



Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D.C. 20535

October 31, 2023

MEREDITH DI LIBERTO
JUDICIAL WATCH, INC.
SUITE 800
425 THIRD STREET, SW
WASHINGTON, DC 20024

Civil Action No.: 23-cv-1166
FOIPA Request No.: 1585903-000
Subject: Radical Traditionalist Catholic Ideology
(All Records of Communications of FBI's Director,
Deputy Director, Asst. Director Beach, Chief of Staff,
General Counsel, Executive Asst. Director Knapp,
and Executive Asst. Director in Regards to Memo
from March 1, 2022 to March 10, 2023)

Dear Meredith Di Liberto:

The FBI has completed its review of records subject to the Freedom of Information/Privacy Acts (FOIPA) that are responsive to your request. The enclosed documents were reviewed under the FOIPA, Title 5, United States Code, Section 552/552a. Below you will find check boxes under the appropriate statute headings which indicate the types of exemptions asserted to protect information which is exempt from disclosure. The appropriate exemptions are noted on the enclosed pages next to redacted information. In addition, a deleted page information sheet was inserted to indicate where pages were withheld entirely and identify which exemptions were applied. The checked exemption boxes used to withhold information are further explained in the enclosed Explanation of Exemptions.

Section 552		Section 552a	
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<input type="checkbox"/> (b)(2)	<input type="checkbox"/> (b)(7)(B)	<input type="checkbox"/> (j)(2)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (b)(3)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (b)(7)(C)	<input type="checkbox"/> (k)(1)	
<u>50 U.S.C. § 3024(i)(1)</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (b)(7)(D)	<input type="checkbox"/> (k)(2)	
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553 pages were reviewed and 131 pages are being released.

Please see the paragraphs below for relevant information specific to your request and the enclosed FBI FOIPA Addendum for standard responses applicable to all requests.

In response to your FOIA request, enclosed is a processed copy of Bates-stamped pages, (23-cv-1166)-1 through (23-cv-1166)-553. The enclosed records represent the first interim release of information responsive to your request. Duplicate copies of the same page were not processed.

Documents were located which originated with, or contained information concerning, other Government Agencies [OGA]. We are consulting with the other agencies and are awaiting their response. The FBI will correspond with you regarding those documents when the consultation is completed.

Please refer to the enclosed FBI FOIPA Addendum for additional standard responses applicable to your request. **“Part 1”** of the Addendum includes standard responses that apply to all requests. **“Part 2”** includes additional standard responses that apply to all requests for records about yourself or any third party individuals. **“Part 3”** includes general information about FBI records that you may find useful. Also enclosed is our Explanation of Exemptions.

Although your request is in litigation, we are required by law to provide you the following information:

If you are not satisfied with the Federal Bureau of Investigation’s determination in response to this request, you may administratively appeal by writing to the Director, Office of Information Policy (OIP), United States Department of Justice, 441 G Street, NW, 6th Floor, Washington, D.C. 20530, or you may submit an appeal through OIP’s FOIA STAR portal by creating an account following the instructions on OIP’s website: <https://www.justice.gov/oip/submit-and-track-request-or-appeal>. Your appeal must be postmarked or electronically transmitted within ninety (90) days of the date of my response to your request. If you submit your appeal by mail, both the letter and the envelope should be clearly marked "Freedom of Information Act Appeal." Please cite the FOIPA Request Number assigned to your request so it may be easily identified.

You may seek dispute resolution services by emailing the FBI’s FOIA Public Liaison at foipaquestions@fbi.gov. The subject heading should clearly state "Dispute Resolution Services." Please also cite the FOIPA Request Number assigned to your request so it may be easily identified. You may also contact the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS). The contact information for OGIS is as follows: Office of Government Information Services, National Archives and Records Administration, 8601 Adelphi Road-OGIS, College Park, Maryland 20740-6001, e-mail at ogis@nara.gov; telephone at 202-741-5770; toll free at 1-877-684-6448; or facsimile at 202-741-5769.

Please direct any further inquiries about this case to the Attorney representing the Government in this matter. Please use the FOIPA Request Number and/or Civil Action Number in all correspondence or inquiries concerning your request.

Sincerely,



Michael G. Seidel
Section Chief
Record/Information Dissemination Section
Information Management Division

Enclosures

As referenced in our letter responding to your Freedom of Information/Privacy Acts (FOIPA) request, the FBI FOIPA Addendum provides information applicable to your request. Part 1 of the Addendum includes standard responses that apply to all requests. Part 2 includes standard responses that apply to requests for records about individuals to the extent your request seeks the listed information. Part 3 includes general information about FBI records, searches, and programs.

Part 1: The standard responses below apply to all requests:

- (i) **5 U.S.C. § 552(c).** Congress excluded three categories of law enforcement and national security records from the requirements of the FOIPA [5 U.S.C. § 552(c)]. FBI responses are limited to those records subject to the requirements of the FOIPA. Additional information about the FBI and the FOIPA can be found on the www.fbi.gov/foia website.
- (ii) **Intelligence Records.** To the extent your request seeks records of intelligence sources, methods, or activities, the FBI can neither confirm nor deny the existence of records pursuant to FOIA exemptions (b)(1), (b)(3), and as applicable to requests for records about individuals, PA exemption (j)(2) [5 U.S.C. §§ 552/552a (b)(1), (b)(3), and (j)(2)]. The mere acknowledgment of the existence or nonexistence of such records is itself a classified fact protected by FOIA exemption (b)(1) and/or would reveal intelligence sources, methods, or activities protected by exemption (b)(3) [50 USC § 3024(i)(1)]. This is a standard response and should not be read to indicate that any such records do or do not exist.

Part 2: The standard responses below apply to all requests for records on individuals:

- (i) **Requests for Records about any Individual—Watch Lists.** The FBI can neither confirm nor deny the existence of any individual's name on a watch list pursuant to FOIA exemption (b)(7)(E) and PA exemption (j)(2) [5 U.S.C. §§ 552/552a (b)(7)(E), (j)(2)]. This is a standard response and should not be read to indicate that watch list records do or do not exist.
- (ii) **Requests for Records about any Individual—Witness Security Program Records.** The FBI can neither confirm nor deny the existence of records which could identify any participant in the Witness Security Program pursuant to FOIA exemption (b)(3) and PA exemption (j)(2) [5 U.S.C. §§ 552/552a (b)(3), 18 U.S.C. 3521, and (j)(2)]. This is a standard response and should not be read to indicate that such records do or do not exist.
- (iii) **Requests for Confidential Informant Records.** The FBI can neither confirm nor deny the existence of confidential informant records pursuant to FOIA exemptions (b)(7)(D), (b)(7)(E), and (b)(7)(F) [5 U.S.C. § 552 (b)(7)(D), (b)(7)(E), and (b)(7)(F)] and Privacy Act exemption (j)(2) [5 U.S.C. § 552a (j)(2)]. The mere acknowledgment of the existence or nonexistence of such records would reveal confidential informant identities and information, expose law enforcement techniques, and endanger the life or physical safety of individuals. This is a standard response and should not be read to indicate that such records do or do not exist.

Part 3: General Information:

- (i) **Record Searches and Standard Search Policy.** The Record/Information Dissemination Section (RIDS) searches for reasonably described records by searching systems, such as the Central Records System (CRS), or locations where responsive records would reasonably be found. The CRS is an extensive system of records consisting of applicant, investigative, intelligence, personnel, administrative, and general files compiled by the FBI per its law enforcement, intelligence, and administrative functions. The CRS spans the entire FBI organization, comprising records of FBI Headquarters, FBI Field Offices, and FBI Legal Attaché Offices (Legats) worldwide; Electronic Surveillance (ELSUR) records are included in the CRS. The standard search policy is a search for main entity records in the CRS. Unless specifically requested, a standard search does not include a search for reference entity records, administrative records of previous FOIPA requests, or civil litigation files.
 - a. *Main Entity Records* – created for individuals or non-individuals who are the subjects or the focus of an investigation
 - b. *Reference Entity Records*- created for individuals or non-individuals who are associated with a case but are not known subjects or the focus of an investigation
- (ii) **FBI Records.** Founded in 1908, the FBI carries out a dual law enforcement and national security mission. As part of this dual mission, the FBI creates and maintains records on various subjects; however, the FBI does not maintain records on every person, subject, or entity.
- (iii) **Foreseeable Harm Standard.** As amended in 2016, the Freedom of Information Act provides that a federal agency may withhold responsive records only if: (1) the agency reasonably foresees that disclosure would harm an interest protected by one of the nine exemptions that FOIA enumerates, or (2) disclosure is prohibited by law (5 United States Code, Section 552(a)(8)(A)(i)). The FBI considers this foreseeable harm standard in the processing of its requests.
- (iv) **Requests for Criminal History Records or Rap Sheets.** The Criminal Justice Information Services (CJIS) Division provides Identity History Summary Checks – often referred to as a criminal history record or rap sheet. These criminal history records are not the same as material in an investigative “FBI file.” An Identity History Summary Check is a listing of information taken from fingerprint cards and documents submitted to the FBI in connection with arrests, federal employment, naturalization, or military service. For a fee, individuals can request a copy of their Identity History Summary Check. Forms and directions can be accessed at www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/identity-history-summary-checks. Additionally, requests can be submitted electronically at www.edo.cjis.gov. For additional information, please contact CJIS directly at (304) 625-5590.

EXPLANATION OF EXEMPTIONS

SUBSECTIONS OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 552

- (b)(1) (A) specifically authorized under criteria established by an Executive order to be kept secret in the interest of national defense or foreign policy and (B) are in fact properly classified to such Executive order;
- (b)(2) related solely to the internal personnel rules and practices of an agency;
- (b)(3) specifically exempted from disclosure by statute (other than section 552b of this title), provided that such statute (A) requires that the matters be withheld from the public in such a manner as to leave no discretion on issue, or (B) establishes particular criteria for withholding or refers to particular types of matters to be withheld;
- (b)(4) trade secrets and commercial or financial information obtained from a person and privileged or confidential;
- (b)(5) inter-agency or intra-agency memorandums or letters which would not be available by law to a party other than an agency in litigation with the agency;
- (b)(6) personnel and medical files and similar files the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy;
- (b)(7) records or information compiled for law enforcement purposes, but only to the extent that the production of such law enforcement records or information (A) could reasonably be expected to interfere with enforcement proceedings, (B) would deprive a person of a right to a fair trial or an impartial adjudication, (C) could reasonably be expected to constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy, (D) could reasonably be expected to disclose the identity of confidential source, including a State, local, or foreign agency or authority or any private institution which furnished information on a confidential basis, and, in the case of record or information compiled by a criminal law enforcement authority in the course of a criminal investigation, or by an agency conducting a lawful national security intelligence investigation, information furnished by a confidential source, (E) would disclose techniques and procedures for law enforcement investigations or prosecutions, or would disclose guidelines for law enforcement investigations or prosecutions if such disclosure could reasonably be expected to risk circumvention of the law, or (F) could reasonably be expected to endanger the life or physical safety of any individual;
- (b)(8) contained in or related to examination, operating, or condition reports prepared by, on behalf of, or for the use of an agency responsible for the regulation or supervision of financial institutions; or
- (b)(9) geological and geophysical information and data, including maps, concerning wells.

