial Watch filed against the State Department (*Judicial Watch, Inc. v. U.S. Department of State* (No. 1:15-cv-00684)). Judicial Watch sued after the State Department failed to respond to a March 2015 FOIA request for:

"All emails of official State Department business received or sent by former Deputy Chief of Staff Huma Abedin from January 1, 2009 through February 1, 2013 using a non-'state.gov' email address."

In an April 15, 2018 interview with George Stephanopoulos, former FBI Director James Comey stated "hundreds of thousands" of Hillary Clinton-related emails were found "on Anthony Weiner's laptop."

In fighting the effort by the Department of State to close the case, Judicial Watch refers to the State Department's claim that only 3,000 of those "hundreds of thousands" of emails are agency records and 147 total emails were unique agency records. Judicial Watch argues that the State Department has not released information on the total number of emails they reviewed, how they reviewed them, how many emails were personal and not agency records and how the agency would have made



AP IMAGES

Former Clinton Deputy Chief of Staff Huma Abedin

those determinations:

"Again, all we know is that the FBI provided an unspecified number of emails to [the State Department], that [the State Department] reviewed the emails, and that [the State Department] identified 3,000 emails that contained evidence of [the State Department's] activities. [The State Department] has not even attempted to explain the discrepancy between the 'hundreds of thousands' of emails identified by ex-Director Comey and the mere 3,000 emails identified by [the State Department]. At this late point in the Secretary Clinton email saga, [the State Department] should not get the benefit of the doubt."

This filing is part of Judicial Watch's extensive and ongoing investigation into the Hillary Clinton email scandal. The investigation has produced numerous examples of Clinton using her non-"state.gov" email system to transmit classified information.

Judicial Watch's April 2014 pivotal revelation of the Benghazi talking points originating in the Obama White House was brought about by the May 2014 formation of the House Benghazi Committee. In February 2015, the State Department admitted to the court that it needed to make "additional searches" of Benghazi-related material. In March 2015,

Clinton admitted to using a non-government email system while serving as secretary of state.

In September 2017, Judicial Watch made public 1,617 new pages of documents from the State Department revealing numerous additional examples of classified information being transmitted through Abedin's unsecure, non-"state.gov" account, as well as many instances of Clinton donors receiving special favors from the State Department.

On January 4, 2018, Judicial Watch revealed that at least 18 classified emails in a total of 798 documents produced by the State Department from the FBI's investigation into former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton's illicit email system were found on Anthony Weiner's laptop. Thirteen emails contained classified information and discussions about Saudi Arabia, The Hague, Egypt, South Africa, Zimbabwe, the identity of a CIA official, Malawi, the war in Syria, Lebanon, Hamas and the PLO.

On January 19, 2018, Judicial Watch released 78 pages of new documents from the State Department containing emails former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton sent and received over her unsecure, non-"state.gov" email system. These documents exposed that Clinton had detailed knowledge about the security issues with her non-State Department email system, contrary to her statement that she "really didn't stop to think about what kind of email system there would be."

"After uncovering the Clinton email scandal, Judicial Watch now wants a full accounting of the Hillary Clinton emails found on Anthony Weiner's laptop," said Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton. "We've confirmed classified Clinton emails on the Weiner laptop, which would have been enough to get anyone else arrested." **JW**

★ ★ ★
"We've confirmed classified Clinton emails on the Weiner laptop, which would have been enough to get anyone else arrested."

~ Judicial Watch President
Tom Fitton

★ ★ ★

Court Report

Emails: FBI Advised Comey To Consult Mueller's Office Prior To June 2017 Testimony

Judicial Watch on May 10 released new emails from the U.S. Department of Justice showing that former FBI Director James Comey was advised by FBI officials in May 2017 to consult with Special Counsel Robert Mueller prior to testifying before any congressional committees regarding Russian meddling in the 2016 presidential election and his firing as FBI director.

According to numerous news reports, Comey met directly with Mueller previous to his June 8, 2017 testimony before the Senate Intelligence Committee. Sources said that Comey's opening statement and subsequent testimony were coordinated with Mueller.

At the hearing, Comey revealed that he had intentionally leaked material from a memo allegedly doc-



Former FBI Director James Comey

umenting a meeting with President Trump in order to help assure the appointment of a special counsel:

"I asked a friend of mine to share the content of the memo with a reporter. Didn't do it myself, for a variety of reasons. But I asked him to, because I thought that might prompt the appointment of a special counsel."

The Justice Department and FBI have stated that Comey's leaks were unauthorized and compared the disclosures to WikiLeaks.

The documents obtained by Judicial Watch are the first to reveal that high-ranking FBI officials helped Comey coordinate his testimony with Mueller.

Judicial Watch obtained the documents in a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) lawsuit filed against the Department of Justice on January 31,

2018 (*Judicial Watch v. U.S. Department of Justice* (No. 1:18-cv-00220)). The lawsuit was filed after the the Department of Justice failed to respond to an August 14, 2017 FOIA request seeking:

- "All records of communications between the FBI and Comey prior to and regarding Comey's testimony before the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence on June 8, 2017.
- "All records of communications between the FBI and Comey relating to an upcoming book to be authored by Comey and published.
- "All records, including but not limited to forms completed by Comey, relating to the requirement for prepublication review by

See FBI on page 8

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"These documents show that James Comey, who was fired by the president, nevertheless had easy, friendly access to the FBI as he prepped his infamous anti-Trump testimony to the Senate. This collusion led to Comey's attacking President Trump and misusing FBI records as part of a vendetta against the president."

