

Verdict®

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FBI: Dossier Author Christopher Steele Not Suitable For Use As Source

Documents reveal FBI admonished Steele in February 2016 for undisclosed misconduct



Trump Dossier author, Christopher Steele

Judicial Watch forced the FBI to release more than 70 pages of heavily redacted records about Christopher Steele, the former British spy, hired with Clinton campaign and Democratic National Committee funds, who authored the infamous dossier targeting President Trump during the 2016 presidential campaign. The documents show that Steele was cut off as a “Confidential Human Source” (CHS) after he disclosed his relationship with the FBI to a third party.

The documents show at least 11 FBI payments to Steele in 2016 and document that he was admonished for unknown reasons in February 2016. The documents were turned over in response to a Judicial Watch Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) lawsuit against the U.S. Department of Justice for records of communications and payments between the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and former British intelligence officer Christopher Steele and his private firm, Orbis

See STEELE on page 2

Strzok: Declassification Authority A Must On Mueller Assignment

Judicial Watch recently released 14 pages of FBI documents concerning the assignment of former FBI Deputy Assistant Director Peter Strzok to Special Counsel Robert Mueller’s operation, showing that Strzok insisted on retaining his FBI security clearance before moving to the Mueller team and confirming that Strzok played a pivotal role in the flawed Hillary Clinton email investigation.

Judicial Watch obtained the records thanks to a December 2017 Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) lawsuit (*Judicial Watch, Inc. v. Federal Bureau of Investigation* (No. 1:17-cv-02682)) seeking:

- “All records regarding the assignment of FBI Supervisor Peter Strzok to the special counsel’s investigation led by former Director Robert Mueller.

See STRZOK on page 6



Former FBI official Peter Strzok

3
Message from the President

7
Court Report

11
Corruption Chronicles

14
Government Uncovered



18
In the Media

Steele

From page 1

Business Intelligence (*Judicial Watch v. U.S. Department of Justice* (No. 1:17-cv-00916)).

The documents include a “source closing communication” that states that Steele (referred to as “CHS”) “is being closed” because:

“CHS confirmed to an outside third party that CHS has a confidential relationship with the FBI. CHS was used as a source for an online article. In the article, CHS revealed CHS’ relationship with the FBI as well as information that CHS obtained and provided to FBI. On November 1, 2016, CHS confirmed all of this to the handling agent. At that time, handling agent advised CHS that the nature of the relationship between the FBI and CHS would change completely and that it was unlikely that the FBI would continue a relationship with the CHS. Additionally, handling agent advised that CHS was not to operate to obtain any intelligence whatsoever on behalf of the FBI.”

The documents also show that Steele was paid repeatedly by the FBI

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The documents show at least 11 FBI payments to Steele in 2016 and document that he was admonished for unknown reasons in February 2016.

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and was “admonished” for some unknown misconduct in February 2016. The documents include:

- Fifteen (15) FD-1023, Source Reports.
- Thirteen (13) FD-209a, Contact Reports.
- Eleven (11) FD-794b, Payment Requests. (It appears Steele was paid money 11 of the 13 times he met with the FBI and gave them information.)
- An Electronic Communication (EC) documenting that on February 2, 2016 Steele was admonished in accordance with

See STEELE on page 4



FBI Headquarters, Washington, D.C.



Judicial Watch
Because no one is above the law!

Judicial Watch is a conservative, non-partisan American educational foundation that promotes transparency, accountability and integrity in government, politics and the law. Judicial Watch advocates high standards of ethics and morality in America’s public life and seeks to ensure that public officials do not abuse the powers entrusted to them by the American people.

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Five More Classified Emails On Hillary Clinton's Unsecure System

Do you think we've heard the end of Hillary Clinton's email escapades? Don't count on it.

By Tom Fitton



JUDICIAL WATCH

More than three years ago, on May 6, 2015, we sued the State Department (*Judicial Watch v. U.S. Department of State* (No. 1:15-cv-00687)) after it failed to respond to our FOIA request seeking:

"All emails sent or received by former Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton in her official capacity as secretary of state, as well as all emails by other State Department employees to Secretary Clinton regarding her non- 'state.gov' email address."

We have now released two batch-

es, 184 pages and 45 pages, of newly uncovered emails that were sent and received over Clinton's unsecure non-"state.gov" email system. *Five of them contain classified information.*

The documents are part of the accelerated schedule of production ordered by U.S. District Court Judge James E. Boasberg, which requires the State Department to complete processing by September 28, 2018. The remaining documents are part of the 72,000 pages recovered by the FBI in its investigation into Hillary Clinton's illicit email server. These new classified and other emails appear to be among those that Clinton had attempted to delete or had otherwise failed to disclose.

The new documents include material classified "confidential" on negotiations between Northern Ireland and the U.K., as well as negotiations with Israel, Palestine and France. They also include a reference to a Clinton meeting with controversial left-wing billionaire George Soros and advice to Clinton from Sid

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These classified Hillary Clinton emails that she tried to hide or destroy show why it is urgent that the DOJ finally undertake an honest criminal investigation.

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Blumenthal, who was barred from a State Department position by the Obama administration but nevertheless continued to advise her on matters of state.

- On June 7, 2011, Clinton received classified information on her non-secure email account from former British Prime Minister Tony Blair, which Blair also forwarded to Jake Sullivan, about Blair's Middle East negotiations with Israel, the Palestinians and the French.
- On January 26, 2010, Clinton's Deputy Chief of Staff Jake Sullivan sent classified information via his unsecure Blackberry to Huma Abedin's State Department email account that he'd earlier sent to Clinton's and Abedin's non-secure @clintonemail.com email accounts about U.K. negotiations with Northern Ireland.
- On October 28, 2010, Clinton exchanged information with her friend Marty Torrey — a congressional aide — who asked Clinton in an email if she would advise that Torrey meet with former Pakistani President Pervez Musharraf. Clinton responded through her non-secure email

See MESSAGE on page 5



SHUTTERSTOCK

Hillary Clinton

Steele

From page 2

the Justice Department guidelines and the FBI CHS Policy Manual.

The documents were obtained as a result of a lawsuit filed after the Department of Justice failed to respond to a March 8, 2017 FOIA request seeking:

- All records of communications between any official, employee, or representative of the FBI and Mr. Christopher Steele, a former British intelligence officer and the owner of the private firm Orbis Business Intelligence.
- All records related to the proposed, planned, or actual payment of any funds to Mr. Steele and/or Orbis Business Intelligence.