SUBSECTIONS OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 552a

- (d)(5) information compiled in reasonable anticipation of a civil action proceeding;
- (j)(2) material reporting investigative efforts pertaining to the enforcement of criminal law including efforts to prevent, control, or reduce crime or apprehend criminals;
- (k)(1) information which is currently and properly classified pursuant to an Executive order in the interest of the national defense or foreign policy, for example, information involving intelligence sources or methods;
- (k)(2) investigatory material compiled for law enforcement purposes, other than criminal, which did not result in loss of a right, benefit or privilege under Federal programs, or which would identify a source who furnished information pursuant to a promise that his/her identity would be held in confidence;
- (k)(3) material maintained in connection with providing protective services to the President of the United States or any other individual pursuant to the authority of Title 18, United States Code, Section 3056;
- (k)(4) required by statute to be maintained and used solely as statistical records;
- (k)(5) investigatory material compiled solely for the purpose of determining suitability, eligibility, or qualifications for Federal civilian employment or for access to classified information, the disclosure of which would reveal the identity of the person who furnished information pursuant to a promise that his/her identity would be held in confidence;
- (k)(6) testing or examination material used to determine individual qualifications for appointment or promotion in Federal Government service the release of which would compromise the testing or examination process;
- (k)(7) material used to determine potential for promotion in the armed services, the disclosure of which would reveal the identity of the person who furnished the material pursuant to a promise that his/her identity would be held in confidence.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOI/PA
DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET
FOI/PA# 1585903-000

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From: [redacted] (OPA) (FBI)
Subject: FW: Media Request: FBI Richmond Document cites SPLC
To: Ugoretz, Tonya L. (DI) (FBI); Meador, Stanley M. (RH) (FBI); Wells, Robert R. (CTD) (FBI); Jones, Jason Allen (OGC) (FBI); Turner, Suzanne (NSD) (FBI); Dunham, Christopher G. (OCA) (FBI); [redacted] (OCA) (FBI); [redacted] (CTD) (FBI); [redacted] (CTD) (FBI); [redacted] (DI) (FBI)
Cc: Milhoan, Catherine L. (OPA) (FBI); Goodwater, Douglas M. (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] (RH) (FBI)
Sent: February 8, 2023 2:20 PM (UTC-05:00)
Attached: [redacted] article 2-8-23.docx

b6 -1,4
b7C -1,4

Hello,

We have inquiries from the Washington Examiner and The Daily Signal (Heritage Foundation) about an article written by [redacted]. It references a January intelligence product from the Richmond Field office. After speaking with SC Goodwater, I am alerting all of you so we can get a copy of the actual document and hear any recommendations on how to respond. I am attaching a cut and paste of the [redacted] article.

b6 -3
b7C -3

[redacted]
FBI National Press Office
[redacted]

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

From: [redacted] (Daily Signal) [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2023 12:21 PM
To: Public.Affairs <Public.Affairs@FBI.GOV>
Subject: [EXTERNAL EMAIL] - Media Request: FBI Richmond Document cites SPLC

b6 -3
b7C -3

This is [redacted] at The Daily Signal. I'm writing a story about the FBI Richmond document that repeatedly cites the Southern Poverty Law Center on "radical-traditional Catholics." (<https://www.uncoverdc.com/2023/02/08/the-fbi-doubles-down-on-christians-and-white-supremacy-in-2023/>) My sources have said that longstanding FBI guidance urged analysts not to rely on the SPLC as a source, but this document appears to violate that guidance.

b6 -3
b7C -3

Dee Rybiski at the Richmond office directed me to email you here.

In 2019, the SPLC fired its co-founder [redacted] amid accusations of racial discrimination and sexual harassment. During that scandal, a former employee said the SPLC's "hate" accusations are a "highly profitable scam." Critics say the SPLC brands mainstream conservative and Christian advocacy groups "hate groups," putting them on a list and a map with chapters of the KKK. A terrorist targeted the Family Research Council in 2012, and he told the FBI he used the "hate map" to plan the attack. The SPLC condemned the attack, but has kept FRC on the hate map ever since.

b6 -3
b7C -3

Even left-leaning litigators like Freedom From Religion Foundation Founder [redacted] and former ACLU president [redacted] have contested the SPLC's claim that Alliance Defending Freedom is a "hate group."

b6 -3
b7C -3

How would the FBI respond to criticism in citing the SPLC? Has the guidance from the Directorate of Intelligence changed?

I am working on an immediate deadline and would appreciate a prompt response. My story will be updated with any comment.

Best,



The Daily Signal

The Heritage Foundation
214 Massachusetts Avenue, NE
Washington, DC 20002
heritage.org

The FBI Doubles Down on Christians and White Supremacy in 2023

By
[Kyle Seraphin](#)

February 8, 2023



Share

The FBI's Richmond Division would like to protect Virginians from the threat of "white supremacy," which it believes has found a home within Catholics who prefer the Latin Mass. An intelligence analyst within the Richmond Field Office of the FBI released in a new finished intelligence product dated January 23, 2023, on Racially or Ethnically Motivated Violent Extremists (RMVE) and their interests

in "Radical-Traditionalist Catholics" or RTCs. The document assesses with "high confidence" the FBI can mitigate the threat of Radical-Traditionalist Catholics by recruiting sources within the Catholic Church.

2 of 8

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1 2

OCTOBER 19, 2023

FBI Reference
26 OCTOBER 2023

(U) This document is classified "UNCLASSIFIED FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY" (U) for use by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and its component offices. It is exempt from public release under 5 U.S.C. 552(a)(1). It is not to be disseminated outside the FBI without the approval of the FBI Director. (U) This document is classified "UNCLASSIFIED FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY" (U) for use by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and its component offices. It is exempt from public release under 5 U.S.C. 552(a)(1). It is not to be disseminated outside the FBI without the approval of the FBI Director.

(U) SUFFICIENT Interest of Radicality or Ethnically Motivated Violent Extremists in Radical-Traditionalist Catholic Identity Almost Certainly Presents New Mitigation Opportunities

(U) Executive Summary

(U) SUFFICIENT FBI Reviewed assessed the appropriateness of shared interest of racially or ethnically motivated violent extremists (RMVEs) in radicalizing identity Catholics (RTCs) through shared "spiritual" personae opportunities for direct engagement through the exploitation of new avenues for expression and network development. FBI Richmond makes this assessment with high confidence based on FBI investigation, social law enforcement agency reporting, and human reporting, with ongoing progress of investigation and action.

(U) SUFFICIENT In making this assessment, FBI Richmond relied on the key assumption that RMVEs will continue to find RTC identity attractive and will continue to attempt to connect with RTC adherents, both virtually via social media and in person at places of worship. Indicators that would cause FBI Richmond to revise the judgment at various levels in its assessment include increases or decreases in RMVEs' interest or attendance at RTC or Radicalist Catholic places of worship, increases or decreases in RMVEs' activity on social media platforms and forums supportive or supportive of RTCs, or the public distancing of prominent RTC or Radicalist Catholic personalities or influencers from RMVEs' ideologies. FBI Richmond assessed RMVEs interest in RTCs is likely to increase over the next 12 to 24 months on the positive

(U) Review Note: This document is classified "UNCLASSIFIED FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY" (U) for use by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and its component offices. It is exempt from public release under 5 U.S.C. 552(a)(1). It is not to be disseminated outside the FBI without the approval of the FBI Director. (U) This document is classified "UNCLASSIFIED FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY" (U) for use by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and its component offices. It is exempt from public release under 5 U.S.C. 552(a)(1). It is not to be disseminated outside the FBI without the approval of the FBI Director.

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to the past general interest in... concerning the overall ETC threat posture which also...
...the overall ETC...
...the overall ETC...
...the overall ETC...



Continuing Observed Interest of RMYEs in ETC, History Almost Certainly Provides New Opportunities for Threat Mitigation

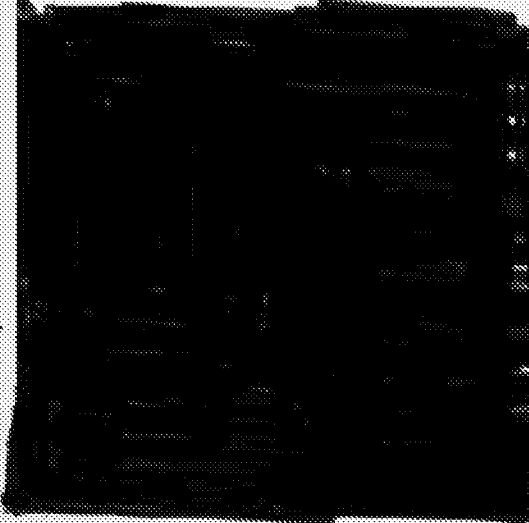
...the continuing observed interest of RMYEs in ETC...
...the continuing observed interest of RMYEs in ETC...
...the continuing observed interest of RMYEs in ETC...



...the continuing observed interest of RMYEs in ETC...
...the continuing observed interest of RMYEs in ETC...
...the continuing observed interest of RMYEs in ETC...

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(D) Perspectives

(D) As of 2021, the Southern Privacy Law Center identified over ETC hate groups operating in the United States (see Appendix D for a complete list of these groups and their headquarters).

¹⁰ Texas Daily Star and the Texas Daily Star, refers to the new order of the Catholic Mass promulgated by Pope Paul VI in the aftermath of Vatican II. The Texas Daily Star is published in the newspaper for counties in Texas, and is the official paper of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Dallas.

¹¹ Legal Center is not associated with the executive Roman Catholic bishops who served in the Legislative of Texas, the Roman Catholic Church.

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(I) Warning and Caveats

It is common knowledge, established by access to members of a group, that the group does not require that its members be the constitutional rights of the group used by its members in connection with their rights under the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. The FBI does not attempt, without, or without notification of U.S. persons solely for the purpose of monitoring activities provided by the First Amendment.



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DO NOT DISSEMINATE EXTERNALLY

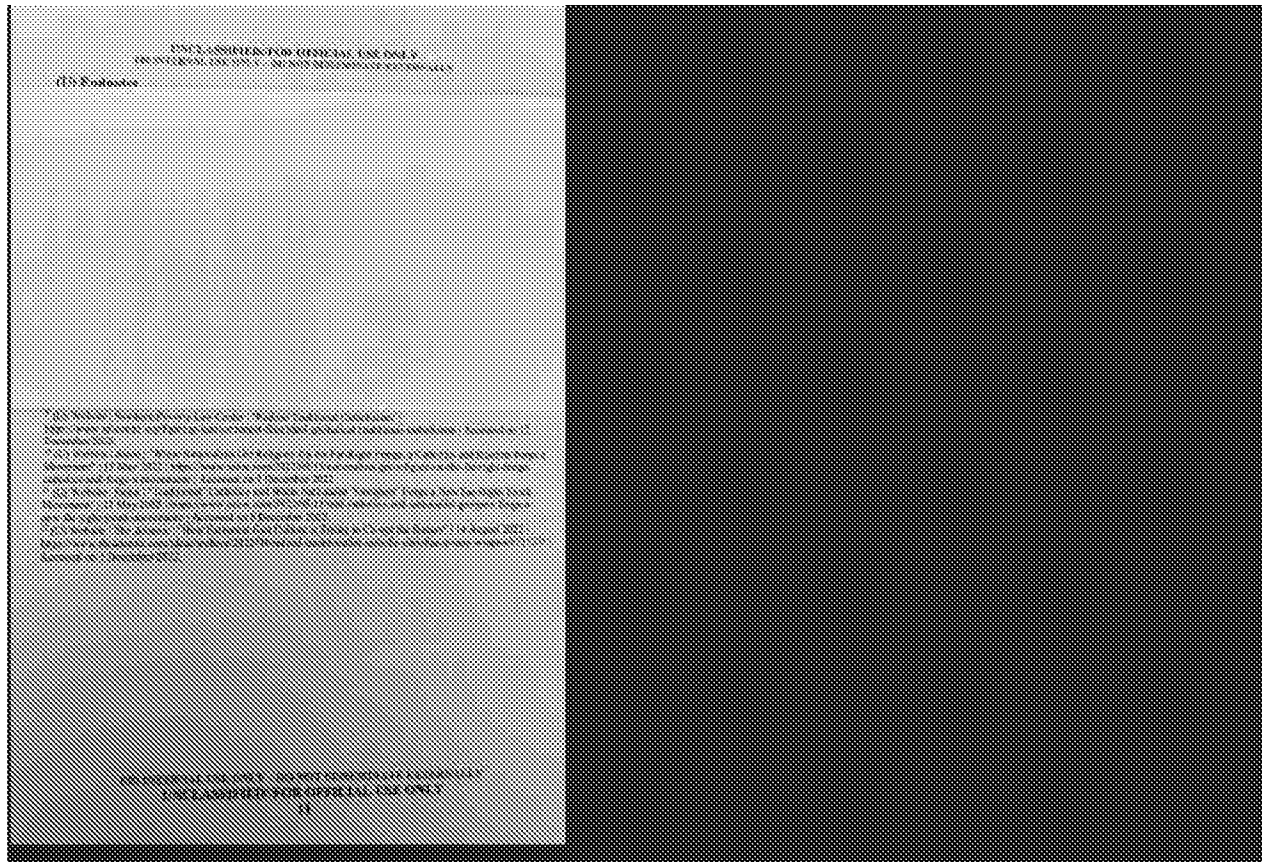
(II) Appendix B: Southern Poverty Law Center-Defined HVC Hate Groups in the United States

(A) Following are the HVC hate groups operating in the United States in 2011 as defined by the Southern Poverty Law Center, followed by the location of their organizational headquarters:

- (1) Citizens Against Government Overreach, Pennsylvania
- (2) Citizens Party, Nassau County Family Education, Inc. (Roseton Park, New York)
- (3) National Union of Citizens, Texas
- (4) Citizens Way, Valley Forge Church, Berks, Indiana
- (5) The Defense Coalition/International Foreign Service Council (Dallas, New York)
- (6) In the Spirit of Christ, Christian Community (Glenview, Maryland)
- (7) The Patriots/The Patriots Party (Green Lake, Wisconsin)
- (8) Slaves of the International House of Mary (Greenwich, New Hampshire)
- (9) Traditional Action (Los Angeles, California)

Source: (1) Robert J. Milder, *White Paper: The Center for the Study of Hate and Extremism* (2011), available at <http://www.splc.org>; (2) Southern Poverty Law Center, *Hate Groups in the United States* (2011), available at <http://www.splc.org>.