~ Judicial Watch President
Tom Fitton

★ ★ ★

Court Report

FBI

From page 7

the FBI of any book to be authored by Comey with the intent to be published or otherwise publicly available.”

On May 17, 2017, Comey received notices to appear before the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence (SSCI), the Senate Judiciary Committee and the House Oversight and Government Affairs Committee.

An email chain dated May 18 and 19, 2017, with the subject line “Future testimony,” shows then-FBI Chief of Staff James Rybicki, then-Deputy FBI Director Andrew McCabe and Assistant Director Gregory Brower, Comey and others discussing Comey’s upcoming testimony.

In this chain, on May 18 at 6:30 p.m., Comey wrote to Rybicki to confirm that he had accepted the invitation to testify before the SSCI but declined the invitations from the Senate Judiciary Committee and House Oversight and Government Affairs Committee.

Comey also writes: “Last, would you please tell OGC [Office of the General Counsel] that I would like to be able to review any documents authored by me or on which I am copied that will be produced to SSCI in connection with my testimony and would like the opportunity for that review before I testify?”

An email from a redacted sender, apparently Comey, to Rybicki dated May 19 at 11:49 a.m. reads:

“Jim

“I just got off a call with Senators Burr and Warner. They would like to have a hearing next Wednesday at which I testify, first in open session and then in closed, if necessary. I asked them not to announce it until I check with FBI/DOJ to see if you want to discuss anything before they do that. I told them I had asked for guidance on any institutional



prerogatives and for the opportunity to review any documents FBI has produced that relate to me. I told them I would communicate with them by the end of the day to either ask them to hold announcing the Wednesday hearing or go ahead.

“Many thanks.
“Jim”

On May 19 at 2:10 p.m., Rybicki writes back:

“Director: We just met to discuss the requests outlined in the two emails below. Before responding the General Counsel has asked me to confirm that you have discussed with the attorneys representing you, and that you are comfortable discussing these issues with us rather than communicating through your counsel.”

On May 19 at 3:02 p.m., a redacted sender, likely Comey, responds to Rybicki: “Yes and yes.”

Also in this chain, on May 19 at 4:11 p.m., Rybicki writes to McCabe, FBI Deputy Director David L. Bowdich, former FBI General Counsel James A. Baker, Brower, Elizabeth Beers and other redacted names:

“Please see a DRAFT response to Director Comey (below). I will hold pending further direction....

“Director:

“In response to your emails below we have consulted with executive management here, including the General Counsel, and recommend the following:

“That your counsel convey any acceptance or declinations to invitations to testify directly to the Committees;

“That your counsel consult with Special Counsel Mueller to determine the timing of any such testimony; and

“The Office of General Counsel stands ready to discuss with you in consultation with the Department of Justice and the Special Counsel, institutional privileges or prerogatives that may be presented by any such testimony.”

“These documents show that James Comey, who was fired by the president, nevertheless had easy, friendly access to the FBI as he prepped his infamous anti-Trump testimony to the Senate,” said Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton. “This collusion led to Comey’s attacking President Trump and misusing FBI records as part of a vendetta against the president.” JW



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ELECTION INTEGRITY SPECIAL REPORT

JW Victory: Supreme Court Upholds Ohio Efforts To Maintain Clean Voter Rolls

(Washington, D.C.) — Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton hailed the June 11 Supreme Court decision upholding efforts by Ohio, which are part of an historic settlement with Judicial Watch, to maintain accurate voting rolls. Fitton noted:

“This is a clear victory for the citizens of Ohio and America who want clean and fair elections. Dirty voting rolls can mean dirty elections. Today’s Supreme Court decision should send a signal to other states to take reasonable steps to make sure that voters who died or moved away no longer remain on their voter rolls. Leftists opposed to election integrity suffered a big defeat today. Frankly, this and their other assaults on clean election measures suggest the organized left and their politician allies want to be able to steal elections if necessary. This is also a big institutional win for Judicial Watch, because it means that our current settlement agreement with Ohio is valid and enforceable.

“The Supreme Court upheld an Ohio law providing that the State had to send address confirmation notices to all registered voters who had not voted in the previous two years. This ruling has the effect of also upholding a 2014 settlement agreement between Judicial Watch and Ohio, which required Ohio to use that same procedure as part of a regular Supplemental Mailing designed to identify whether registered Ohio voters had moved away — one of many steps intended to fulfill Ohio’s obligations under the National Voter Registration Act (NVRA) to maintain the integrity



Men turn in ballots at polling station in California

of its voter list.

“Judicial Watch filed several *amicus* briefs supporting Ohio’s efforts at every level of the federal court system as the case progressed from the trial court all the way up to the Supreme Court. The case was on appeal from the United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit, which held Ohio’s process was in violation of the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 (NVRA) (*Jon Husted, Ohio Secretary of State v. Philip Randolph Institute, et al.* (No. 16-980)).