- All records produced in preparation for, during, or pursuant to any meetings or telephonic conversations between any official, employee or representative of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and Mr. Christopher Steele and/or any employee or representative of Orbis Business Intelligence.

“These new docs show the shady, cash-based relationship the Obama FBI had with Clinton operative Christopher Steele,” said Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton. “The anti-Trump Russia ‘investigation’ had Christopher Steele at its center, and his misconduct was no impediment to using information from his Russia intelligence collaborators to spy on the Trump team. The corruption and abuse is astonishing.”

On July 21, a separate Judicial Watch lawsuit uncovered the FISA warrant documents used to justify spying on Carter Page. The warrants are controversial because the FISA court was never told that the key information justifying the requests came from a “dossier” that was created by Fusion GPS, a paid agent of the Clinton campaign and the Democratic National Committee. Fusion GPS hired Steele to create the dossier, and Steele is referenced repeatedly as “Source #1” in the warrants. The initial Carter Page warrant was granted just weeks before the 2016 election. Steele and his “minimally corroborated” Clinton-DNC dossier was an essential part of the FBI’s and DOJ’s applications for surveillance warrants to spy on Page. **JW**

SHUTTERSTOCK



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Steve Andersen
Director of Development
(888) 593-8442
sandersen@judicialwatch.org



Message from the President

Message

From page 3

account approving the meeting and noted that she was emailing him from Hanoi, Vietnam.

- An email chain dated April 8, 2010, which contains a memo from Sid Blumenthal to Hillary Clinton related to the change of government in Kyrgyzstan, contained information classified “confidential” and redacted as “foreign government information” and “foreign relations or foreign activities of the United States, including confidential sources.” Blumenthal urged Clinton to “develop relations” with the new government in Kyrgyzstan:

“All of this suggests to me the necessity for the State Department to assert itself and take the lead in developing relations with the new government.”

- A January 26, 2010 email to Hillary Clinton from her deputy chief of staff, Jake Sullivan, is classified “confidential” and contained a “call sheet” that Clinton received prior to placing a call to Northern Ireland political leaders. It appears that the redacted portions contain the names of particular members of Sinn Fein who were invited to a particular meeting and the expectations of either themselves or other foreign ministers for the outcomes of that meeting.
- A June 13, 2009 email to Clinton from Sullivan with the subject line “Northern Ireland” is classified “confidential” and nearly completely redacted. The particular subject details are unclear.
- Abedin emailed Clinton about “Invites for the week” in an undated email (but apparently written before November 1, 2011, the day Clinton’s mother died, because her mother was one of

the invitees — probably written in early 2009, based on the period most of these emails seem to have been written), and noted that she (Clinton) had a “George Soros lunch from 1-3 in Southampton.”

- On October 20, 2010, lawyer Lanny Davis wrote Clinton an email saying, “Thank you H for who you are and what you do,” followed in the exchange by another with “PS. I swear you look younger and better every time I see you, Good night dear Hillary. Lanny.” Mr. Davis is currently a lawyer for former Trump attorney Michael Cohen.
- In an undated email, Blumenthal emailed Clinton about State Department management issues and suggested that Joseph C. Wilson “should be spoken with for his view of dept, personnel ... is shrewd.” Wilson is a former ambassador to Gabon who went on to become an Africa consultant and dealmaker.

These classified Hillary Clinton emails that she tried to hide or destroy show why it is urgent the Justice Department finally undertake an honest criminal investigation. These emails also show how the prior investigation by the Comey-Strzok-McCabe-Lynch crowd was a joke. It is past time for Attorney General Jeff Sessions to order a new investigation of the Hillary Clinton email scandal. **TF**

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90+	9.5%

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Strzok

From page 1

- “All records related to the reassignment of FBI Supervisor Peter Strzok from the special counsel’s investigation to another position within the FBI.
- “This request includes, but is not limited to, any and all forms SF-50 and/or SF-52, as well as any and all related records of communication between any official, employee, or representative of the FBI and any other individual or entity.”

A series of emails reveal Strzok’s insistence that he retain all the authorities he held as a deputy assistant director (DAD) in the counterintelligence division (CD), including his security clearance, after his reassignment to the special counsel’s office. In a July 13, 2017 email to numerous FBI officials, some of whose names are redacted, Strzok says:

“Broadly, I need to be able to act at least in the capacity of my old CD

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“We know Strzok can’t be trusted, and the special counsel should tell us if Strzok abused his special authorities to target President Trump.”

~ Judicial Watch President
 Tom Fitton

★ ★ ★

DAD job — approve NSLs [national security letters], conduct [redacted] declassify information, [redacted] agent travel, requisitions, etc. Of those, the most problematic and one of the most essential is declassification authority.”

In response, FBI assistant director of the counterintelligence division William Priestap assures Strzok he will remain free to act just as he did while a deputy assistant director of the counterintelligence division and,

further, that he will remain on the FBI’s books as a “floating DAD.”

“In answer to your initial question, while assigned to the Special Counsel’s office, you will retain your CD DAD authorities, to include declassification authority.

“Since you will take your non-transferrable declassification authority with you, CD will work to obtain another declassification authority slot for the DAD who is chosen to replace you.

“Assuming the 7th floor approves, you will remain on CD’s books as a fourth (floating) DAD. When you move on from your DAD position, your DAD slot will revert back to HRD.”

“These new emails show anti-Trump FBI official Peter Strzok’s ‘assignment’ gave the Mueller special counsel operation special authorities to target President Trump,” said Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton. “We know Strzok can’t be trusted, and the special counsel should tell us if Strzok abused his special authorities to target President Trump.”