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The acronym, new to many in the Domestic Counterterrorism field, comes with a footnote by the writer explaining RTCs are “typically characterized by the rejection of the Second Vatican Council.” The writer makes an unsubstantiated leap that a preference for the Catholic Mass in Latin instead of the vernacular and a number of more traditional views on other world religions can amount to an “adherence to anti-Semitic, anti-immigrant, anti-LGBTQ and white supremacist ideology.” This writer draws the important distinction between “traditional Catholics,” who simply prefer the Traditional Latin Mass and pre-Vatican II teachings, and RTCs, who espouse “more extremist ideological beliefs and violent rhetoric.”

A discerning reader may wonder why the writer believes such divisions exist and if there is evidence of the extremist and violent rhetoric within the Catholic church. The analyst’s note doesn’t provide specifics. When the FBI generates an intelligence product, it is important to note the analyzed sources. Typically, strict source vetting removes partisanship and bias, so a product is both consistent with federal law and can add value to the FBI’s overall mission. Of note, this document was reviewed and approved for release by the FBI Richmond Chief Division Counsel, who is the office’s top lawyer.

The attached appendices refer to a number of articles and the out-of-FBI-policy Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC) at the end of the document. For example,

Appendix D is a direct copy of the SPLC list of "Radical Traditional Catholicism Hate Groups," including the web address accessed. The SPLC appears to be a source for the intelligence analyst's beliefs that RTCs exist and that they are anti-Semitic. The SPLC description for this "hate group" states RTCs "may make up the largest single group of serious anti-semites in America." Often in the intelligence world, this type of statement without any established evidence is often followed by the acronym "NFI" or "No Further Information" to indicate it is an unsubstantiated opinion. Additionally, SPLC states RTCs "embrace extremely conservative social ideals with respect to women." Nothing reported by the SPLC indicates the number of adherents to this alleged ideology nor any instances of violence. This lack of evidence and blatant partisan blindness is one of many reasons the FBI has distanced itself from the SPLC as a source in the past 10 years. The intelligence product includes endnote citations from two other sources: the far-Left online magazine [Salon](#) and the equally left-leaning [The Atlantic](#). The Salon articles cited are typical of partisan click-bait writing: "*Traditional Catholics and White Nationalist Groypers Forge a new Far-Right Youth Movement*" and "*White Nationalists Get Religion: On the Far-Right Fringe, Catholics and Racists Forge a movement.*" These articles were released a day apart as a series but include substantially the same information. The articles offer only circumstantial suggestions of affiliations between inflammatory figures like Milo Yiannopoulos and Nick Fuentes and a man pictured standing on the steps of a Catholic church in New York after the Dobbs decision. The Salon writer makes the wild leap that using a photo of someone at a church indicates the pictured individual or his beliefs are relevant within a religious institution with 70 million adherents in the United States alone and over 2000 years of tradition and history.

The writer determines that the "threat picture" involving RMVE, again in this case, referring to white supremacists, will increase, but that the "RTC Community is likely to remain relatively stable or show modest growth" over the next one to two years. The basis for this assessment is not annotated and appears to be speculative. The speculative increase in RMVE interactions with RTC leads the writer to suggest mitigation strategies, including recruiting Confidential Human Sources ("source development"), tripwire, and liaison contacts. Tripwires and liaisons are overt contacts with trusted members of a community or an industry. They can advise law enforcement about potentially illegal activity. Due to the fact that "white supremacy" is itself a First Amendment-protected belief, to say nothing of proponents of the most established Christian denomination in the world, the Bureau tries to cover documents like these with a caveat excusing their intrusion into the sacrosanct grounds of free exercise of religion and free association. In another typical intrusion into First Amendment concerns, the document implies a strategy of monitoring social media for RTC ideology in online posts.

The impetus of the writer can be assessed by the fixation on abortion and the repeated use of the phrase "abortion rights." Documents like these can be used to drive the FBI's priorities in specific regions and boost the visibility of non-existent threats. There is a reason the writer refers to the document as a "first of its kind" Domain Perspective: it is generally out of bounds. However, intelligence products like this help focus on alleged "hostility towards the abortion-rights advocates," which the FBI has used to justify significant enforcement actions tied to the FACE Act (18 USC 248). Americans will remember a flood of conservative news outlets covering arrests of numerous pro-life protesters at the end of 2022, which are coming back into focus after the January 30, 2023 acquittal of defendant Mark Houck. While over 100 instances of attacks on pro-life pregnancy centers occurred in 2022, the SPLC reported an unsubstantiated 200 "bombings or arson attacks" on abortion clinics in the past 20 years.

This tremendous statistical mismatch usually would have led federal law enforcement to focus on the highest threat, but the increasingly Leftist bend of FBI enforcement actions appears to have ignored this trend. It also appears the writer is simply assuming RMVEs share common cause with Conservatives, including practicing Catholics, on issues about abortion, immigration, affirmative action, and LGBTQ protections. This editorial bias should give the reader of this document a medium to high confidence the intelligence analyst is the product of left-leaning higher education and leftist values.

The piece concludes with the incredible leap that RMVEs or white supremacists pose a threat to use "RTC social media sites" (no examples) or "places of worship as facilitation platforms to promote violence." This intelligence product is indicative of a permissive tolerance within the FBI for Left-leaning ideological actors who use academic-sounding rhetoric to cover a dearth of personal experience. The weaponization of the FBI against conservative Americans can be seen in the way documents like this are published and distributed. Poorly sourced and highly speculative intelligence products lead to opening badly articulated predicate investigations into Americans in violation of their God-given, First Amendment-protected civil liberties.

While most Americans are familiar with criminal investigations, which explore the allegation or information that a crime has been committed, many are not familiar with intelligence investigations. In contrast to the linear nature of a criminal case, counterintelligence and counterterrorism cases follow a circular path that can continue indefinitely without any articulated goal. Indeed, information is the goal of these types of cases. Many counterterrorism cases never articulate or uncover a single criminal act. Yet, they continue in order to develop more understanding of the "threat landscape" or "threat pictures," as quoted in this document. Intelligence investigations often beget more investigations. The relevance of this product should not be lost on the reader.

Products like this can be used to support the opening of information-only cases, and there is no reason to expect Radical-Traditionalist Catholics are the end point of this train track – they will be the beginning. Opening the door to associating white supremacists with traditional religious practices based on common Christian positions on abortion and the LGBTQ political agendas is a dangerous step. Such investigations can easily lead to the same analysis of Radical Traditional Baptists, Radical Traditional Lutherans, and Radical Traditional Evangelicals. The FBI is forbidden from opening cases or publishing products based solely on First Amendment-protected activities. By tolerating the publishing of intelligence products as shoddy as this, they are crossing a line many Americans will find themselves on the wrong side of for the first time in history. This is what a politicalized FBI looks like; it should not be tolerated if Americans expect to enjoy the protections of our Bill of Rights.

From: [redacted] (OPA) (FBI)
Subject: RE: Media Request: FBI Richmond Document cites SPLC
To: Ugoretz, Tonya L. (DI) (FBI); Meador, Stanley M. (RH) (FBI); Wells, Robert R. (CTD) (FBI); Jones, Jason Allen (OGC) (FBI); Turner, Suzanne (INSD) (FBI); Dunham, Christopher G. (OCA) (FBI); [redacted] (OCA) (FBI); [redacted] (CTD) (FBI); [redacted] (CTD) (FBI); [redacted] (DI) (FBI); Coakley, Miriam M. (OGC) (FBI)
Cc: Milhoan, Catherine L. (OPA) (FBI); Goodwater, Douglas M. (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] (RH) (FBI); [redacted] (OGC) (FBI); [redacted] (OGC) (FBI)
Sent: February 8, 2023 3:09 PM (UTC-05:00)
Attached: [redacted] article 2-8-23.docx

b6 -1,3
b7C -1,3

+ Miriam and others from OGC. I am also adding the second media inquiry.

[redacted]

b6 -1
b7C -1

From: [redacted] (OPA) (FBI)
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2023 2:20 PM
To: Ugoretz, Tonya L. (DI) (FBI); [redacted] Meador, Stanley M. (RH) (FBI); [redacted] Wells, Robert R. (CTD) (FBI); [redacted] Jones, Jason Allen (OGC) (FBI); [redacted] Turner, Suzanne (INSD) (FBI); [redacted] Dunham, Christopher G. (OCA) (FBI); [redacted] (OCA) (FBI); [redacted] (CTD) (FBI); [redacted] (CTD) (FBI); [redacted] (DI) (FBI); [redacted]
Cc: Milhoan, Catherine L. (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] Goodwater, Douglas M. (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] (RH) (FBI); [redacted]
Subject: FW: Media Request: FBI Richmond Document cites SPLC

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

Hello,

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b6 -3
b7C -3

I am attaching a cut and paste of the [redacted] article.

[redacted]

FBI National Press Office

[redacted]

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

From: [redacted] (Daily Signal) [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2023 12:21 PM
To: Public.Affairs <Public.Affairs@FBI.GOV>
Subject: [EXTERNAL EMAIL] - Media Request: FBI Richmond Document cites SPLC

b6 -3
b7C -3

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b6 -3
b7C -3

(<https://www.uncoverdc.com/2023/02/08/the-fbi-doubles-down-on-christians-and-white-supremacy-in-2023/>) My sources have said that longstanding FBI guidance urged analysts not to rely on the SPLC as a source, but this document appears to violate that guidance.

Dee Rybiski at the Richmond office directed me to email you here.

In 2019, the SPLC fired its co-founder, [redacted] amid accusations of racial discrimination and sexual harassment. During that scandal, a former employee said the SPLC's "hate" accusations are a "highly profitable scam." Critics say the SPLC brands mainstream conservative and Christian advocacy groups "hate groups," putting them on a list and a map with chapters of the KKK. A terrorist targeted the Family Research Council in 2012, and he told the FBI he used the "hate map" to plan the attack. The SPLC condemned the attack, but has kept FRC on the hate map ever since.

b6 -3
b7C -3

Even left-leaning litigators like Freedom From Religion Foundation Founder [redacted] and former ACLU president [redacted] have contested the SPLC's claim that Alliance Defending Freedom is a "hate group."

b6 -3
b7C -3

How would the FBI respond to criticism in citing the SPLC? Has the guidance from the Directorate of Intelligence changed?

I am working on an immediate deadline and would appreciate a prompt response. My story will be updated with any comment.

Best,

[redacted]

b6 -3
b7C -3

[redacted]

The Daily Signal

The Heritage Foundation
214 Massachusetts Avenue, NE
Washington, DC 20002
heritage.org

////////////////////////////////////

To whom it concerns,

Please see the below article.

<https://www.uncoverdc.com/2023/02/08/the-fbi-doubles-down-on-christians-and-white-supremacy-in-2023/>

The article includes an 8-page document dated January 23, 2023 which is purportedly authored by the FBI Richmond.

Can the FBI say whether this document is authentic and was indeed authored by the FBI Richmond?

Many thanks!