“Judicial Watch’s *amicus* brief argued that the Sixth Circuit ruling would adversely affect its settlement agreement with Ohio were it allowed to stand. Judicial Watch also pointed out that failing to respond to an address-confirmation notice does not mean that a registration is removed from the voter rolls. It merely triggers another waiting period, which can last up

to four more years, during which the registrant still has the right to vote. In all, it can take up to six years before a registration is cancelled under the process.”

Judicial Watch Attorney Robert Popper, the director of the organization’s Election Integrity Project, joined with five other former attorneys of the Civil Rights Division Attorneys of the Justice Department to file an *amicus curiae* brief in the *Husted* case.

Judicial Watch previously filed a lawsuit under the NVRA against Indiana, which resulted in the state’s taking several actions to clean up its voter rolls. The Judicial Watch lawsuits against Ohio and Indiana were the first private lawsuits under the NVRA. Judicial Watch is currently suing Kentucky, California and Los Angeles over their failures to remove ineligible voters as required by the NVRA and is suing the State of Maryland and Montgomery County over their failure to release voting-related records. **JW**

Emails Show Podesta Group's Work For Pro-Russia Ukrainian Political Party

Emails show longtime Obama and Clinton counselor John Podesta lobbying on behalf of the Podesta Group

Judicial Watch released new documents from the U.S. Department of State showing the Podesta Group working on behalf of the pro-Russia Ukrainian political group "Party of Regions." The new documents also show longtime Obama and Clinton counselor John Podesta lobbying on behalf of his brother's firm, the Podesta Group.

Judicial Watch obtained the documents in a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) lawsuit against the State Department filed on November 20, 2017 (*Judicial Watch v. U.S. Department of State* (No. 1:17-cv-02489)). The lawsuit was filed after the State Department failed to respond to a September 13, 2017 FOIA request for:

- "All records of communication between any official, employee, or representative of the Department of State and any principal, employee, or representative of Podesta Group, Inc.
- "All records produced related to any meetings or telephonic communications between any official, employee, or representative of the Department of State and any principal, employee, or representative of Podesta Group, Inc.
- "All records regarding the European Centre for a Modern Ukraine."

The FOIA request covers the timeframe of January 1, 2012 to the present.

A March 28, 2013 email from now-deputy executive secretary in the Office of the Secretary of State, Baxter Hunt, shows the Podesta Group — led by Tony Podesta, a Clinton campaign-contribution bun-



Obama and Clinton counselor John Podesta

...dler and brother of Clinton's 2016 campaign chairman John Podesta — represented the Party of Regions, a pro-Kremlin political party in Ukraine.

In the March 2013 email to a number of officials, including then-U.S. Foreign Service Officer John Tefft (who would go on to be U.S. ambassador to Russia in 2014) and State Department director for the Office of Eastern Europe, Alexander Kananof, Hunt writes:

"See below, I also stressed to them the need for GOU to take concrete steps to get new SBA with IMF and avoid PFC/loss of GSP. Podesta Group is noted among host of Ukraine lobbyists in article I'll forward in article on low side.

"Ben Chang and Mark Tavlarides of the Podesta Group, which is representing the Party of Regions, told us they were working with Klyuyev on a visit he plans to make

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Unlike [Paul] Manafort and his partner Rick Gates, the Mueller special counsel operation hasn't indicted anyone from the Podesta Group.
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to Washington in early May. They are working to broaden the POR's contacts on the Hill, including setting up a meeting for Klyuyev with Chris Smith, and have advised Kyiv to stop trying to justify their actions against Tymoshenko in Washington. They also noted that during his recent meeting with former EC President Prodi, HFAC Chairman Ed Royce said that Congress would not be enacting sanctions legislation against Ukraine."

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Podesta

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The Party of Regions served as the pro-Kremlin political base for Ukraine's former President Viktor Yanukovich, who fled to Russia in 2014.

Like Paul Manafort, who is currently under indictment in the errant special counsel Russia investigation, the Podesta Group had to retroactively file Foreign Agent Registration Act disclosures with the Justice Department for Ukrainian-related work. The filing states that the Podesta Group provided for the non-profit European Centre for a Modern Ukraine "government relations and public relations services within the United States and Europe to promote political and economic cooperation between Ukraine and the West. The [Podesta Group] conducted outreach to congressional and executive branch offices, members of the media, nongovernmental organizations and think tanks." Unlike Manafort and his partner Rick Gates, the Mueller special counsel operation hasn't indicted anyone from the Podesta Group.

Also, the new emails show longtime Obama and Clinton counselor John Podesta lobbying on behalf of the Podesta Group's efforts to secure a maintenance facility from Jet Blue and Lufthansa for Puerto Rico.

In a June 27, 2013 email, former U.S. ambassador to Germany and current New Jersey Gov. Philip D.



U.S. Department of State headquarters, Washington, D.C.

Murphy writes to John Podesta, Minister-counselor for economic affairs at the American embassy in Berlin Seth Winnick and others:

"Jet Blue and Lufthansa are considering 2 locations for a maintenance center — Puerto Rico or Mexico. The Governor of PR wants this badly. The question is can we get to LH at the right levels to make the case. Either John or colleague OR John's brother Tony or colleague will get to us with more details."