Strzok was reportedly removed from the Mueller investigative team in August 2017 and reassigned to a human resources position after it was discovered that he and another FBI lawyer, Lisa Page, exchanged text messages during the Clinton investigation and campaign season that raise serious concerns about his anti-Trump/pro-Clinton bias. They were also engaged in an extramarital affair. Strzok ran the Clinton and Russia investigations. **JW**

Peter Strzok email insisting he retain declassification authority when on assignment to Mueller team

From: STRZOK, PETER P. (CD) (FBI)
 Sent: Thursday, July 13, 2017 2:54 PM
 To: GHATTAS, CARL (CTD) (FBI); SCHLENDORF, DAVID W. (HRD) (FBI); PRIESTAP, E. W. (CD) (FBI)
 Cc: [REDACTED]
 Subject: Strzok Special Counsel position --- UNCLASSIFIED//~~FOUO~~

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED//~~FOUO~~

Broadly, I need to be able to act at least in the capacity of my old CD DAD job — approve NSLs, conduct etc. Of those, the most problematic and one of the most essential is declassification authority. As I understand it, declassification authorities are billet-limited by Division and position, and they are provided by DOJ, not by the FBI. CD has three. I understand the need to fill my position within CD, but I’d respectfully request based on mission need that I keep the authorities from my old job.

etc. Of those, the most problematic and one of the most essential is declassification authority. As I understand it, declassification authorities are billet-limited by Division and position, and they are provided by DOJ, not by the FBI. CD has three. I understand the need to fill my position within CD, but I’d respectfully request based on mission need that I keep the authorities from my old job.

Court Report

JUDICIAL WATCH VICTORY!

Judicial Watch Obtains Carter Page FISA Court Documents

Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton made the following statement regarding the July 21 release of 412 pages of documents about FISA (Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act) warrants targeting Carter Page, who had been a Trump campaign adviser:

“These documents are heavily redacted but seem to confirm the FBI and DOJ misled the courts in withholding the material information that Hillary Clinton’s campaign and the DNC were behind the ‘intelligence’ used to

persuade the courts to approve the FISA warrants that targeted the Trump team. Given this corruption, President Trump should intervene and declassify the heavily redacted material.”

The warrants are controversial because the FISA court was never told that the key information justifying the requests came from a “dossier” that was created by Fusion GPS, a paid agent of the Clinton campaign and Democratic

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“The FBI does not believe that Source #1 [Christopher Steele] directly provided this information to the press.”

~FBI FISA warrant application dated October [day redacted but believed to be “21”], 2016, only 10 days before FBI fired Steele as “not suitable for use” as confidential human source for leaking to the press.

★ ★ ★

One section of Carter Page FISA warrant deceptively implying FBI was unaware Steele [Source #1] was hired by Hillary Clinton campaign and Democratic National Committee

have a long-standing business relationship). The identified U.S. person hired Source #1 to conduct this research. The identified U.S. person never advised Source #1 as to the motivation behind the research into Candidate #1’s ties to Russia. The FBI speculates that the identified U.S. person was likely looking for information that could be used to discredit Candidate #1’s campaign.

National Committee. The initial Carter Page warrant was granted just weeks before the 2016 election. This document release supports criticisms by Republicans on the House Intelligence Committee, who released a memo that criticized the FISA targeting. The memo details how the “minimally corroborated” Clinton-DNC dossier was an essential part of the FBI’s and Justice Department’s applications for surveillance warrants to spy on Page.

The document production comes in a February 2018 Judicial Watch Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) lawsuit filed after the Justice Department rejected a July 19, 2017 FOIA request (*Judicial Watch v. U.S. Department of Justice* (No. 1:18-cv-00245)). The lawsuit is seeking:

- “Copies of all proposed and all

See FISA on page 8

shown.

Classify By: J23J98T32

Reason: (C)

Derived From: FBI NSICG, dated 10-1-2016

Declassify On: [REDACTED]

TOP SECRET//NOFORN

UNITED STATES

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE SURVEILLANCE COURT

WASHINGTON, D.C.

U.S. FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE SURVEILLANCE COURT

2016 OCT [REDACTED]
LEAHY FLYNN HALL
CLERK OF COURT

b1-1

b3-1

b7A-1

(S) IN RE CARTER W. PAGE, A U.S.

Docket Number:

PERSON.

b1-1

b3-1

b7A-1

(U) VERIFIED APPLICATION

(S) The United States of America hereby applies to this Court for authority to

conduct [REDACTED] as described herein, pursuant

Court Report

FISA

From page 7

final signed FISA applications submitted to the FISC relating to Russian interference in the 2016 election, allegations of collusion between people associated with the Trump campaign and Russia, and any known Trump associates regardless of context;

- “Copies of all FISC responses to the above-mentioned applications in which the Court notified the FBI or Justice Department that it would not grant the proposed applications or recommended changes. If any such FISC responses were provided orally, rather than in writing, please provide copies of FBI or Justice Department records memorializing or otherwise referencing the relevant FISC responses;
- “Copies of all FISC orders



Former Trump campaign adviser Carter Page

relating to the above mentioned applications, whether denying the applications and certifications, denying the orders, modifying the orders, granting the orders, or other types of orders.”

In April, the Department of Justice told the court it was “processing for potential redaction and release certain FISA materials related to Carter Page” and agreed to a production schedule for responsive records to be completed July 20, 2018. JW

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ANOTHER JW VICTORY!

Court Orders Justice Department To Preserve Comey Personal Email

A federal court in August ordered the Department of Justice to preserve federal records located in the personal email accounts of fired FBI Director James Comey. This action came in a Judicial Watch and The Daily Caller News Foundation (DCNF) motion requesting the court to issue an order for preservation, which was opposed by the Justice Department and FBI.

In the motion, Judicial Watch argued that “there is reason to be concerned that the responsive records could be lost or destroyed.” Judicial Watch pointed out that in June 2018, the Justice Department’s inspector general stated, “We identified numerous instances in which Comey used a personal email ac-

count (a Gmail account) to conduct FBI business.” The Justice Department, in response to Judicial Watch’s concerns, sent Mr. Comey a letter asking him to preserve records but refused to make the letter available and opposed a preservation order.