[redacted]

b6 -3
b7C -3

Washington Examiner

From: Coakley, Miriam M. (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: RE: Media Request: FBI Richmond Document cites SPLC
To: [redacted] (OPA) (FBI); Ugoretz, Tonya L. (DI) (FBI); Meador, Stanley M. (RH) (FBI); Wells, Robert R. (CTD) (FBI); Jones, Jason Allen (OGC) (FBI); Turner, Suzanne (INSD) (FBI); Dunham, Christopher G. (OCA) (FBI); [redacted] (OCA) (FBI); [redacted] (CTD) (FBI); [redacted] (CTD) (FBI); [redacted] (DI) (FBI)
Cc: Milhoan, Catherine L. (OPA) (FBI); Goodwater, Douglas M. (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] (RH) (FBI); [redacted] (OGC) (FBI); [redacted] (OGC) (FBI); Rojas, Rachel L. (InTO) (FBI); Beidler, Douglas S. (SecD) (FBI); Platt, Lon Stuart (OPR) (FBI)
Sent: February 8, 2023 3:25 PM (UTC-05:00)

b6 -1
b7C -1

Hi all,

Adding InTo, SecD, and OPR. The date of the leaked domain perspective appears to be 23 Jan. 2023.

Thanks,
Miriam

From: [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2023 3:09 PM
To: Ugoretz, Tonya L. (DI) (FBI) [redacted] Meador, Stanley M. (RH) (FBI) [redacted] Wells, Robert R. (CTD) (FBI) [redacted] Jones, Jason Allen (OGC) (FBI) [redacted] Turner, Suzanne (INSD) (FBI) [redacted] Dunham, Christopher G. (OCA) (FBI) [redacted] (OCA) (FBI) [redacted] (CTD) (FBI) [redacted] (CTD) (FBI) [redacted] (DI) (FBI) [redacted] Coakley, Miriam M. (OGC) (FBI)
Cc: Milhoan, Catherine L. (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] Goodwater, Douglas M. (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] (RH) (FBI) [redacted] (OGC) (FBI) [redacted] (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]
Subject: RE: Media Request: FBI Richmond Document cites SPLC

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[redacted]

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Cc: Milhoan, Catherine L. (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] Goodwater, Douglas M. (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] (RH) (FBI) [redacted]
Subject: FW: Media Request: FBI Richmond Document cites SPLC

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b7C -1
b7E -3

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b6 -3
b7C -3

From: Beidler, Douglas S. (SecD) (FBI)
Subject: RE: Media Request: FBI Richmond Document cites SPLC
To: Coakley, Miriam M. (OGC) (FBI); [redacted] (OPA) (FBI); Ugoretz, Tonya L. (DI) (FBI); Meador, Stanley M. (RH) (FBI); Wells, Robert R. (CTD) (FBI); Jones, Jason Allen (OGC) (FBI); Turner, Suzanne (INSD) (FBI); Dunham, Christopher G. (OCA) (FBI); [redacted] (OCA) (FBI); [redacted] (CTD) (FBI); [redacted] (CTD) (FBI); [redacted] (DI) (FBI)
Cc: Milhoan, Catherine L. (OPA) (FBI); Goodwater, Douglas M. (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] (RH) (FBI); [redacted] (OGC) (FBI); [redacted] (OGC) (FBI); Rojas, Rachel L. (InTO) (FBI); Platt, Lon Stuart (OPR) (FBI)
Sent: February 8, 2023 3:47 PM (UTC-05:00)

b6 -1
b7C -1

Copy. Thank you.

From: Coakley, Miriam M. (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2023 3:25 PM
To: [redacted] (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] (OPA) (FBI); Ugoretz, Tonya L. (DI) (FBI); [redacted] (DI) (FBI); Meador, Stanley M. (RH) (FBI); [redacted] (RH) (FBI); Wells, Robert R. (CTD) (FBI); [redacted] (CTD) (FBI); Jones, Jason Allen (OGC) (FBI); [redacted] (OGC) (FBI); Turner, Suzanne (INSD) (FBI); [redacted] (INSD) (FBI); Dunham, Christopher G. (OCA) (FBI); [redacted] (OCA) (FBI); [redacted] (CTD) (FBI); [redacted] (CTD) (FBI); [redacted] (DI) (FBI); [redacted] (DI) (FBI)
Cc: Milhoan, Catherine L. (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] (OPA) (FBI); Goodwater, Douglas M. (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] (RH) (FBI); [redacted] (OGC) (FBI); [redacted] (OGC) (FBI); [redacted] (OGC) (FBI); Rojas, Rachel L. (InTO) (FBI); [redacted] (InTO) (FBI); Beidler, Douglas S. (SecD) (FBI); [redacted] (SecD) (FBI); Platt, Lon Stuart (OPR) (FBI); [redacted] (OPR) (FBI)
Subject: RE: Media Request: FBI Richmond Document cites SPLC

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

Hi all,

Adding InTo, SecD, and OPR. The date of the leaked domain perspective appears to be 23 Jan. 2023.

Thanks,
Miriam

From: [redacted] (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] (OPA) (FBI)
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2023 3:09 PM
To: Ugoretz, Tonya L. (DI) (FBI); [redacted] (DI) (FBI); Meador, Stanley M. (RH) (FBI); [redacted] (RH) (FBI); Wells, Robert R. (CTD) (FBI); [redacted] (CTD) (FBI); Jones, Jason Allen (OGC) (FBI); [redacted] (OGC) (FBI); Turner, Suzanne (INSD) (FBI); [redacted] (INSD) (FBI); Dunham, Christopher G. (OCA) (FBI); [redacted] (OCA) (FBI); [redacted] (OCA) (FBI); [redacted] (CTD) (FBI); [redacted] (CTD) (FBI); [redacted] (CTD) (FBI); [redacted] (DI) (FBI); [redacted] (DI) (FBI); Coakley, Miriam M. (OGC) (FBI); [redacted] (OGC) (FBI)
Cc: Milhoan, Catherine L. (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] (OPA) (FBI); Goodwater, Douglas M. (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] (RH) (FBI); [redacted] (OGC) (FBI); [redacted] (OGC) (FBI); [redacted] (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: RE: Media Request: FBI Richmond Document cites SPLC

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

+ Miriam and others from OGC. I am also adding the second media inquiry.

[redacted]

From: [redacted] (OPA) (FBI)
Subject: RE: Media Request: FBI Richmond Document cites SPLC
To: Beidler, Douglas S. (SecD) (FBI); Coakley, Miriam M. (OGC) (FBI); Ugoretz, Tonya L. (DI) (FBI); Meador, Stanley M. (RH) (FBI); Wells, Robert R. (CTD) (FBI); Jones, Jason Allen (OGC) (FBI); Turner, Suzanne (INSD) (FBI); Dunham, Christopher G. (OCA) (FBI); [redacted] (OCA) (FBI); [redacted] (CTD) (FBI); [redacted] (CTD) (FBI); [redacted] (DI) (FBI); Byron, Pamela (DI) (FBI)
Cc: Milhoan, Catherine L. (OPA) (FBI); Goodwater, Douglas M. (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] (RH) (FBI); [redacted] (OGC) (FBI); [redacted] (OGC) (FBI); Rojas, Rachel L. (InTO) (FBI); Platt, Lon Stuart (OPR) (FBI)
Sent: February 8, 2023 4:25 PM (UTC-05:00)

b6 -1
b7C -1

Adding Pamela Bryon from the DI.

Any info on how this product came about would be appreciated.

From: Beidler, Douglas S. (SecD) (FBI) [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2023 3:47 PM
To: Coakley, Miriam M. (OGC) (FBI) [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted]
Ugoretz, Tonya L. (DI) (FBI) [redacted] Meador, Stanley M. (RH) (FBI) [redacted] Wells, Robert R. (CTD) (FBI) [redacted] Jones, Jason Allen (OGC) (FBI) [redacted] Turner, Suzanne (INSD) (FBI) [redacted] Dunham, Christopher G. (OCA) (FBI) [redacted] (OCA) (FBI) [redacted] (CTD) (FBI) [redacted] (CTD) (FBI) [redacted] (DI) (FBI) [redacted]
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Subject: RE: Media Request: FBI Richmond Document cites SPLC

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

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Subject: RE: Media Request: FBI Richmond Document cites SPLC

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

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Thanks,
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Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2023 3:09 PM
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 Robert R. (CTD) (FBI) [redacted] Jones, Jason Allen (OGC) (FBI) [redacted] Turner, Suzanne (INSD)
 (FBI) [redacted] Dunham, Christopher G. (OCA) (FBI) [redacted] (OCA) (FBI)
 [redacted] (CTD) (FBI) [redacted] (CTD) (FBI)
 [redacted] (DI) (FBI) [redacted] Coakley, Miriam M. (OGC) (FBI)
Cc: Milhoan, Catherine L. (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] Goodwater, Douglas M. (OPA) (FBI)
 [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] (OPA) (FBI)
 [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] (OPA) (FBI)
 [redacted] (RH) (FBI) [redacted] (OGC) (FBI)
 [redacted] (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]
Subject: RE: Media Request: FBI Richmond Document cites SPLC

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

+ Miriam and others from OGC. I am also adding the second media inquiry.

[redacted]

b6 -1
b7C -1

From [redacted] (OPA) (FBI)
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2023 2:20 PM
To: Ugoretz, Tonya L. (DI) (FBI) [redacted] Meador, Stanley M. (RH) (FBI) [redacted] Wells,
 Robert R. (CTD) (FBI) [redacted] Jones, Jason Allen (OGC) (FBI) [redacted] Turner, Suzanne (INSD)
 (FBI) [redacted] Dunham, Christopher G. (OCA) (FBI) [redacted] (OCA) (FBI)
 [redacted] (CTD) (FBI) [redacted] (CTD) (FBI)
 [redacted] (DI) (FBI) [redacted]
Cc: Milhoan, Catherine L. (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] Goodwater, Douglas M. (OPA) (FBI)
 [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] (OPA) (FBI)
 [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] (OPA) (FBI)
 [redacted] (RH) (FBI) [redacted]
Subject: FW: Media Request: FBI Richmond Document cites SPLC

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

Hello,

We have inquiries from the Washington Examiner and The Daily Signal (Heritage Foundation) about an article written by [redacted]. It references a January intelligence product from the Richmond Field office. After speaking with SC Goodwater, I am alerting all of you so we can get a copy of the actual document and hear any recommendations on how to respond. I am attaching a cut and paste of the [redacted] article.

b6 -3
b7C -3

[redacted]
 FBI National Press Office
 [redacted]

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

From [redacted] (Daily Signal) [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2023 12:21 PM
To: Public.Affairs <Public.Affairs@FBI.GOV>

b6 -3
b7C -3

From: Wells, Robert R. (CTD) (FBI)
Subject: FW: Media Request: FBI Richmond Document cites SPLC
To: Knapp, Larissa L. (NSB) (FBI)
Cc: [redacted] (OGC) (FBI); [redacted] (NSB) (FBI)
Sent: February 8, 2023 4:39 PM (UTC-05:00)
Attached: [redacted] article 2-8-23.docx

b6 -1,3
b7C -1,3

See the attached article by [redacted] regarding a leaked intel product in Richmond.

b6 -3
b7C -3

From: [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2023 3:09 PM
To: Ugoretz, Tonya L. (DI) (FBI) [redacted] Meador, Stanley M. (RH) (FBI) [redacted] Wells, Robert R. (CTD) (FBI) [redacted] Jones, Jason Allen (OGC) (FBI) [redacted] Turner, Suzanne (INSD) (FBI) [redacted] Dunham, Christopher G. (OCA) (FBI) [redacted] (OCA) (FBI) [redacted] (CTD) (FBI) [redacted] (CTD) (FBI) [redacted] (DI) (FBI) [redacted] Coakley, Miriam M. (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]
Cc: Milhoan, Catherine L. (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] Goodwater, Douglas M. (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] (RH) (FBI) [redacted] (OGC) (FBI) [redacted] (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]
Subject: RE: Media Request: FBI Richmond Document cites SPLC

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

+ Miriam and others from OGC. I am also adding the second media inquiry.