Winnick then writes to John Podesta: "Washington alerted us to this advocacy issue and we are on it.

Phil will try to connect in the next few days and we will follow up."

Later that day, in an email sent to his brother Tony Podesta and Winnick, John Podesta writes: "Thanks Seth. The Governor is a friend of mine. My brother Tony represents Puerto Rico and will follow up with details."

Winnick replies to John and Tony Podesta: "Happy to help on this one. I think we have the details we need for now from SelectUSA at Commerce but will come back if any issues arise."

Puerto Rico was selected by the airlines for the facility to service A320s in 2014.

Judicial Watch is waiting to hear on any additional documents the State Department may produce in response to the FOIA lawsuit about the Podesta Group.

"By the standards of the Mueller special counsel operation, these emails alone would have been enough for the Podestas to have been hauled before a grand jury, or worse," said Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton. "These emails are a stark reminder that Mueller's special counsel operation seems more interested in the alleged foreign ties of the Trump team, rather than Hillary Clinton's (and Barack Obama's) associates." JW

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Chronicles

Border Patrol Agent Shot Where Ranchers Live In Fear Of Immigrant, Drug Violence

The shooting of a U.S. Border Patrol agent in early June occurred in the same southern Arizona region where Judicial Watch recently met with residents and ranchers terrorized by drug and human smugglers gushing in from Mexico. The federal agent was shot multiple times at around 4:30 a.m. while investigating sensor activity on foot in a remote part of Arivaca, according to a Border Patrol announcement. The agent, a 21-year veteran, was attacked by an “unknown number of assailants, one of whom fired several shots at the agent in close proximity,” the agency states, adding that the officer was struck several times.

The ambush occurred on a remote portion of a cattle ranch situated near the Mexican border that is often used as a passageway by immigrants and drug smugglers. The owner of the 50,000-acre property, Jim Chilton, told a local newspaper that he has seen increased traffic in the area during the last couple of months and



U.S.–Mexican border in Arizona

that the nearby mountains have cartel scouts guiding drug packers and smugglers making their way into the U.S. Chilton told a national news-wire that the Border Patrol sent him an electronic mail saying the veteran federal agent was alone on his ranch when he was shot in the leg and hand. Several bullets also struck the agent’s protective vest, Chilton said.

A fifth-generation Arizona cattle rancher, Chilton has testified before Congress on the national security vulnerabilities of a poorly guarded southern border. Portions near his property are simply marked with strands of barb wire that are easily penetrated by smugglers. “National Security demands that drug traffickers, terrorists and undocumented aliens be prevented from entering the United States at the border,” Chilton said during testimony before a House hearing several years ago:

“Currently, on our ranch these people often travel 10 to 20 miles inside our country before the Border Patrol attempts to apprehend them....Our losses have been great and our sense of security in our own country has been severely damaged. We live with weapons near our bed, at the doors, in our vehicles and attached to our saddles.”

Chilton’s property is only a few dozen miles away from Sierra Vista, a Cochise County border town with equally frustrated ranchers. As part of an ongoing investigation into the critical security issues created by the famously porous southern border, Judicial Watch recently spent time in Sierra Vista, which is located 75 miles southeast of Tucson with a population of around 44,000. One of the

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One of the ranchers (John Ladd) Judicial Watch visited said more than half a million illegal immigrants of several dozen nationalities have been apprehended on his sprawling cattle ranch.
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See **BORDER** page 14

FBI Asks Peter Strzok And Lisa Page To Preserve Personal Device And Email Records

Court orders production of 13,000 pages of Strzok/Page emails – Court agrees to FBI’s two-year production schedule

The U.S. Department of Justice informed Judicial Watch in May that “the FBI plans to send letters to Peter Strzok and Lisa Page asking them to preserve agency records on their personal email accounts and personal devices and requesting confirmation that they are doing so.” Judicial Watch made the preservation request to the FBI as part of its Freedom of Information (FOIA) lawsuit for records of the two current and former FBI officials.

On May 21, U.S. District Court Judge Reggie B. Walton ordered the FBI to begin processing 13,000 pages of previously undisclosed emails exchanged exclusively between FBI officials Strzok and Page between February 1, 2015 and December 2017:

“(1) the Federal Bureau of Investigation (‘FBI’) shall process the 500 pages of potentially responsive records and produce any responsive, non-exempt records

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“The FBI’s purposeful slow-walking of the Strzok-Page materials shows contempt for both transparency law and the public interest in figuring out how and why the FBI was politicized to target President Trump, while protecting Hillary Clinton.”

~ *Judicial Watch President
Tom Fitton*

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FBI official Peter Strzok

to the plaintiff on or before June 29, 2018;

“(2) after June 29, 2018, the FBI, on a monthly basis, shall process 500 pages of potentially responsive records and produce any responsive, non-exempt records to the plaintiff; and

“(3) on September 1, 2018, and thereafter on a quarterly basis (once every three months), on the first day of the month (or, if the first falls on a weekend or holiday, the next business day), the parties shall file a joint status report advising the Court of the FBI’s progress in processing the request.”