In granting the motion for a preservation order, the court ruled:

“In order to avoid any possible issues later in this litigation, the Court will GRANT [Judicial Watch’s] Motion. [The DOJ] is ORDERED to take all necessary and reasonable steps to ensure that any records that are potentially responsive to either of the Plaintiffs’ FOIA requests located on former Director Comey’s

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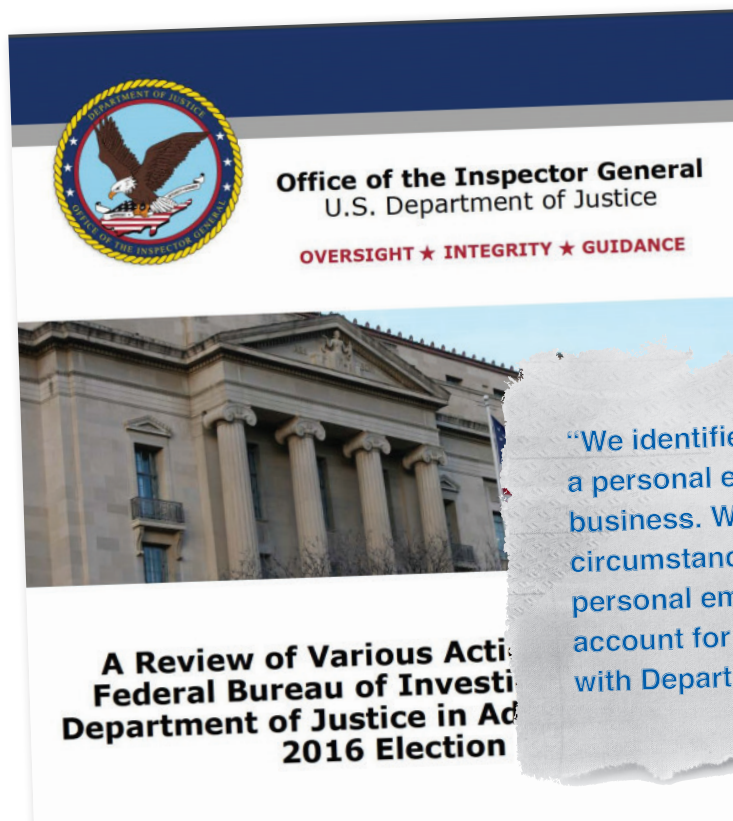
“The FBI has been playing shell games with Comey’s records and other records, so we’re pleased the court issued this preservation order.”

*~Judicial Watch President
Tom Fitton*

★ ★ ★

personal e-mail account are preserved. Although it contends that such an order is unnecessary, [the DOJ] has not explained why this preservation order would prejudice Defendant or cause any undue burden.”

Justice Department inspector General report on various activities of the FBI and Justice Department



“We identified numerous instances in which Comey used a personal email account to conduct unclassified FBI business. We found that, given the absence of exigent circumstances and the frequency with which the use of personal email occurred, Comey’s use of a personal email account for unclassified FBI business to be inconsistent with Department policy.”

The court also explained that its order did not necessarily mean the court believed that Mr. Comey either had government records or that they would be lost or destroyed.

The ruling comes in an April 2018 Freedom of Information Act

See COMEY on page 10

Comey

From page 9

(FOIA) lawsuit filed after the Justice Department failed to respond to Judicial Watch's May 2018 request and DCNF's February 2018 request (*Judicial Watch and The Daily Caller News Foundation v. U.S. Department of Justice* (No. 1:18-cv-00967)). The lawsuit seeks:

- "All records written or ordered written by Comey summarizing his conversations with any of the following individuals: Barack Obama, Joe Biden, Hillary Clinton, Senator Chuck Schumer,



Former FBI Director James Comey

AP IMAGES

★ ★ ★
"There is reason to be concerned that the responsive [Comey] records could be lost or destroyed."

~JW Preservation Order motion

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Representative Nancy Pelosi, and Senator John McCain.

- "All records that identify and describe all meetings between former FBI Director James Comey and President Barack Obama."

"The FBI has been playing shell games with Comey's records and

other records, so we're pleased the court issued this preservation order," said Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton. "This preservation order helps to ensure no Comey records are going to be lost or destroyed. We expect the Justice Department to take immediate steps to make sure the records are preserved, as the court ordered." **JW**

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Chronicles

Arab Living In Mexico Smuggles Six Yemenis Into U.S. Via Southern Border

Years after a Judicial Watch investigation uncovered that Islamic terrorists are entering the United States through the Mexican border, federal authorities have arrested a Jordanian man for smuggling six citizens of Yemen — an al-Qaeda hotbed — into the U.S. through Mexico. The smuggler, 31-year-old Moayad Heider Mohammad Aldairi, conspired with others to sneak the six Yemeni nationals across the Texas border for a fee, according to a statement issued on July 30 by the U.S. Department of Justice.

Aldairi is a legal resident of

Mexico, the feds reveal in their arrest warrant affidavit. From July 2017 to December 2017, he conspired with unnamed “others” to smuggle the Special Interest Aliens (SIAs) into the United States through Eagle Pass, Texas. Sometime between October 31, 2017 and December 12, 2017, the six citizens of Yemen crossed illegally into the United States from Mexico, the federal document says, adding that the SIAs were detained and interviewed by investigators from the Department of Homeland Security. “Each of them paid Aldairi varying amounts of money to be

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Judicial Watch also uncovered State Department records confirming that “Arab extremists” are entering the U.S. through Mexico with the assistance of smuggling network “cells.”

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smuggled into the United States from Mexico,” the warrant affidavit states, adding that all six Yemenis positively identified Aldairi from a photo lineup as the person who brought them into the country. Yemen is a major base for Islamic militants and is deemed a high-security threat by the State Department. The 2009 Christmas Day airline bombers proudly trained there.

This is hardly an isolated case. Foreigners from nations with terrorist ties have been slipping into the United States via Mexico for years, and Judicial Watch has exposed several plots as part of an ongoing investigation into the critical national security threats that grip the region. In one operation exposed by Judicial Watch, Mexican drug cartels smuggled nationals of terrorist countries into a small Texas rural town near El Paso. To elude the Border Patrol, they used remote farm roads to reach stash areas in Acala, a rural crossroads located about 54 miles from El Paso.

Federal arrest warrant on Moayad Heider Mohammad Aldairi

AD 91 (Rev. 08/09) Criminal Complaint

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
for the
Western District of Texas

United States of America
v.
Moayad Heider Mohammad ALDAIRI

Case No. **DR18-641M**

CRIMINAL COMPLAINT

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 Jul 1, 2017 through Dec 12, 2017 in the county of Maverick in the Western District of Texas, the defendant(s) violated:

Code Section
8 U.S.C. §§ 1324 (a)(1)(A)(v)(I), 1324(a)(1)(A)(ii), & (B)(1) Conspiracy to Bring an Alien to the United States for Financial Gain

Offense Description
Any person who engages in any conspiracy to, knowing that a person is an alien, bring or attempt to bring, for the purpose of commercial advantage or private financial gain, to the United States in any manner whatsoever such person at a place other than a designated port of entry or place other than as designated by the Commissioner, regardless of whether such alien has received prior official authorization to come to, enter, or reside in the United States and regardless of any future official action which may be taken with respect to such alien.