[redacted]

b6 -1
b7C -1

From: [redacted] (OPA) (FBI)
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2023 2:20 PM
To: Ugoretz, Tonya L. (DI) (FBI) [redacted] Meador, Stanley M. (RH) (FBI) [redacted] Wells, Robert R. (CTD) (FBI) [redacted] Jones, Jason Allen (OGC) (FBI) [redacted] Turner, Suzanne (INSD) (FBI) [redacted] Dunham, Christopher G. (OCA) (FBI) [redacted] (OCA) (FBI) [redacted] (CTD) (FBI) [redacted] (CTD) (FBI) [redacted] (DI) (FBI) [redacted]
Cc: Milhoan, Catherine L. (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] Goodwater, Douglas M. (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] (RH) (FBI) [redacted]
Subject: FW: Media Request: FBI Richmond Document cites SPLC

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

Hello,

We have inquiries from the Washington Examiner and The Daily Signal (Heritage Foundation) about an article written by [redacted] It references a January intelligence product from the Richmond Field office. After speaking with SC Goodwater, I am alerting all of you so we can get a copy of the actual document and hear any recommendations on how to respond.

b6 -3
b7C -3

I am attaching a cut and paste of the [redacted] article.

[redacted]

FBI National Press Office

[redacted]

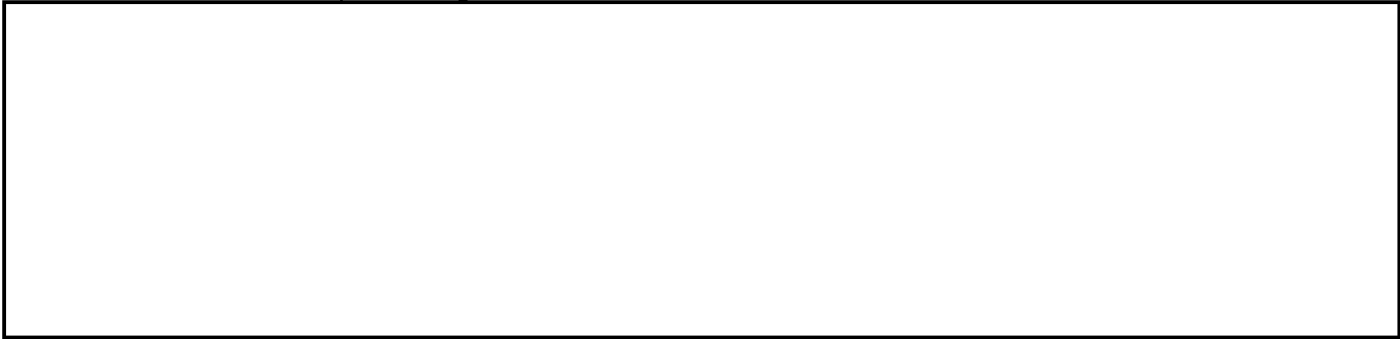
b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

From: Byron, Pamela (DI) (FBI)
Subject: RE: Media Request: FBI Richmond Document cites SPLC
To: [redacted] (OPA) (FBI); Beidler, Douglas S. (SecD) (FBI); Coakley, Miriam M. (OGC) (FBI); Ugoretz, Tonya L. (DI) (FBI); Meador, Stanley M. (RH) (FBI); Wells, Robert R. (CTD) (FBI); Jones, Jason Allen (OGC) (FBI); Turner, Suzanne (INSD) (FBI); Dunham, Christopher G. (OCA) (FBI); [redacted] (OCA) (FBI); [redacted] (CTD) (FBI); [redacted] (CTD) (FBI); [redacted] (DI) (FBI)
Cc: Milhoan, Catherine L. (OPA) (FBI); Goodwater, Douglas M. (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] (RH) (FBI); [redacted] (OGC) (FBI); [redacted] (OGC) (FBI); Rojas, Rachel L. (InTO) (FBI); Platt, Lon Stuart (OPR) (FBI); Hardiman, Kellie M. (CTD) (FBI)
Sent: February 8, 2023 6:11 PM (UTC-05:00)

b6 -1
b7C -1

As mentioned on FBINET, the type of product leaked is a Domain Perspective (DP) – the purpose of DPs is to offer information and/or highlight how a shift or new development in an AOR (domain) related to an environmental variable could impact the threat environment. Environmental variables include demographic shifts, technology development, economic conditions, special events, social/cultural conditions, etc. In particular, the analysis in DPs (as in FBI products in general) is focused on the activity of identified or potential threat actors, not on the environmental variables themselves, and how those threat actors react to shifts in the environment, and the subsequent impact on the threat posed by those actors.

In that context, there are a couple of things to note with this situation:



b5 -1

We stand by to assist on any other questions.

Thanks,
Pam

Pamela Byron
Deputy Assistant Director
Directorate of Intelligence / FBI

[redacted] (desk)
[redacted] (mobile)

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

From: [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2023 4:25 PM
To: Beidler, Douglas S. (SecD) (FBI); [redacted]; Coakley, Miriam M. (OGC) (FBI); [redacted]; Ugoretz, Tonya L. (DI) (FBI); [redacted]; Meador, Stanley M. (RH) (FBI); [redacted]; Wells, Robert R. (CTD) (FBI); [redacted]; Jones, Jason Allen (OGC) (FBI); [redacted]; Turner, Suzanne (INSD) (FBI); [redacted]; Dunham, Christopher G. (OCA) (FBI); [redacted] (OCA) (FBI); [redacted] (CTD) (FBI); [redacted] (CTD) (FBI); [redacted] (DI) (FBI); [redacted]; Byron, Pamela (DI) (FBI); [redacted]
Cc: Milhoan, Catherine L. (OPA) (FBI); [redacted]; Goodwater, Douglas M. (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] (OPA) (FBI)

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

[Redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [Redacted] (OPA) (FBI)
[Redacted] (RH) (FBI) [Redacted] (OGC) (FBI)
[Redacted] (OGC) (FBI) [Redacted] Rojas, Rachel L. (InTO) (FBI)
[Redacted] Platt, Lon Stuart (OPR) (FBI) [Redacted]

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

Subject: RE: Media Request: FBI Richmond Document cites SPLC

Adding Pamela Bryon from the DI.

Any info on how this product came about would be appreciated.

From: Beidler, Douglas S. (SecD) (FBI) [Redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2023 3:47 PM
To: Coakley, Miriam M. (OGC) (FBI) [Redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [Redacted]
Ugoretz, Tonya L. (DI) (FBI) [Redacted] Meador, Stanley M. (RH) (FBI) [Redacted] Wells, Robert R. (CTD) (FBI) [Redacted] Jones, Jason Allen (OGC) (FBI) [Redacted] Turner, Suzanne (INSD) (FBI) [Redacted] Dunham, Christopher G. (OCA) (FBI) [Redacted] (OCA) (FBI) [Redacted] (CTD) (FBI) [Redacted] (CTD) (FBI) [Redacted] (DI) (FBI) [Redacted]
Cc: Milhoan, Catherine L. (OPA) (FBI) [Redacted] Goodwater, Douglas M. (OPA) (FBI) [Redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [Redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [Redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [Redacted] (RH) (FBI) [Redacted] (OGC) (FBI) [Redacted] (OGC) (FBI) [Redacted] Rojas, Rachel L. (InTO) (FBI) [Redacted] Platt, Lon Stuart (OPR) (FBI) [Redacted]
Subject: RE: Media Request: FBI Richmond Document cites SPLC

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

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From: Coakley, Miriam M. (OGC) (FBI) [Redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2023 3:25 PM
To: [Redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [Redacted] Ugoretz, Tonya L. (DI) (FBI) [Redacted] Meador, Stanley M. (RH) (FBI) [Redacted] Wells, Robert R. (CTD) (FBI) [Redacted] Jones, Jason Allen (OGC) (FBI) [Redacted] Turner, Suzanne (INSD) (FBI) [Redacted] Dunham, Christopher G. (OCA) (FBI) [Redacted] (OCA) (FBI) [Redacted] (CTD) (FBI) [Redacted] (CTD) (FBI) [Redacted] (DI) (FBI) [Redacted]
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b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

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Thanks,
Miriam

From: [Redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [Redacted]

b6 -1
b7C -1
(23-cv-116) b7E -3

From: Jones, Jason Allen (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: Re: Media Request: FBI Richmond Document cites SPLC
To: Byron, Pamela (DI) (FBI); [redacted] (OPA) (FBI); Beidler, Douglas S. (SecD) (FBI); Coakley, Miriam M. (OGC) (FBI); Ugoretz, Tonya L. (DI) (FBI); Meador, Stanley M. (RH) (FBI); Wells, Robert R. (CTD) (FBI); Turner, Suzanne (INSD) (FBI); Dunham, Christopher G. (OCA) (FBI); [redacted] (OCA) (FBI); [redacted] (CTD) (FBI); [redacted] (CTD) (FBI); [redacted] (DI) (FBI)
Cc: Milhoan, Catherine L. (OPA) (FBI); Goodwater, Douglas M. (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] (RH) (FBI); [redacted] (OGC) (FBI); [redacted] (OGC) (FBI); Rojas, Rachel L. (InTO) (FBI); Platt, Lon Stuart (OPR) (FBI); Hardiman, Kellie M. (CTD) (FBI)
Sent: February 8, 2023 6:22 PM (UTC-05:00)

b6 -1
b7C -1

Very helpful Pam [redacted]
[redacted]

b5 -1

From: Byron, Pamela (DI) (FBI) [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2023 6:11:04 PM
To: [redacted] (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] Beidler, Douglas S. (SecD) (FBI); [redacted] Coakley, Miriam M. (OGC) (FBI); [redacted] Ugoretz, Tonya L. (DI) (FBI); [redacted] Meador, Stanley M. (RH) (FBI); [redacted] Wells, Robert R. (CTD) (FBI); [redacted] Jones, Jason Allen (OGC) (FBI); [redacted] Turner, Suzanne (INSD) (FBI); [redacted] Dunham, Christopher G. (OCA) (FBI); [redacted] (OCA) (FBI); [redacted] (CTD) (FBI); [redacted] (CTD) (FBI); [redacted] (DI) (FBI); [redacted]
Cc: Milhoan, Catherine L. (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] Goodwater, Douglas M. (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] (RH) (FBI); [redacted] (OGC) (FBI); [redacted] (OGC) (FBI); [redacted] Rojas, Rachel L. (InTO) (FBI); [redacted] Platt, Lon Stuart (OPR) (FBI); [redacted] Hardiman, Kellie M. (CTD) (FBI); [redacted]
Subject: RE: Media Request: FBI Richmond Document cites SPLC

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

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[Large redacted area]

b5 -1

We stand by to assist on any other questions.

Stanley M. (RH) (FBI) [redacted] Wells, Robert R. (CTD) (FBI) [redacted] Jones, Jason Allen (OGC) (FBI) [redacted] Turner, Suzanne (INSD) (FBI) [redacted] Dunham, Christopher G. (OCA) (FBI) [redacted] (OCA) (FBI) [redacted] (CTD) (FBI) [redacted] (CTD) (FBI) [redacted] (DI) (FBI) [redacted]
Cc: Milhoan, Catherine L. (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] Goodwater, Douglas M. (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] (RH) (FBI) [redacted] (OGC) (FBI) [redacted] (OGC) (FBI) [redacted] Rojas, Rachel L. (InTO) (FBI) [redacted] Beidler, Douglas S. (SecD) (FBI) [redacted] Platt, Lon Stuart (OPR) (FBI) [redacted]

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

Subject: RE: Media Request: FBI Richmond Document cites SPLC

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Miriam

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Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2023 3:09 PM
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Subject: RE: Media Request: FBI Richmond Document cites SPLC

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

+ Miriam and others from OGC. I am also adding the second media inquiry.

[redacted]

b6 -1
b7C -1

From [redacted] (OPA) (FBI)
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2023 2:20 PM
To: Ugoretz, Tonya L. (DI) (FBI) [redacted] Meador, Stanley M. (RH) (FBI) [redacted] Wells, Robert R. (CTD) (FBI) [redacted] Jones, Jason Allen (OGC) (FBI) [redacted] Turner, Suzanne (INSD) (FBI) [redacted] Dunham, Christopher G. (OCA) (FBI) [redacted] (OCA) (FBI) [redacted] (CTD) (FBI) [redacted] (CTD) (FBI) [redacted] (DI) (FBI) [redacted]
Cc: Milhoan, Catherine L. (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] Goodwater, Douglas M. (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] (RH) (FBI) [redacted]
Subject: FW: Media Request: FBI Richmond Document cites SPLC

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

Hello,

From: [REDACTED] (OPA) (FBI)
Subject: Automatic reply: Media Request: FBI Richmond Document cites SPLC
To: Jones, Jason Allen (OGC) (FBI)
Sent: February 8, 2023 6:22 PM (UTC-05:00)

b6 -1
b7C -1

Hello,

I am offsite with limited access to email. For immediate assistance, please contact npo@fbi.gov. Thank you.