Prior to the judge’s order, on May 17, Judicial Watch filed a joint status report in federal court regarding the production of Strzok-Page documents. According to the report, between April 5 and May 4, 2018, the FBI processed only 35 pages of



Former FBI attorney Lisa Page

potentially responsive records identified as travel requests, authorizations, vouchers and expense reports for Strzok and Page, and 16 pages were released.

On May 2, the FBI wrote a letter to Senator Grassley saying it had not requested information from the personal email accounts of Strzok and Page:

“[T]he FBI has not requested from Ms. Page or Mr. Strzok any information from their personal email accounts, nor has the FBI conducted searches of non-FBI-issued communications devices or non-FBI e ii accounts associated with Mr. Strzok or Ms. Page.”

The status report also details the FBI’s promise to try to preserve the Strzok-Page records from their personal devices.

The developments come in Judicial Watch’s January 2018 FOIA lawsuit against the Justice Department (*Judicial Watch v. U.S. Department of Justice*

See STRZOK page 14

Border

From page 12

ranchers (John Ladd) Judicial Watch visited said more than half a million illegal immigrants of several dozen nationalities have been apprehended on his sprawling cattle ranch. Ladd has also found 14 dead bodies on his 16,500-acre farm, which has been in his family for well over a century and sits between the Mexican border and historic State Route 92. The property shares a 10 ½-mile border with Mexico, making it a popular route for human and drug smugglers evading a meager force of Border Patrol agents in the mountainous region. “I can’t guarantee there’s not a dead body somewhere in my ranch right now,” Ladd told Judicial Watch.

Other ranchers and longtime

residents said that illegal immigrants and drug smugglers are devastating the area and many of them live in fear. Some are too scared to enjoy a simple pastime — horseback-riding on their own land. Some portions of the border adjacent to Ladd’s property have an 18-foot iron fence, but others have a laughable wire fence that has been repeatedly penetrated by vehicles speeding through from Mexico. The fence is such a joke that the Border Patrol installed concrete barriers along a busy two-mile stretch in front of the barbed wire barrier on Ladd’s property line to stop smugglers.

Judicial Watch also visited another nearby smuggling route that’s inexplicably unprotected. The dirt road

runs through the Coronado National Forest, and five strands of barbed wire serve as the physical boundary between the U.S. and Mexico in a remote portion of the park, which is closed to the public at night and is heavily transited by drug and human smugglers. Illegal immigration has had such a devastating impact on the area that one longtime resident wrote a book offering detailed anecdotes of what he and his family endure because they live near the Mexican border. This includes drugs and illegal immigrants piling into vehicles on the road adjacent to his four-acre property and ultralight aircraft flying near his rooftop, just above the trees, en route to making a drug drop. **JW**

Strzok

From page 13

(No. 1:18-cv-00154)) after it failed to respond to Judicial Watch’s December 4, 2017 FOIA request seeking:

- “All records of communications, including but not limited to, emails, text messages and instant chats between FBI official Peter Strzok and FBI attorney Lisa Page;
- “All travel requests, travel authorizations, travel vouchers and expense reports of Peter Strzok;
- “All travel requests, travel authorizations, travel vouchers

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**Strzok and Page
were deeply involved
in the Clinton email
scandal and served
on the Mueller
investigation team.**

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and expense reports of Lisa Page.”

Strzok and Page were deeply involved in the Clinton email scandal and served on the Mueller investigation team. Strzok was reportedly removed from Mueller’s team in August and reassigned to a human resources position after it was discovered that he and FBI lawyer Page, who worked for FBI Deputy Director Andrew McCabe, and with whom Strzok was carrying on an extramarital affair, exchanged stridently pro-Clinton and anti-Trump text messages.

Strzok reportedly oversaw the FBI’s interviews of former National Security Advisor General Michael

Flynn. He also changed former FBI Director James Comey’s language about Hillary Clinton’s actions regarding her illicit email server from “grossly negligent” to “extremely careless” and played a lead role in the FBI’s interview of Clinton. Strzok is suspected of being responsible for using the unverified dossier to obtain a Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (FISA) warrant in order to spy on President Trump’s campaign.

“The FBI has been slippery when it comes to records about the Clinton and Russia scandal fiascos, so we’re pleased the Bureau is taking steps to make sure government records don’t go missing,” said Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton. “On the other hand, the FBI’s purposeful slow-walking of the Strzok-Page materials shows contempt for both transparency law and the public interest in figuring out how and why the FBI was politicized to target President Trump, while protecting Hillary Clinton. Director Wray and Attorney General Sessions should step up and speed up the release of these documents.” **JW**

Uncovered

INVESTIGATIVE BULLETIN

China Syndrome: Rise And Fall Of A Clinton Conspirator

By Micah Morrison
Judicial Watch Chief
Investigative Reporter



JUDICIAL WATCH

“The leopard does not change his spots” is a favorite saying of prosecutors, and the rise and fall of Clinton-era conspirator Ng Lap Seng proves the point. Ng cut a colorful swath through the 1996 Clinton campaign finance scandal. At the time, he was a mere millionaire with connec-

tions to the Chinese government and Asian organized crime. Now he is a billionaire. Last month, more than 20 years after he first appeared on the U.S. scene, federal prosecutors in the Southern District of New York nailed him in a bribery scheme and put him away for four years.