This criminal complaint is based on these facts:
See attached affidavit for details.

A true copy of the original, I certify.
Clerk, U.S. District Court
By: Deputy Clerk

Continued on the attached sheet.

See ARAB page 13

Busy Month For Illegal Immigrants Committing Heinous Crimes

As the separation of families pouring in from Mexico dominates the airwaves, several disturbing cases involving illegal aliens shift the focus back to the devastating impact of America's poorly guarded Southern Border. In the last few months alone, an illegal immigrant who had been deported 11 times attacked his wife with a chainsaw in front of their children, another got charged with a series of violent rapes, and dozens were arrested for operating a major human-and-drug-smuggling enterprise in a major U.S. city.

The gruesome chainsaw attack occurred in Los Angeles County, which has long offered illegal immigrants sanctuary. A man named Alejandro Alvarez-Villegas, deported to his native Mexico 11 times since 2005, tried to kill his wife with a chainsaw. In local media reports, Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) refers to him as a "serial immigration violator" but the agency fails to explain how that possibly could occur. Alvarez-Villegas has been charged with seven felonies and now is being held without bail.

Amazingly, one California newspaper worries that the assailant's immigration status will fuel calls for

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Judicial Watch has sued the San Francisco Sheriff's Department to prevent the use of taxpayer funds on policies that prohibit department personnel from cooperating with federal immigration law enforcement officials.

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Serial immigration violator Alejandro Alvarez-Villegas

a big wall on the border with Mexico and spark "illegal immigration foes to point to the U.S. immigration system as a failure in need of revamping." The piece also quotes open-borders advocates saying that domestic violence happens among American citizens, too, and that it's not an "undocumented" problem.

Several hundred miles north, in San Francisco, an illegal immigrant from Peru recently was charged with rape by force or violence and other crimes. Orlando Vilchez Lazo, 37, was a driver for the ride-sharing company Lyft who somehow passed a background check. Lazo faces life in prison and is being held in jail in San Francisco on \$4.2 million bail.

San Francisco has long provided illegal aliens with sanctuary and forbids its law enforcement agencies from cooperating with federal immigration officials. Judicial Watch has sued the San Francisco Sheriff's Department (SFSD) under California law to prevent the use of taxpayer funds on policies that prohibit department personnel from cooperating with federal immigration law enforcement officials. Back in 2008, Judicial Watch investigated the

SFSD's handling of an illegal alien (Edwin Ramos) charged with the triple murder of three innocent American citizens. Ramos, who had been arrested on three prior occasions and convicted of two felonies, was never turned over to federal immigration authorities for removal to his native El Salvador under San Francisco's sanctuary policies.

In the other recent case involving serious illegal immigrant criminal activity, 18 human smugglers and 117 illegal aliens were arrested in three stash houses in the area surrounding El Paso, Texas and southern New Mexico. Ninety-three of the illegal aliens are from Mexico and the rest from Guatemala (12), Honduras (6), Brazil (3), El Salvador (2) and Peru (1). At least three of the illegal immigrants have serious criminal records, according to information released by ICE. A 32-year-old Mexican man busted in the ring has convictions for child endangerment and driving while intoxicated as well as being arrested for illegally re-entering the United States after being deported. A 30-year-old Mexican has ties to a drug cartel and previously

See **CRIMES** page 13

Crimes

From page 12

was arrested for fraud and misuse of visas. A 34-year-old Guatemalan has an outstanding warrant in Florida for driving under the influence and also has been charged with illegally re-entering the United States after deportation, according to the feds.

Besides arresting the criminal elements, the feds also seized more than 1,000 pounds of marijuana in the El Paso bust, large amounts of U.S. and Mexican cash, nine vehicles and three tractor-trailers. Two American citizens were nabbed in the operation, including a 42-year-old man with prior convictions for aggravat-

ed stalking, kidnaping, possessing a deadly weapon and possessing marijuana with intent to distribute. The other U.S. citizen, a 25-year-old man, has prior convictions for escape from custody, possessing marijuana, assault and driving while intoxicated. While all this is going on, the overwhelming majority of immigration-related media coverage continues to focus on children being separated from their parents. A Gallup poll released in July reveals that most Americans consider immigration the most important problem facing the nation. **JW**



Arab

From page 11

Judicial Watch also uncovered State Department records confirming that "Arab extremists" are entering the U.S. through Mexico with the assistance of smuggling-network "cells." Among them was a top al-Qaida operative wanted by the FBI, identified via a cable from the American consulate in Ciudad Juárez as Adnan G. el Shukrijumah. Shukrijumah helped plan several U.S. attacks, including plots to bomb Oprah Winfrey's studio and detonate nuclear devices in multiple American cities. (Watch a Judicial Watch documentary on it here: <http://jwatch.us/SunCityCell>.) For years, Shukrijumah appeared on the FBI's most wanted list and, despite being sought by the agency, crossed back and forth into the United States from Mexico to meet fellow militant Islamists in Texas. In fact, as one of the world's most wanted terrorists, Shukrijumah piloted an aircraft into the Cielo Dorado airfield in Anthony, New Mexico.

Another renowned jihadist, an ISIS operative named Shaykh Mahmood Omar Khabir, has traveled back and forth through the porous southern border, a high-ranking Homeland Security official told Judicial Watch.

★ ★ ★

**More than 30,000 migrants
who entered the U.S.
through the southwestern
border were from countries
of "terrorist concern."**

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Khabir, a national of Kuwait, lives in the Mexican state of Chihuahua not far from El Paso and has trained hundreds of al-Qaida fighters in Pakistan, Afghanistan and Yemen. Mexican drug traffickers help him and other Islamic terrorists stationed in Mexico cross into the United States to explore targets for future attacks, according to state and federal law enforcement officials interviewed by Judicial Watch.