From: Knapp, Larissa L. (NSB) (FBI)
Subject: Re: Media Request: FBI Richmond Document cites SPLC
To: Wells, Robert R. (CTD) (FBI)
Cc: [redacted] (OGC) (FBI); [redacted] (NSB) (FBI)
Sent: February 8, 2023 6:24 PM (UTC-05:00)

b6 -1
b7C -1

From: Wells, Robert R. (CTD) (FBI) [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2023 4:38:41 PM
To: Knapp, Larissa L. (NSB) (FBI) [redacted]
Cc: [redacted] (OGC) (FBI); [redacted] (NSB) (FBI); [redacted]
Subject: FW: Media Request: FBI Richmond Document cites SPLC

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

See the attached article by [redacted] regarding a leaked intel product in Richmond.

b6 -3
b7C -3

From: [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2023 3:09 PM
To: Ugoretz, Tonya L. (DI) (FBI) [redacted]; Meador, Stanley M. (RH) (FBI) [redacted]; Wells, Robert R. (CTD) (FBI) [redacted]; Jones, Jason Allen (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]; Turner, Suzanne (INSD) (FBI) [redacted]; Dunham, Christopher G. (OCA) (FBI) [redacted]; [redacted] (OCA) (FBI) [redacted]; [redacted] (CTD) (FBI) [redacted]; [redacted] (CTD) (FBI) [redacted]; [redacted] (DI) (FBI) [redacted]; Coakley, Miriam M. (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]
Cc: Milhoan, Catherine L. (OPA) (FBI) [redacted]; Goodwater, Douglas M. (OPA) (FBI) [redacted]; [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted]; [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted]; [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted]; [redacted] (RH) (FBI) [redacted]; [redacted] (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]; [redacted] (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]
Subject: RE: Media Request: FBI Richmond Document cites SPLC

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

+ Miriam and others from OGC. I am also adding the second media inquiry.

[redacted]

b6 -1
b7C -1

From: [redacted] (OPA) (FBI)
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2023 2:20 PM
To: Ugoretz, Tonya L. (DI) (FBI) [redacted]; Meador, Stanley M. (RH) (FBI) [redacted]; Wells, Robert R. (CTD) (FBI) [redacted]; Jones, Jason Allen (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]; Turner, Suzanne (INSD) (FBI) [redacted]; Dunham, Christopher G. (OCA) (FBI) [redacted]; [redacted] (OCA) (FBI) [redacted]; [redacted] (CTD) (FBI) [redacted]; [redacted] (CTD) (FBI) [redacted]; [redacted] (DI) (FBI) [redacted]
Cc: Milhoan, Catherine L. (OPA) (FBI) [redacted]; Goodwater, Douglas M. (OPA) (FBI) [redacted]; [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted]; [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted]; [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted]; [redacted] (RH) (FBI) [redacted]
Subject: FW: Media Request: FBI Richmond Document cites SPLC

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

Hello,

We have inquiries from the Washington Examiner and The Daily Signal (Heritage Foundation) about an article written by [redacted]. It references a January intelligence product from the Richmond Field office. After speaking with SC Goodwater, I am alerting all of you so we can get a copy of the actual document and hear any recommendations on how to respond.

b6 -3
b7C -3

I am attaching a cut and paste of the [redacted] article.

From: Knapp, Larissa L. (NSB) (FBI)
Subject: Fwd: Media Request: FBI Richmond Document cites SPLC
To:
Sent: February 8, 2023 6:24 PM (UTC-05:00)
Attached: [redacted] article 2-8-23.docx

b6 -3
b7C -3

From: Wells, Robert R. (CTD) (FBI) [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2023 4:38:41 PM
To: Knapp, Larissa L. (NSB) (FBI) [redacted]
Cc: [redacted] (OGC) (FBI) [redacted] (NSB) (FBI) [redacted]
Subject: FW: Media Request: FBI Richmond Document cites SPLC

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

See the attached article by [redacted] regarding a leaked intel product in Richmond.

b6 -3
b7C -3

From: [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2023 3:09 PM
To: Ugoretz, Tonya L. (DI) (FBI) [redacted] Meador, Stanley M. (RH) (FBI) [redacted] Wells, Robert R. (CTD) (FBI) [redacted] Jones, Jason Allen (OGC) (FBI) [redacted] Turner, Suzanne (INSD) (FBI) [redacted] Dunham, Christopher G. (OCA) (FBI) [redacted] (OCA) (FBI) [redacted] (CTD) (FBI) [redacted] (CTD) (FBI) [redacted] (DI) (FBI) [redacted] Coakley, Miriam M. (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]
Cc: Milhoan, Catherine L. (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] Goodwater, Douglas M. (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] (RH) (FBI) [redacted] (OGC) (FBI) [redacted] (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]
Subject: RE: Media Request: FBI Richmond Document cites SPLC

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

+ Miriam and others from OGC. I am also adding the second media inquiry.

[redacted]

b6 -1
b7C -1

From: [redacted] (OPA) (FBI)
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2023 2:20 PM
To: Ugoretz, Tonya L. (DI) (FBI) [redacted] Meador, Stanley M. (RH) (FBI) [redacted] Wells, Robert R. (CTD) (FBI) [redacted] Jones, Jason Allen (OGC) (FBI) [redacted] Turner, Suzanne (INSD) (FBI) [redacted] Dunham, Christopher G. (OCA) (FBI) [redacted] (OCA) (FBI) [redacted] (CTD) (FBI) [redacted] (CTD) (FBI) [redacted] (DI) (FBI) [redacted]
Cc: Milhoan, Catherine L. (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] Goodwater, Douglas M. (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] (RH) (FBI) [redacted]
Subject: FW: Media Request: FBI Richmond Document cites SPLC

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

Hello,

We have inquiries from the Washington Examiner and The Daily Signal (Heritage Foundation) about an article written by [redacted] It references a January intelligence product from the Richmond Field office. After speaking with SC Goodwater, I am alerting all of you so we can get a copy of the actual document and hear any recommendations on how to respond.

b6 -3
b7C -3

I am attaching a cut and paste of the [redacted] article.

From: Ugoretz, Tonya L. (DI) (FBI)
Subject: Fwd: Media Request: FBI Richmond Document cites SPLC
To: Knapp, Larissa L. (NSB) (FBI); Young, Ryan T. (IB) (FBI)
Cc: Wells, Robert R. (CTD) (FBI)
Sent: February 8, 2023 6:30 PM (UTC-05:00)

EADs,

Following up on EAD Knapp's red side email, please see below context from Pam on how [redacted]

b5 -1

- Tonya

From: Byron, Pamela (DI) (FBI) [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2023, 6:11 PM
To: [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] Beidler, Douglas S. (SecD) (FBI) [redacted]
Coakley, Miriam M. (OGC) (FBI) [redacted] Ugoretz, Tonya L. (DI) (FBI) [redacted]
Meador, Stanley M. (RH) (FBI) [redacted] Wells, Robert R. (CTD) (FBI) [redacted] Jones, Jason
Allen (OGC) (FBI) [redacted] Turner, Suzanne (INSD) (FBI) [redacted] Dunham, Christopher G.
(OCA) (FBI) [redacted] (OCA) (FBI) [redacted]
(CTD) (FBI) [redacted] (CTD) (FBI) [redacted] (DI) (FBI) [redacted]
Cc: Milhoan, Catherine L. (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] Goodwater, Douglas M. (OPA) (FBI)
[redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] (OPA) (FBI)
[redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] (OPA) (FBI)
[redacted] (RH) (FBI) [redacted] (OGC) (FBI)
[redacted] (OGC) (FBI) [redacted] Rojas, Rachel L. (InTO) (FBI)
[redacted] Platt, Lon Stuart (OPR) (FBI) [redacted] Hardiman, Kellie M. (CTD) (FBI)
Subject: RE: Media Request: FBI Richmond Document cites SPLC

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

As mentioned on FBINET, the type of product leaked is a Domain Perspective (DP) – the purpose of DPs is to offer information and/or highlight how a shift or new development in an AOR (domain) related to an environmental variable could impact the threat environment. Environmental variables include demographic shifts, technology development, economic conditions, special events, social/cultural conditions, etc. In particular, the analysis in DPs (as in FBI products in general) is focused on the activity of identified or potential threat actors, not on the environmental variables themselves, and how those threat actors react to shifts in the environment, and the subsequent impact on the threat posed by those actors.

In that context, there are a couple of things to note with this situation:

[Large redacted block]

b5 -1

We stand by to assist on any other questions.

Thanks,
Pam

From: Meador, Stanley M. (RH) (FBI)
Subject: Re: Media Request: FBI Richmond Document cites SPLC
To: Jones, Jason Allen (OGC) (FBI); Byron, Pamela (DI) (FBI); [redacted] (OPA) (FBI); Beidler, Douglas S. (SecD) (FBI); Coakley, Miriam M. (OGC) (FBI); Ugoretz, Tonya L. (DI) (FBI); Wells, Robert R. (CTD) (FBI); Turner, Suzanne (INSD) (FBI); Dunham, Christopher G. (OCA) (FBI); [redacted] (OCA) (FBI); [redacted] (CTD) (FBI); [redacted] (CTD) (FBI); [redacted] (DI) (FBI)
Cc: Milhoan, Catherine L. (OPA) (FBI); Goodwater, Douglas M. (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] (RH) (FBI); [redacted] (OGC) (FBI); [redacted] (OGC) (FBI); Rojas, Rachel L. (InTO) (FBI); Platt, Lon Stuart (OPR) (FBI); Hardiman, Kellie M. (CTD) (FBI)
Sent: February 8, 2023 6:36 PM (UTC-05:00)

b6 -1
b7C -1

Thanks Jason,

[redacted]

b5 -1
b7E -4

Stanley

From: Jones, Jason Allen (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2023 6:22:03 PM
To: Byron, Pamela (DI) (FBI) [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] Beidler, Douglas S. (SecD) (FBI) [redacted] Coakley, Miriam M. (OGC) (FBI) [redacted] Ugoretz, Tonya L. (DI) (FBI) [redacted] Meador, Stanley M. (RH) (FBI) [redacted] Wells, Robert R. (CTD) (FBI) [redacted] Turner, Suzanne (INSD) (FBI) [redacted] Dunham, Christopher G. (OCA) (FBI) [redacted] [redacted] (OCA) (FBI) [redacted] (CTD) (FBI) [redacted] (CTD) (FBI) [redacted] (DI) (FBI) [redacted]
Cc: Milhoan, Catherine L. (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] Goodwater, Douglas M. (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] (RH) (FBI) [redacted] (OGC) (FBI) [redacted] (OGC) (FBI) [redacted] Rojas, Rachel L. (InTO) (FBI) [redacted] Platt, Lon Stuart (OPR) (FBI) [redacted] Hardiman, Kellie M. (CTD) (FBI) [redacted]
Subject: Re: Media Request: FBI Richmond Document cites SPLC

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

Very helpful Pam [redacted]
[redacted]

b5 -1

From: Byron, Pamela (DI) (FBI) [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2023 6:11:04 PM
To: [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] Beidler, Douglas S. (SecD) (FBI) [redacted] Coakley, Miriam M. (OGC) (FBI) [redacted] Ugoretz, Tonya L. (DI) (FBI) [redacted] Meador, Stanley M. (RH) (FBI) [redacted] Wells, Robert R. (CTD) (FBI) [redacted] Jones, Jason Allen (OGC) (FBI) [redacted] Turner, Suzanne (INSD) (FBI) [redacted] Dunham, Christopher G. (OCA) (FBI) [redacted] [redacted] (OCA) (FBI) [redacted] (CTD) (FBI) [redacted] (CTD) (FBI) [redacted] (DI) (FBI) [redacted]

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

From: Jones, Jason Allen (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: Fwd: Media Request: FBI Richmond Document cites SPLC
To: Lenzner, Jonathan Falk (DO) (DET); McCulloch, Scott (DO) (DET) [redacted] (DO) (DET)
Sent: February 8, 2023 7:33 PM (UTC-05:00)

b6 -1
b7C -1

Are you all tracking this one?