In the bribery case, Ng showered two United Nations ambassadors—Francis Lorenzo of the Dominican Republic and John Ashe of Antigua and Barbuda—with cash. He needed their support for a multi-billion-dollar U.N. conference center he wanted to build in Macau. Ng envisioned the conference center as the cornerstone of a grandiose plan to turn the obscure gambling enclave into the “Geneva of Asia,” prosecutors said.

Ng spent \$1.5 million in the illegal effort. He set up a phony NGO and

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Ng’s generosity won him 10 visits to the White House between 1994 and 1996, including at least one with President Clinton.

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funneled \$30,000 a month to Ambassador Lorenzo. More payments flowed to Lorenzo’s brother, to Ambassador Ashe and to Ashe’s wife. In return, the ambassadors put a U.N. imprimatur on Ng’s construction plan. They drafted and circulated official U.N. documents in support of Ng and the Macau conference center.

The case was closely watched in Washington. “Corruption at any level of government undermines the rule of law and cannot be tolerated,” said Department of Justice Criminal Division chief John Cronan. Cronan elaborated:

“But, corruption is especially corrosive when it occurs at an international body like the United Nations. By paying bribes to two U.N. ambassadors to advance his interest in obtaining support for the Macau conference center, Ng Lap Seng tried to manipulate the functions of the United Nations.”

Ng is no stranger to controversy and crime. He has been a major player in Macau for decades. The

See **CONSPIRATOR** page 16



AP IMAGES

Ng Lap Seng, center, leaves federal court with his wife, right, Friday, May 11, 2018 in New York

Conspirator

From page 15

former Portuguese colony, turned over to China in 1999, was a hub of legalized gambling and prostitution and a center of money laundering, extortion, drugs and gang wars. Ng cultivated the China connection and rose through the Macau ranks, becoming owner of the Fortuna Hotel, a night club in the gambling district favored by officials of the People's Liberation Army and the organized crime Wo On Lok triad.

Ng has denied any connection

with Asian organized crime. In 1997, he told the *South China Morning Post* that he was “very upset” about the “allegation that I am linked to organized crime. It is absolutely untrue and has no basis in fact.”

By 1994, Ng had set his sights on the Clintons. Finding a partner in Little Rock restaurateur Charlie Trie, Ng wired more than \$1 million from accounts in Macau and Hong Kong to Trie's accounts. Ng and Trie funneled “hundreds of thousands of dollars in foreign funds” to the Democratic National Committee, according to a Senate report on the campaign finance scandal. Ng's generosity won him 10 visits to the White House between 1994 and 1996, including at least one with President Clinton. In 1995, Ng and Trie organized a reception for then-Commerce Secretary Ron Brown at Hong Kong's Hotel Shan-gri-La. In 1996, they were seated



President Bill Clinton

next to the president at a fundraiser in Washington.

Ng vanished when the campaign finance scandal heated up. “The source of Ng's funds and what he or those behind him hoped to gain through Trie remains unknown,” the Senate report concluded. But Beijing seemed pleased with Mr. Ng. In 1998, it named him to a post at the largely ceremonial but influential Chinese People's Consultative Conference. Twenty years later, he's still there. **JW**

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“Corruption is especially corrosive when it occurs at an international body like the United Nations.”

*Department of Justice
Criminal Division chief
John Cronan*

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JW Victory For Vet Prosecuted For Taking Photos Of American Flags At VA Facility

Federal Court affirms dismissal of charges — rejects appeal to reinstate charges against veterans' rights activist Robert Rosebrock

Judicial Watch announced that the U.S. District Court for the Central District of California affirmed a U.S. magistrate judge's April 11, 2017 dismissal of criminal charges against Judicial Watch client Robert L. Rosebrock, who was prosecuted for allegedly taking "unauthorized" photographs of American Flag at an entrance to a park on the Los Angeles VA campus (*United States of America v. Robert L. Rosebrock* (No. 2:17-cr-00262)).

The magistrate judge ruled in Rosebrock's favor on First Amendment grounds. The District Court affirmed the magistrate judge's dismissal of the charges, holding that the plain language of the regulation under which Rosebrock was prosecuted did not prohibit unauthorized "news" photography anywhere on VA property.

The charges stemmed from allegations that Rosebrock took unauthorized photographs of American


Flag and unauthorized videos of VA police on Memorial Day 2016 and Sunday, June 12, 2016. In rejecting the VA photography/video charges, U.S. Magistrate Judge Steve Kim ruled that the regulation as applied to the West L.A. VA's Los Angeles National Veterans Park was not reasonable under even the most lenient First Amendment standard. Rosebrock also was acquitted after trial on April 18, 2017 of a further criminal charge for allegedly displaying a napkin-sized American Flag on a fence at the park's entrance on Memorial Day 2016.