This has been going on for many years. In fact, at least two government assessments have backed Judicial Watch's reports. One of them, an internal Texas Department of Public Safety report, documents that several members of known Islamist terrorist organizations have been apprehended crossing the Southern Border in recent years. A U.S. military intelligence report subsequently disclosed that more than 30,000 migrants who

entered the U.S. through the southwestern border were from countries of "terrorist concern."

Just a few months ago, Judicial Watch obtained government figures showing that an alarming number of migrants from Bangladesh, another hotbed of terrorist activity, are entering the United States through the Mexican border in Texas. Situated in south Asia, Bangladesh is a recruiting ground for terrorist groups such as the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS) and al-Qaeda Indian Subcontinent (AQIS). For two consecutive years, U.S. Customs and Border Protection statistics show that the Laredo Border Patrol sector is a highly popular crossing point for Bangladeshi nationals. During the first half of fiscal year 2018, 209 Bangladeshi nationals had been arrested. The State Department has warned of a "significant increase in terrorist activity" in Bangladesh, most notably carried out by ISIS and AQIS. This year, the Treasury Office of Foreign Asset Control added ISIS-Bangladesh to its sanctions list by inserting the group into the government's growing Counter Terrorism Designations list. **JW**

Uncovered

Judicial Watch Sues State, DOD, DHS To Obtain Anti-Israel Lobbying Records

Judicial Watch in July filed a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) lawsuit against the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and the U.S. Departments of State and Defense for all records of communications regarding anti-Israel group boycott, divestment and sanctions' (BDS) efforts to lobby the Obama administration to adopt policies to harm companies doing business with Israel (*Judicial Watch v. U.S. Department of Defense* (No. 1:18-cv-01721)).

The suit was filed after all three agencies failed to respond to nearly identical April 23, 2018 FOIA requests seeking:

"All emails to or from current or former officials in the DOD, DHS, or State Department Office of the Secretary containing the phrase 'boycott divestment and sanctions.'"

"All emails to or from current or former officials in the DOD, DHS, or State Department Office of the Secretary containing both the terms 'BDS' and 'Israel.'"

The time frame of these requests is January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015.

In February 2016, President Obama signed into law the Trade Facilitation and Trade Enforcement Act of 2015, which compels U.S. trade partners to cut ties to the BDS movement and protects Israeli territories against illegal discrimination. But, Obama announced:

"Certain provisions of this Act, by conflating Israel and 'Israeli-controlled territories,' are contrary to longstanding bipartisan United States policy, including with regard



to the treatment of settlements. Moreover, consistent with longstanding constitutional practice, my Administration will interpret and implement the provisions in the Act that purport to direct the Executive to seek to negotiate and enter into particular international agreements (section 414(a)(1)) or to take certain positions in international negotiations with respect to international agreements with foreign countries not qualifying for trade authorities procedures (sections 108(b), 414(a)(2), 415, and 909(c)) in a manner that does not interfere with my constitutional authority to conduct diplomacy."

Shortly after Obama signed the act, the Customs and Border Protection Bureau restated the West Bank Country of Origin Marking Requirement rules requiring labeling of goods as being from the "West Bank," despite the fact that it is not a sovereign

See **RECORDS** page 15



Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu



President Donald Trump

Records

From page 14

country. The *Jerusalem Post* later reported the restated rules were a result of several complaints filed by activists seeking the U.S. follow policy guidelines distinguishing goods produced from Israel and the West Bank.

Proponents of the West Bank country-of-origin marking requirements claim it stems from “longstanding bipartisan U.S. policy” toward the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. First put in place in 1995 under the Clinton administration, the rule is to preserve the distinction between goods produced in the State of Israel and the

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“Certain provisions of this Act, by conflating Israel and ‘Israeli-controlled territories,’ are contrary to longstanding bipartisan United States policy, including with regard to the treatment of settlements.”

~Barack Obama, *Presidential Signing Statement, Trade Facilitation and Trade Enforcement Act of 2015*

★ ★ ★



Barack Obama

goods produced in the territories it controls over the Green Line.

The BDS movement is endorsed by the PLO and other anti-Israel groups encouraging an economic and cultural boycott of Israel. It has gained the support of radical left-wing groups here in the United States.

“Americans deserve to know if the Obama-era agenda of supporting anti-Israel radicals in subverting U.S. law is ongoing,” said Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton. “These entrenched bureaucrats of the Deep State clearly require lawsuits to compel observance of FOIA law.” JW

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Steve Andersen
Director of Development
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sandersen@judicialwatch.org



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Judicial Watch Battle For Transparency In Obama IRS Scandal

The U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Ohio (Western Division) issued an order granting a Judicial Watch motion to file an *amicus curiae* brief that asks the court to unseal the depositions of former IRS officials Lois Lerner and Holly Paz. The court also granted a hearing to be held Thursday, August 9.

Both Lerner and Paz played key roles in the targeting of conservative nonprofit groups opposed to Obama policies in the runup to the 2012 presidential election. Their depositions were sealed by a federal judge after Lerner's and Paz's lawyers claimed the two were receiving

threats. Judicial Watch argues that the testimony transcripts sought may shed light on government misconduct, and the shielding of internal government deliberations does not serve the public's interest.

Lerner and Paz asked the court to deny Judicial Watch's December 14, 2017 motion for leave to submit an *amicus curiae* brief. In January 2018, Judicial Watch filed a reply brief asking the court to accept its *amicus curiae* brief (*NorCal Tea Party Patriots, et al. v. The Internal Revenue Service, et al.* (No. 1:13-cv-00341)).

In its August 2018 brief, Judicial Watch points out that it has been at

★ ★ ★

“While the federal government has now admitted that the targeting ‘was wrong’ and ‘for such treatment, the IRS expresses its sincere apology,’ the IRS continues to withhold email communications to or from Ms. Lerner and/or Ms. Paz...”