From: Meador, Stanley M. (RH) (FBI) [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2023 6:35:44 PM
To: Jones, Jason Allen (OGC) (FBI) [redacted] Byron, Pamela (DI) (FBI) [redacted]
[redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] Beidler, Douglas S. (SecD) (FBI) [redacted] Coakley, Miriam M. (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]
[redacted] Ugoretz, Tonya L. (DI) (FBI) [redacted] Wells, Robert R. (CTD) (FBI) [redacted]
[redacted] Turner, Suzanne (INSD) (FBI) [redacted] Dunham, Christopher G. (OCA) (FBI) [redacted]
[redacted] (OCA) (FBI) [redacted] (CTD) (FBI) [redacted]
[redacted] (CTD) (FBI) [redacted] (DI) (FBI) [redacted]
Cc: Milhoan, Catherine L. (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] Goodwater, Douglas M. (OPA) (FBI) [redacted]
[redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted]
[redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted]
[redacted] (RH) (FBI) [redacted] (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]
[redacted] (OGC) (FBI) [redacted] Rojas, Rachel L. (InTO) (FBI) [redacted]
[redacted] Platt, Lon Stuart (OPR) (FBI) [redacted] Hardiman, Kellie M. (CTD) (FBI) [redacted]
Subject: Re: Media Request: FBI Richmond Document cites SPLC

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

Thanks Jason,

[Large redacted block]

b5 -1
b7E -4

Stanley

From: Jones, Jason Allen (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2023 6:22:03 PM
To: Byron, Pamela (DI) (FBI) [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] Beidler, Douglas S. (SecD) (FBI) [redacted]
[redacted] Coakley, Miriam M. (OGC) (FBI) [redacted] Ugoretz, Tonya L. (DI) (FBI) [redacted]
[redacted] Meador, Stanley M. (RH) (FBI) [redacted] Wells, Robert R. (CTD) (FBI) [redacted]
[redacted] Turner, Suzanne (INSD) (FBI) [redacted] Dunham, Christopher G. (OCA) (FBI) [redacted]
[redacted] (OCA) (FBI) [redacted] (CTD) (FBI) [redacted]
[redacted] (CTD) (FBI) [redacted] (DI) (FBI) [redacted]
Cc: Milhoan, Catherine L. (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] Goodwater, Douglas M. (OPA) (FBI) [redacted]
[redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted]
[redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted]
[redacted] (RH) (FBI) [redacted] (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]
[redacted] (OGC) (FBI) [redacted] Rojas, Rachel L. (InTO) (FBI) [redacted]
[redacted] Platt, Lon Stuart (OPR) (FBI) [redacted] Hardiman, Kellie M. (CTD) (FBI) [redacted]
Subject: Re: Media Request: FBI Richmond Document cites SPLC

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

Very helpful Pam [redacted]

b5 -1

From: Lenzner, Jonathan Falk (DO) (DET)
Subject: RE: Media Request: FBI Richmond Document cites SPLC
To: Jones, Jason Allen (OGC) (FBI); McCulloch, Scott (DO) (DET); [redacted] (DO) (DET)
Sent: February 8, 2023 7:43 PM (UTC-05:00)

b6 -1
b7C -1

Thanks for forwarding this [redacted]

[redacted]

b5 -1

Reading this email, I see that Pam has some context that I may have missed.

From: Jones, Jason Allen (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2023 7:33 PM
To: Lenzner, Jonathan Falk (DO) (DET) [redacted]; McCulloch, Scott (DO) (DET) [redacted]
[redacted] (DO) (DET) [redacted]
Subject: Fwd: Media Request: FBI Richmond Document cites SPLC

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

Are you all tracking this one?

From: Meador, Stanley M. (RH) (FBI) [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2023 6:35:44 PM
To: Jones, Jason Allen (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]; Byron, Pamela (DI) (FBI) [redacted]
[redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted]; Beidler, Douglas S. (SecD) (FBI) [redacted]; Coakley, Miriam M. (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]
[redacted] Ugoretz, Tonya L. (DI) (FBI) [redacted]; Wells, Robert R. (CTD) (FBI) [redacted]
[redacted] Turner, Suzanne (INSD) (FBI) [redacted]; Dunham, Christopher G. (OCA) (FBI) [redacted]
[redacted] (OCA) (FBI) [redacted] (CTD) (FBI) [redacted]
[redacted] (CTD) (FBI) [redacted] (DI) (FBI) [redacted]
Cc: Milhoan, Catherine L. (OPA) (FBI) [redacted]; Goodwater, Douglas M. (OPA) (FBI) [redacted]
[redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted]
[redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted]
[redacted] (RH) (FBI) [redacted] (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]
[redacted] (OGC) (FBI) [redacted] Rojas, Rachel L. (InTO) (FBI) [redacted]
[redacted] Platt, Lon Stuart (OPR) (FBI) [redacted] Hardiman, Kellie M. (CTD) (FBI) [redacted]
[redacted]
Subject: Re: Media Request: FBI Richmond Document cites SPLC

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

Thanks Jason,

[redacted]

b5 -1
b7E -4

Stanley

From: Jones, Jason Allen (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2023 6:22:03 PM
To: Byron, Pamela (DI) (FBI) [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted]; Beidler, Douglas S. (SecD) (FBI) [redacted]; Coakley, Miriam M. (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]; Ugoretz, Tonya L. (DI) (FBI) [redacted]
[redacted] Meador, Stanley M. (RH) (FBI) [redacted]; Wells, Robert R. (CTD) (FBI) [redacted]

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

[redacted] Turner, Suzanne (INSD) (FBI) [redacted] Dunham, Christopher G. (OCA) (FBI)
 [redacted] (OCA) (FBI) [redacted] (CTD) (FBI)
 [redacted] (CTD) (FBI) [redacted] (DI) (FBI) [redacted]
Cc: Milhoan, Catherine L. (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] Goodwater, Douglas M. (OPA) (FBI)
 [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] (OPA) (FBI)
 [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] (OPA) (FBI)
 [redacted] (RH) (FBI) [redacted] (OGC) (FBI)
 [redacted] (OGC) (FBI) [redacted] Rojas, Rachel L. (InTO) (FBI)
 [redacted] Platt, Lon Stuart (OPR) (FBI) [redacted] Hardiman, Kellie M. (CTD) (FBI)
 [redacted]

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

Subject: Re: Media Request: FBI Richmond Document cites SPLC

Very helpful Pam [redacted]
[redacted]

b5 -1

From: Byron, Pamela (DI) (FBI) [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2023 6:11:04 PM
To: [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] Beidler, Douglas S. (SecD) (FBI) [redacted] Coakley,
 Miriam M. (OGC) (FBI) [redacted] Ugoretz, Tonya L. (DI) (FBI) [redacted] Meador, Stanley M.
 (RH) (FBI) [redacted] Wells, Robert R. (CTD) (FBI) [redacted] Jones, Jason Allen (OGC) (FBI)
 [redacted] Turner, Suzanne (INSD) (FBI) [redacted] Dunham, Christopher G. (OCA) (FBI)
 [redacted] (OCA) (FBI) [redacted] (CTD) (FBI)
 [redacted] (CTD) (FBI) [redacted] (DI) (FBI) [redacted]
Cc: Milhoan, Catherine L. (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] Goodwater, Douglas M. (OPA) (FBI)
 [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] (OPA) (FBI)
 [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] (OPA) (FBI)
 [redacted] (RH) (FBI) [redacted] (OGC) (FBI)
 [redacted] (OGC) (FBI) [redacted] Rojas, Rachel L. (InTO) (FBI)
 [redacted] Platt, Lon Stuart (OPR) (FBI) [redacted] Hardiman, Kellie M. (CTD) (FBI)
 [redacted]

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

Subject: RE: Media Request: FBI Richmond Document cites SPLC

As mentioned on FBINET, the type of product leaked is a Domain Perspective (DP) – the purpose of DPs is to offer information and/or highlight how a shift or new development in an AOR (domain) related to an environmental variable could impact the threat environment. Environmental variables include demographic shifts, technology development, economic conditions, special events, social/cultural conditions, etc. In particular, the analysis in DPs (as in FBI products in general) is focused on the activity of identified or potential threat actors, not on the environmental variables themselves, and how those threat actors react to shifts in the environment, and the subsequent impact on the threat posed by those actors.

In that context, there are a couple of things to note with this situation:

[redacted]

b5 -1

We stand by to assist on any other questions.

From: Jones, Jason Allen (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: Re: Media Request: FBI Richmond Document cites SPLC
To: Lenzner, Jonathan Falk (DO) (DET); McCulloch, Scott (DO) (DET); [redacted] (DO) (DET)
Sent: February 8, 2023 7:46 PM (UTC-05:00)

b6 -1
b7C -1

[redacted]

b5 -1

From: Lenzner, Jonathan Falk (DO) (DET) [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2023 7:43:09 PM
To: Jones, Jason Allen (OGC) (FBI) [redacted] McCulloch, Scott (DO) (DET) [redacted]
[redacted] (DO) (DET) [redacted]
Subject: RE: Media Request: FBI Richmond Document cites SPLC

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

Thanks for forwarding this [redacted]

b5 -1

Reading this email, I see that Pam has some context that I may have missed.

From: Jones, Jason Allen (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2023 7:33 PM
To: Lenzner, Jonathan Falk (DO) (DET) [redacted] McCulloch, Scott (DO) (DET) [redacted]
[redacted] (DO) (DET) [redacted]
Subject: Fwd: Media Request: FBI Richmond Document cites SPLC

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

Are you all tracking this one?

From: Meador, Stanley M. (RH) (FBI) [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2023 6:35:44 PM
To: Jones, Jason Allen (OGC) (FBI) [redacted] Byron, Pamela (DI) (FBI) [redacted]
[redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] Beidler, Douglas S. (SecD) (FBI) [redacted] Coakley, Miriam M. (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]
[redacted] Ugoretz, Tonya L. (DI) (FBI) [redacted] Wells, Robert R. (CTD) (FBI) [redacted]
[redacted] Furner, Suzanne (INSD) (FBI) [redacted] Dunham, Christopher G. (OCA) (FBI) [redacted]
[redacted] (OCA) (FBI) [redacted] (CTD) (FBI) [redacted]
[redacted] (CTD) (FBI) [redacted] (DI) (FBI) [redacted]
Cc: Milhoan, Catherine L. (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] Goodwater, Douglas M. (OPA) (FBI) [redacted]
[redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted]
[redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted]
[redacted] (RH) (FBI) [redacted] (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]
[redacted] (OGC) (FBI) [redacted] Rojas, Rachel L. (InTO) (FBI) [redacted]
[redacted] Platt, Lon Stuart (OPR) (FBI) [redacted] Hardiman, Kellie M. (CTD) (FBI) [redacted]
[redacted]

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

Subject: Re: Media Request: FBI Richmond Document cites SPLC

Thanks Jason,

[redacted]

b5 -1

From: Wells, Robert R. (CTD) (FBI)
Subject: Fwd: Media Request: FBI Richmond Document cites SPLC
To: Knapp, Larissa L. (NSB) (FBI)
Sent: February 8, 2023 7:52 PM (UTC-05:00)

From Kellie:

[Redacted]

b5 -1
b7E -4

From: Hardiman, Kellie M. (CTD) (FBI) [Redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2023 7:25:37 PM
To: Wells, Robert R. (CTD) (FBI) [Redacted]
Subject: Fwd: Media Request: FBI Richmond Document cites SPLC

b7E -3

Per the SAC's email.