The VA refused to accept the magistrate's ruling and appealed to the District Court. Among the arguments Judicial Watch lawyers made in defense against the charges was that VA officials sought to retaliate against Rosebrock for his long-standing criticism of the VA for what he considers to be violations of the terms governing use of the land

on which the West L.A. VA facility is located. Since 2008, Rosebrock and a small group of supporters have assembled nearly every Sunday and Memorial Day at the Great Lawn Gate entrance to the Los Angeles National Veterans Park to protest the VA's failure to make full use of the property to benefit veterans, particularly homeless veterans. For years, the VA has allowed land on the campus to be used for a variety of nonveteran-related purposes, including a baseball stadium for the University of California Los Angeles baseball team, athletic fields for a private prep school and a City of Los Angeles dog park.

Although the District Court did not address VA officials' motives in pursuing criminal charges against Rosebrock, its ruling lends credence to the claim that Rosebrock was selectively and vindictively prosecuted for his weekly protests. Further evidence of a retaliatory motive is the recent revelation of fraud high up at the Greater Los Angeles VA facility.

"The VA persecuted Rosebrock for his advocacy," said Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton. "The outrageous criminal charges against Rosebrock have since been shown to lack any factual or legal basis. President Trump should ask who at the VA and Justice Department is responsible for this reprehensible effort to jail our client for exercising his First Amendment rights."

Separately, Judicial Watch used the Freedom of Information Act to uncover documents showing that then-VA Secretary David J. Shulkin questioned the Rosebrock prosecution but was misled about the issue by his staff. 

U.S. District Court order affirming dismissal of charges against JW client Robert Rosebrock

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

Notice of Electronic Filing

The following transaction was entered on 4/19/2018 at 12:26 PM PDT and filed on 4/17/2018

Case Name: USA v. Rosebrock
Case Number: [2:17-cr-00262-JGB](#)
Filer:
Document Number: [13](#)

Docket Text:

MINUTES OF (IN CHAMBERS) ORDER Affirming Judgment of Dismissal by Judge Jesus G. Bernal as to Defendant Robert L. Rosebrock: (see document image for further details). For the foregoing reasons, the Court hereby AFFIRMS the Magistrate Judges dismissal of the charges against Appellee of violations of 38 C.F.R. 1.218(a)(10). IT IS SO ORDERED. (ad)

In the Media

Fitton: 'Shameful' That DOJ Only Turned Over FBI Russia Memo After Threat of Legal Action

Fox News Insider

April 12, 2018

Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton said it's "shameful" that Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein only turned over the FBI memo that instigated the Bureau's Russia investigation after being threatened with legal action.

Rosenstein allowed House Intelligence Committee chairman Rep. Devin Nunes, R-Calif., and Rep. Trey Gowdy, R-S.C., to view the FBI memo after Nunes threatened him and FBI Director Christopher Wray with legal action — including contempt proceedings and impeachment.

A government source told Fox News that Nunes, Gowdy and committee Republican staff were able to view the two-page memo with relatively few redactions.

"It shows you just how obstructionist [the] FBI and Justice Department have been with a Republican Congress," Fitton said on "Outnumbered Overtime" on Thursday. "This is a Deep State obstruction, and it's shameful that this Justice Department and this FBI only turned over this document after being threatened with contempt and the officials at issue being threatened with impeachment."

Obama administration meddled in foreign elections: Judicial Watch

Fox Business

May 21, 2018

Judicial Watch Director of Investigations & Research Chris Farrell discussed how the Obama administration meddled in foreign elections.



Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton (right) with host Tucker Carlson on Fox News Channel

The government watchdog group **Judicial Watch** has obtained documents revealing the flow of money from the U.S. State Department and the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) to various countries in efforts to provide the Obama administration its preferred outcome in foreign elections.

"[The Obama administration] actively went about either destabilizing or trying to influence governments and electoral processes around the world," **Judicial Watch** Director of Investigations & Research Chris Farrell told FOX Business' Lou Dobbs on Monday.

State Department records show USAID used taxpayer funds to back billionaire investor George Soros' left-wing political operations in other countries, according to **Judicial Watch**.

FBI will ask anti-Trump agents to preserve personal-device communications

The Washington Times

May 23, 2018

The FBI will ask agent Peter

Strzok and attorney Lisa Page to preserve any bureau records stored on their personal accounts and devices, a conservative government watchdog group said Wednesday.

Judicial Watch said the FBI will make the request as part of its Freedom of Information Act lawsuit in which it had asked for thousands of pages of documents on personal devices of the pair, including emails, text messages, chats and travel documents.

Some texts between Mr. Strzok and Ms. Page on their FBI-issued phones have been preserved, but it is not known how much the pair communicated through personal devices.

On Monday, U.S. District Court Judge Reggie B. Walton ordered the FBI to begin processing 13,000 pages of previously undisclosed emails exchanged between Mr. Strzok and Ms. Page between February 1, 2015 and December 2017, **Judicial Watch** said. The first 500 pages of the records are said to be processed by June 29, 2018.

See MEDIA page 20

In the Media

JW Earns Nationwide Media Coverage

May 19, 2018 - June 19, 2018

The following list partially details recent radio and television appearances by Judicial Watch spokesmen, as well as general television and radio coverage of Judicial Watch's investigations and lawsuits.