~Judicial Watch Court Brief

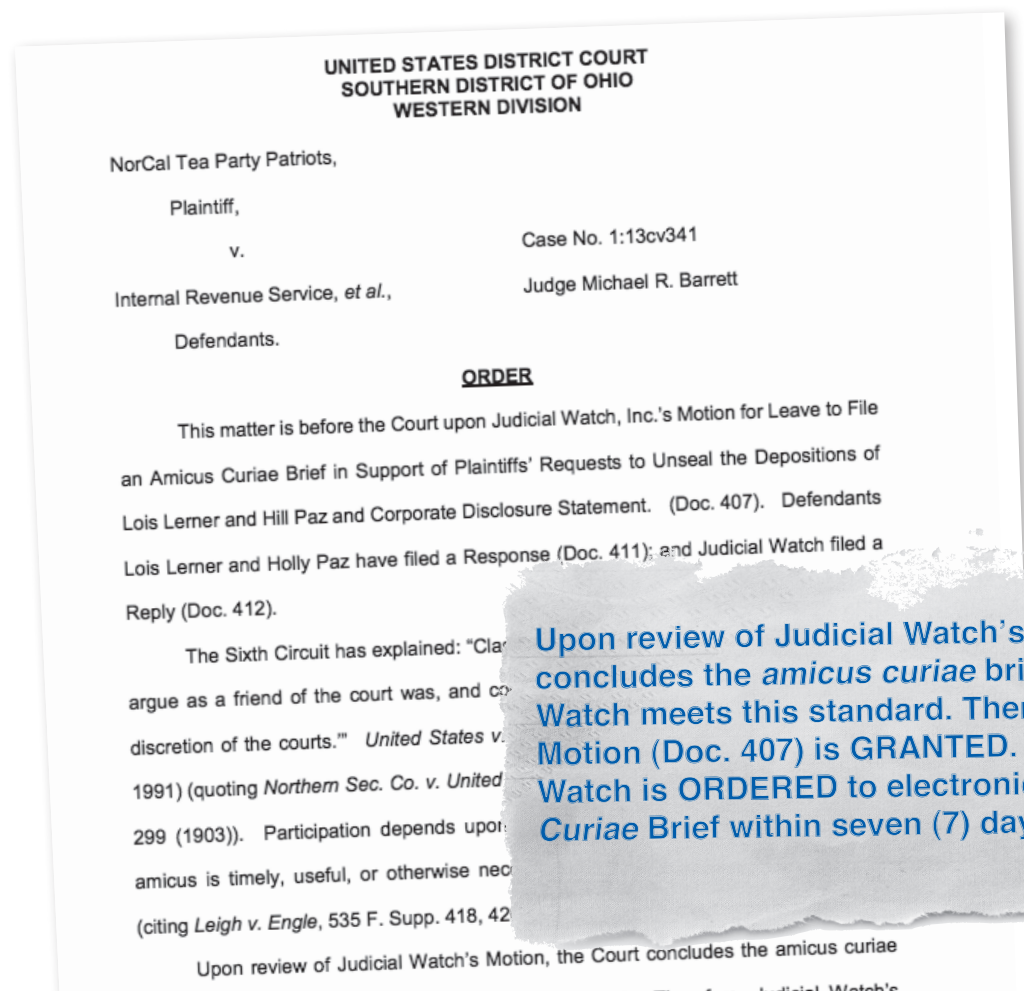
★ ★ ★

the forefront of the investigation into the IRS' conduct:

“Within days after the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration (“TIGTA”) released its report on May 14, 2013 confirming that IRS employees targeted organizations applying for 501(c)(4) tax exempt status with conservative-sounding names such as “patriot” and “Tea Party” in their titles, Judicial Watch led the charge and initiated an investigation into the IRS' conduct toward such organizations. As part of its investigation, Judicial Watch submit-

See OBAMA page 17

Court Order granting Judicial Watch motion to submit an *amicus curiae* brief



Obama

From page 16

ted dozens of FOIA requests and since has filed at least nine FOIA lawsuits seeking relevant records from implicated federal agencies.

“In addition to the revelation of IRS employees’ conduct in the emails uncovered, the records obtained by Judicial Watch also sparked investigations into Lois Lerner’s emails and the IRS’ failure to preserve thousands of emails that were potentially relevant to the various investigations headed by Judicial Watch and the U.S. Congress about the IRS’ treatment of conservative groups. While the federal government has now admitted that the targeting ‘was wrong’ and ‘for such treatment, the IRS expresses its sincere apology,’ the IRS continues to withhold email communications to or from Ms. Lerner and/or Ms. Paz...”

“Judicial Watch played a central role in uncovering the IRS scandals, in which Lerner and Paz were primary actors,” said Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton. “Judicial Watch uncovered 41,100 pages of records. Our work led to the discovery of IRS



Former IRS official Lois Lerner

collusion with the Mueller-run FBI to plan prosecutions of the very groups the Obama IRS was persecuting. Judicial Watch also uncovered the revelation that thousands of Ms. Lerner’s emails were destroyed by the IRS while Judicial Watch’s lawsuits and other investigations were pending.”

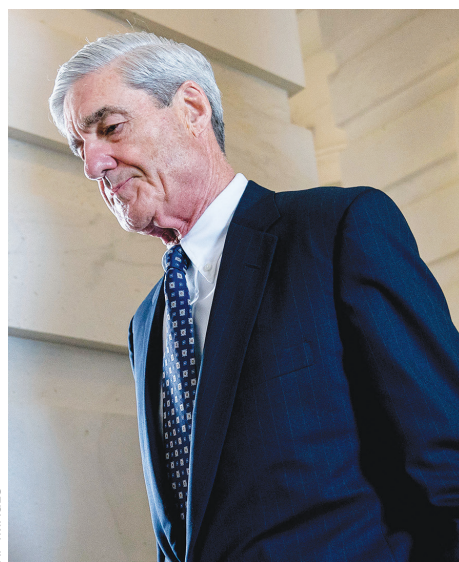
According to the court order, “to the extent Defendants Lois Lerner and Holly Paz intend to respond to Judicial Watch’s *amicus curiae* brief beyond what has already been provided to the Court, Defendants Lois Lerner and Holly Paz will be permitted to make that presentation at the hearing on this matter...” The

hearing took place on August 9, 2018 in Cincinnati, Ohio. JW attorney Ramona Cotca attended and presented arguments for Judicial Watch. The court is expected to rule soon. **JW**

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Both Lerner and Paz played key roles in the targeting of conservative nonprofit groups opposed to Obama policies in the runup to the 2012 election.

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Former FBI Director Robert Mueller

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In the Media

Peter Strzok demanded the right to declassify intelligence while he was on the Mueller probe probing Republicans fears over Trump-hating agent's plans

**The Daily Mail
August 2, 2018**

Judicial Watch uncovered the demand in a public records request

FBI lawyer Peter Strzok demanded and then secured special authorities to declassify material and authorize information requests when he joined Special Counsel Robert Mueller's Russia probe, government documents reveal.