Radio

5/18	WLS	Chicago, IL
5/18	WTMJ	Milwaukee, WI
5/18	KTRH	Houston, TX
5/18	WDBO	Orlando, FL
5/19	WGBB NY	New York, NY – Live
5/21	CBN	National – Live
5/21	WMAL	National – Live
5/21	KYW	Philadelphia, PA
5/23	WSB	Atlanta, GA
5/24	KGO	San Francisco, CA
5/25	WJR	Detroit, MI
5/25	WRC	Washington, DC – Live
5/28	KOGO	San Diego, CA
5/29	WBAP	Dallas, TX
5/29	WMAL	National – Live
5/30	WJIM	Lansing, MI – Live
6/1	KKLO	Ft. Leavenworth, KS – Live
6/6	WRC	Washington, DC – live
6/14	WTIC	Hartford/New Haven, CT – Live
6/14	WMAL	National – Live
6/14	Daily Daily Caller	National – Live
6/15	American Family Radio	National – Live
6/15	Hannity Radio	National – Live
6/15	Sirius XM	National – Live
6/18	WJIM	Lansing, MI – Live
6/19	KFTK	St. Louis, MO – Live

TV

5/18	Fox Business Network	National – Live
5/18	Fox News Channel	National – Live
5/20	Fox Business Network	National – Live
5/21	Fox News Channel	National – Live
5/21	OAN	National – Live
5/21	Fox Business Network	National – Live
5/23	Fox Business Network	National – Live
5/24	Fox Business Network	National – Live
5/24	Fox News Channel	National – Live
5/25	Sinclair	National – Live
5/25	Fox Business Network	National – Live
5/25	Fox News Channel	National – Live
5/28	Fox News Channel	National – Live
5/29	Fox Business Network	National – Live
5/31	Fox Business Network	National – Live
5/31	Fox News Channel	National – Live
6/2	Fox Business Network	National – Live
6/5	Fox Business Network	National – Live
6/6	Fox Business Network	National – Live
6/6	Fox News Channel	National – Live
6/7	Fox News Channel	National – Live
6/12	CBN	National – Live
6/13	Fox News Channel	National – Live
6/13	Sinclair	National – Live
6/14	Fox News Channel	National – Live
6/14	OAN	National – Live
6/14	NRA TV	National – Live
6/14	Fox News Channel	National – Live
6/15	Fox Business Network	National – Live
6/15	Fox News Channel	National – Live
6/17	Fox News Channel	National – Live
6/18	Fox News Channel	National – Live
6/18	Fox Business Network	National – Live
6/19	CSPAN	National – Live

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Media

From page 18

City Council votes to release police chief recruitment records after Judicial Watch lawsuit
Coloradoan
May 31, 2018

Fort Collins City Council on Tuesday unanimously voted to release some records related to the city's police chief recruitment process in response to a lawsuit from conservative group **Judicial Watch**.

In April, **Judicial Watch** filed a lawsuit against the City of Fort Collins and City Manager Darin Atteberry over the city withholding records about its police chief search.

The council vote to release some of those records came after **Judicial Watch** filed a motion in Larimer County District Court on May 17 to dismiss the lawsuit. City Attorney Carrie Daggett told council members Tuesday it was dismissed because of a 14-day period that allows for negotiations regarding potential release of the records.

'Judicial Watch' President Tom Fitton on I.G. Report: Don't Trust The Media, Read It Yourself
Real Clear Politics
June 15, 2018

"**Judicial Watch** uncovered the Clinton email scandal," he explained. "So it is disheartening to see documented evidence of the FBI and DOJ bending over backwards to protect Hillary Clinton, and deferring to her on virtually every issue, and deciding early on not to prosecute her, and just go through the motions of an investigation. Despite all the evidence we had uncovered that she knew what she was doing was inappropriate, she was warned by her national security team not to do it, and she did it to avoid disclosure and accountability."

Fitton: Judicial Watch Uncovers Hidden Strzok Emails in Clinton-Lynch Tarmac Documents
Breitbart, Tom Fitton Op-ed
June 12, 2018

This is just too rich. **Judicial Watch** now has emails from notorious anti-Trump, pro-Hillary Clinton FBI officials who seem to confirm

that James Comey and Loretta Lynch decided to let Hillary Clinton ride on her email abuses before she was even interviewed by the FBI.

The disclosure is found in 16 pages of FBI documents related to the infamous June 2016 tarmac meeting between former Attorney General Loretta Lynch and former President Bill Clinton.

The FBI originally informed **Judicial Watch** it could not locate any records related to the tarmac meeting. However, in a related FOIA lawsuit, the Justice Department located emails in which Justice Department officials communicated with the FBI and wrote that they had communicated with the FBI. As a result, by letter dated August 10, 2017, the FBI stated, "Upon further review, we subsequently determined potentially responsive documents may exist. As a result, your [FOIA] request has been reopened ..."

This is the second batch of documents the FBI produced since telling **Judicial Watch** they had no tarmac-related records. So this makes two cover-ups! **JW**

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For other questions regarding IRA gifts, contact Steve Andersen, Director of Development for Judicial Watch at (888) 593-8442, or sandersen@judicialwatch.org.