New emails obtained by **Judicial Watch** show Strzok negotiating with counterintelligence chief Bill Priesap before formally joining the probe.

Strzok demanded declassification, other FBI powers before joining Mueller team, emails show

**Fox News
August 2, 2018**

Anti-Trump FBI agent Peter Strzok insisted on preserving his security clearance and powers he held as a deputy assistant director at the

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"Tom Fitton, the head of conservative group Judicial Watch, has made a career of suing the federal government over suspected bureaucratic corruption, irritating every president since Bill Clinton."

~Politico

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Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton appearing on Sean Hannity Special

agency before joining Special Counsel Robert Mueller's team, newly released emails show.

The emails, acquired by the conservative watchdog **Judicial Watch**, reveal that Strzok's supervisor agreed to make him a "floating" deputy who would be able to approve national security letters and declassify documents — all while working on the Mueller team investigating the Trump campaign's alleged collusion with the Russian government.

Justice Department is Silent about Why it has failed to Preserve Comey Emails in FOIA Case

**The Daily Caller
August 2, 2018**

The Department of Justice has refused to take any steps to preserve work-related emails former FBI Director James Comey had on a personal account that The Daily Caller News Foundation [DCNF] and **Judicial Watch** requested under the Freedom of Information Act, the conservative watchdog will file in

court Friday.

"There is nothing but complete silence about why the FBI has failed to take steps to preserve records responsive to DCNF's request," **Judicial Watch** attorney Michael Bekesha will write in the filing before the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia.

Judicial Watch and DCNF filed a joint lawsuit under the Freedom of Information Act on April 25 seeking records, including emails, Comey produced regarding meetings and conversations he had with then-President Barack Obama, then-Vice President Joe Biden and a variety of other political figures.

Christopher Steele broke FBI media rules after being 'admonished,' documents show
**The Washington Times
August 4, 2018**

The FBI formally admonished ex-British spy Christopher Steele in early 2016 before he began investigating candidate Donald Trump, according to new documents.

See MEDIA page 19

Media

From page 18

Mr. Steele signed the admonishment and then on at least two occasions violated the rule for confidential human sources, or CHS, by talking to the news media.

News of the verbal admonishment is contained in 70 pages of mostly redacted FBI documents on what Mr. Steele reported as a CHS, how much he was paid and how he met his demise as a key bureau undercover source.

The documents were obtained by the conservative watchdog group [Judicial Watch](#), which went to court to obtain them.

Judge orders DOJ to preserve emails from Comey's personal account

The Hill

August 7, 2018

A judge has ordered the

Department of Justice (DOJ) to preserve any emails located on former FBI Director James Comey's personal email account after a government watchdog revealed he used the account to conduct government business.

The order issued Monday in federal court in Washington, D.C., comes in response to a request from the right-leaning group [Judicial Watch](#) asking for the records to be preserved for use in possible Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests.

'I know that he listens to Tom': Meet Trump's anti-Mueller ally

Politico

August 7, 2018

The conservative group [Judicial Watch](#), led by Tom Fitton, has taken a leading role suing for documents



related to the Russia probes.

Tom Fitton, the head of conservative group [Judicial Watch](#), has made a career of suing the federal government over suspected bureaucratic corruption, irritating every president

See MEDIA page 20

JW Earns Nationwide Media Coverage

July 19, 2018 - August 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

7/13	Sirius XM	National — Live
7/23	WMAL	National — Live
7/25	Daily Ledger	National — Live
7/26	Curt Schilling WRKO	National — Live
7/27	WVLK	Lexington, KY — Live
7/31	Hannity Radio	National — Live
8/8	WWRC	Washington, DC — Live
8/8	WRKO	Boston, MA — Live
8/10	WHKW	Cleveland, OH — Live
8/10	KFTK	St. Louis, MO — Live
8/10	WMAL	National — Live
8/14	WMAL	National — Live

TV

7/10	Fox Business Network	National — Live
7/13	Fox News Channel	National — Live
7/19	Fox Business Network	National — Live
7/20	Fox News Channel	National — Live
7/21	Fox News Channel	National — Live
7/21	Fox News Channel	National — Live
7/21	Fox Business Network	National — Live

7/23	Fox News Channel	National — Live
7/23	Fox News Channel	National — Live
7/23	OAN	National — Live
7/23	Fox Business Network	National — Live
7/23	Fox Business Network	National — Live
7/24	Fox News Channel	National — Live
7/27	Fox Business Network	National — Live
7/30	Fox News Channel	National — Live
7/31	Fox Business Network	National — Live
8/1	Fox News Channel	National — Live
8/1	CBN	National — Live
8/2	Fox News Channel	National — Live
8/3	Fox News Channel	National — Live
8/5	Fox News Channel	National — Live
8/6	Fox Business Network	National — Live
8/9	Fox Business Network	National — Live
8/10	OAN	National — Live
8/10	Fox News Channel	National — Live
8/12	Fox News Channel	National — Live
8/13	OAN	National — Live
8/13	CBN	National — Live
8/13	Fox News Channel	National — Live
8/13	Fox Business Network	National — Live
8/17	Fox News Channel	National — Live
8/18	Fox News Channel	National — Live
8/19	Fox News Channel	National — Live

PLUS 723 more media appearances ...

Media

From page 19

since Bill Clinton.

But in Donald Trump, Fitton has found an enthusiastic booster — a president who, rather than bristling at **Judicial Watch**'s frequent accusations of malfeasance throughout the government he oversees, welcomes the group's efforts to hold the "deep state" accountable.

Watchdog sues DOJ for communications among Bruce Ohr, Christopher Steele, and Fusion GPS


Washington Examiner
August 09, 2018

A conservative watchdog group announced Thursday that it filed a lawsuit against the Justice Department seeking records of communications from various offices within the agency related to former Associate Deputy Attorney General Bruce Ohr, his wife Nellie Ohr, Trump dossier author Christopher Steele, and



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

Fusion GPS.

In a statement, **Judicial Watch** said it sued because the Justice Department failed to respond to a Freedom of Information Act request filed in May. 

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"The Department of Justice has refused to take any steps to preserve work-related emails former FBI Director James Comey had on a personal account."

~The Daily Caller

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