From: [Redacted] (CTD) (FBI) [Redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2023, 6:57 PM
To: Machtinger, Michael P. (CTD) (FBI) [Redacted] Hardiman, Kellie M. (CTD) (FBI)
[Redacted] McQueen, Steven L. (CTD) (FBI) [Redacted] (CTD) (FBI)
[Redacted] (CTD) (FBI) [Redacted] (CTD) (FBI)
[Redacted] (CTD) (FBI) [Redacted] (CTD) (FBI)
Subject: RE: Media Request: FBI Richmond Document cites SPLC

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

Kellie,

[Redacted]
[Redacted] connected with
[Redacted] and we planned to talk more after wrapping up [Redacted]

b5 -1
b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -4

Regards,

[Redacted]

b6 -1
b7C -1

From: Machtinger, Michael P. (CTD) (FBI) [Redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2023 6:53 PM
To: Hardiman, Kellie M. (CTD) (FBI) [Redacted] McQueen, Steven L. (CTD) (FBI) [Redacted]
[Redacted] (CTD) (FBI) [Redacted] (CTD) (FBI) [Redacted]
[Redacted] (CTD) (FBI) [Redacted] (CTD) (FBI) [Redacted]
[Redacted] (CTD) (FBI) [Redacted] (CTD) (FBI) [Redacted]
Subject: Re: Media Request: FBI Richmond Document cites SPLC

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

I agree with Kellie [Redacted]

b5 -1
b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -4

[Redacted]

From: Hardiman, Kellie M. (CTD) (FBI) [Redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2023 6:45:23 PM
To: McQueen, Steven L. (CTD) (FBI) [Redacted] (CTD) (FBI) [Redacted]
[Redacted] (CTD) (FBI) [Redacted] Machtinger, Michael P. (CTD) (FBI) [Redacted]
[Redacted] (CTD) (FBI) [Redacted] (CTD) (FBI) [Redacted]
[Redacted] (CTD) (FBI) [Redacted] (CTD) (FBI) [Redacted]
Subject: Fwd: Media Request: FBI Richmond Document cites SPLC

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

FYI on additional input from DI and OGC [redacted] does that sound familiar?

b5 -1

From: Meador, Stanley M. (RH) (FBI) [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2023, 6:35 PM
To: Jones, Jason Allen (OGC) (FBI) [redacted] Byron, Pamela (DI) (FBI) [redacted]
 [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] Beidler, Douglas S. (SecD) (FBI) [redacted] Coakley, Miriam M. (OGC) (FBI) [redacted] Ugoretz, Tonya L. (DI) (FBI) [redacted] Wells, Robert R. (CTD) (FBI) [redacted]
 [redacted] Turner, Suzanne (INSD) (FBI) [redacted] Dunham, Christopher G. (OCA) (FBI) [redacted] [redacted] (OCA) (FBI) [redacted] (CTD) (FBI) [redacted] [redacted] (CTD) (FBI) [redacted] (DI) (FBI) [redacted]
Cc: Milhoan, Catherine L. (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] Goodwater, Douglas M. (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] (RH) (FBI) [redacted] (OGC) (FBI) [redacted] (OGC) (FBI) [redacted] Rojas, Rachel L. (InTO) (FBI) [redacted] Platt, Lon Stuart (OPR) (FBI) [redacted] Hardiman, Kellie M. (CTD) (FBI) [redacted]
Subject: Re: Media Request: FBI Richmond Document cites SPLC

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

Thanks Jason,

[Large redacted block]

b5 -1
b7E -4

Stanley

From: Jones, Jason Allen (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2023 6:22:03 PM
To: Byron, Pamela (DI) (FBI) [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] Beidler, Douglas S. (SecD) (FBI) [redacted] Coakley, Miriam M. (OGC) (FBI) [redacted] Ugoretz, Tonya L. (DI) (FBI) [redacted] Meador, Stanley M. (RH) (FBI) [redacted] Wells, Robert R. (CTD) (FBI) [redacted] Turner, Suzanne (INSD) (FBI) [redacted] Dunham, Christopher G. (OCA) (FBI) [redacted] [redacted] (OCA) (FBI) [redacted] (CTD) (FBI) [redacted] [redacted] (CTD) (FBI) [redacted] (DI) (FBI) [redacted]
Cc: Milhoan, Catherine L. (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] Goodwater, Douglas M. (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] (RH) (FBI) [redacted] (OGC) (FBI) [redacted] (OGC) (FBI) [redacted] Rojas, Rachel L. (InTO) (FBI) [redacted] Platt, Lon Stuart (OPR) (FBI) [redacted] Hardiman, Kellie M. (CTD) (FBI) [redacted]
Subject: Re: Media Request: FBI Richmond Document cites SPLC

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

Very helpful Pam [redacted]

b5 -1

From: Wells, Robert R. (CTD) (FBI)
Subject: Fwd: Media Request: FBI Richmond Document cites SPLC
To: Knapp, Larissa L. (NSB) (FBI)
Sent: February 8, 2023 8:24 PM (UTC-05:00)

Confirmed from Kellie that [redacted]

b5 -1

From: Hardiman, Kellie M. (CTD) (FBI) [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2023, 8:11 PM
To: Wells, Robert R. (CTD) (FBI) [redacted]
Subject: Fwd: Media Request: FBI Richmond Document cites SPLC

b7E -3

Hi Boss,

Per [redacted] message below, [redacted]

b5 -1

b6 -1

b7C -1

b7E -4

Kellie

From: [redacted] (CTD) (FBI) [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2023, 8:07 PM
To: Hardiman, Kellie M. (CTD) (FBI) [redacted]
Cc: [redacted] (CTD) (FBI) [redacted]
Subject: RE: Media Request: FBI Richmond Document cites SPLC

b6 -1

b7C -1

b7E -3

Yes, ma'am. They reached out in the last few days [redacted]

b5 -1

b7E -4

From: Hardiman, Kellie M. (CTD) (FBI) [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2023 8:06 PM
To: [redacted] (CTD) (FBI) [redacted]
Cc: [redacted] (CTD) (FBI) [redacted]
Subject: Re: Media Request: FBI Richmond Document cites SPLC

b6 -1

b7C -1

b7E -3

H [redacted]
I just want to clarify [redacted] The AD
will need to speak to the timing tomorrow morning, so I wanted to double check [redacted]
[redacted] I just want to give the AD the right info.

b5 -1

b6 -1

b7C -1

Thank you,
Kellie

From: [redacted] (CTD) (FBI) [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2023 6:57:19 PM
To: Machtinger, Michael P. (CTD) (FBI) [redacted] Hardiman, Kellie M. (CTD) (FBI)
[redacted] McQueen, Steven L. (CTD) (FBI) [redacted] (CTD) (FBI)
[redacted] (CTD) (FBI) [redacted] (CTD) (FBI)
[redacted] (CTD) (FBI) [redacted]
Subject: RE: Media Request: FBI Richmond Document cites SPLC

b6 -1

b7C -1

b7E -3

Kellie,

b5 -1

b7E

[redacted] I connected with [redacted] and we planned to talk more after wrapping up [redacted]

b5 -1
b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -4

Regards,

[redacted]

From: Machtinger, Michael P. (CTD) (FBI) [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2023 6:53 PM
To: Hardiman, Kellie M. (CTD) (FBI) [redacted]; McQueen, Steven L. (CTD) (FBI) [redacted]; [redacted] (CTD) (FBI) [redacted]; [redacted] (CTD) (FBI) [redacted]; [redacted] (CTD) (FBI) [redacted]; [redacted] (CTD) (FBI) [redacted]
Subject: Re: Media Request: FBI Richmond Document cites SPLC

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

I agree with Kellie [redacted]

b5 -1
b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -4

[redacted]

From: Hardiman, Kellie M. (CTD) (FBI) [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2023 6:45:23 PM
To: McQueen, Steven L. (CTD) (FBI) [redacted]; [redacted] (CTD) (FBI) [redacted]; [redacted] (CTD) (FBI) [redacted]; Machtinger, Michael P. (CTD) (FBI) [redacted]; [redacted] (CTD) (FBI) [redacted]; [redacted] (CTD) (FBI) [redacted]; [redacted] (CTD) (FBI) [redacted]
Subject: Fwd: Media Request: FBI Richmond Document cites SPLC

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

FYI on additional input from DI and OGC - [redacted] does that sound familiar?

b5 -1

From: Meador, Stanley M. (RH) (FBI) [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2023, 6:35 PM
To: Jones, Jason Allen (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]; Byron, Pamela (DI) (FBI) [redacted]; [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted]; Beidler, Douglas S. (SecD) (FBI) [redacted]; Coakley, Miriam M. (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]; Ugoretz, Tonya L. (DI) (FBI) [redacted]; Wells, Robert R. (CTD) (FBI) [redacted]; Turner, Suzanne (INSD) (FBI) [redacted]; Dunham, Christopher G. (OCA) (FBI) [redacted]; [redacted] (OCA) (FBI) [redacted]; [redacted] (CTD) (FBI) [redacted]; [redacted] (CTD) (FBI) [redacted]; [redacted] (DI) (FBI) [redacted]
Cc: Milhoan, Catherine L. (OPA) (FBI) [redacted]; Goodwater, Douglas M. (OPA) (FBI) [redacted]; [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted]; [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted]; [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted]; [redacted] (RH) (FBI) [redacted]; [redacted] (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]; [redacted] (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]; Rojas, Rachel L. (InTO) (FBI) [redacted]; Platt, Lon Stuart (OPR) (FBI) [redacted]; Hardiman, Kellie M. (CTD) (FBI) [redacted]; [redacted]
Subject: Re: Media Request: FBI Richmond Document cites SPLC

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

Thanks Jason,

[redacted]

b5 -1

From: Goodwater, Douglas M. (OPA) (FBI)
Subject: Re: story on product that was leaked
To: Jones, Jason Allen (OGC) (FBI); Lenzner, Jonathan Falk (DO) (DET); Milhoan, Catherine L. (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] (DO) (DET); McCulloch, Scott (DO) (DET); Coakley, Miriam M. (OGC) (FBI); [redacted] (DO) (FBI)
Cc: Abbate, Paul M. (DO) (FBI)
Sent: February 8, 2023 8:31 PM (UTC-05:00)

b6 -1
b7C -1

All, for awareness and consideration, CTD responded on FBI.net around 6pm this evening, so I cannot forward it. Some of the comments from CTD were:

[redacted]

b5 -1
b7E -4

CTD also deferred to DI for further comment/action/assessment.

From: Jones, Jason Allen (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2023, 7:53 PM
To: Lenzner, Jonathan Falk (DO) (DET) [redacted]; Milhoan, Catherine L. (OPA) (FBI) [redacted]; Goodwater, Douglas M. (OPA) (FBI) [redacted]; [redacted] (DO) (DET); [redacted] (DO) (DET); McCulloch, Scott (DO) (DET) [redacted]; Coakley, Miriam M. (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]; [redacted] (DO) (FBI) [redacted]
Cc: Abbate, Paul M. (DO) (FBI) [redacted]
Subject: Re: story on product that was leaked

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

Agreed [redacted]
[redacted]

b5 -1
b6 -3
b7C -3

From: Lenzner, Jonathan Falk (DO) (DET) [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2023 7:50:42 PM
To: Milhoan, Catherine L. (OPA) (FBI) [redacted]; Goodwater, Douglas M. (OPA) (FBI) [redacted]; [redacted] (DO) (DET); [redacted] (DO) (DET); McCulloch, Scott (DO) (DET) [redacted]; Jones, Jason Allen (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]; Coakley, Miriam M. (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]; [redacted] (DO) (FBI) [redacted]
Cc: Abbate, Paul M. (DO) (FBI) [redacted]
Subject: story on product that was leaked

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

Cathy,

Our initial instinct was [redacted]
[redacted]
[redacted] However, I note that Pam Byron has some context that I just read where she points out [redacted]

b5 -1

[redacted] If this does not make it into mainstream press tonight, it will no doubt
be featured at the hearing tomorrow [redacted]

b5 -1

[redacted] I understand that the DI is looking at the product, so we should hopefully have some
helpful info soon. I am available to discuss/assist as needed.

Jon

Jonathan Lenzner
Chief of Staff
Federal Bureau of Investigation

[redacted]

b7E -3

From: Knapp, Larissa L. (NSB) (FBI)
Subject: Re: Media Request: FBI Richmond Document cites SPLC
To: Wells, Robert R. (CTD) (FBI)
Sent: February 8, 2023 8:40 PM (UTC-05:00)

Copy thank you

From: Wells, Robert R. (CTD) (FBI) [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2023 8:23:37 PM
To: Knapp, Larissa L. (NSB) (FBI) [redacted]
Subject: Fwd: Media Request: FBI Richmond Document cites SPLC

b7E -3

Confirmed from Kellie that [redacted]

b5 -1

From: Hardiman, Kellie M. (CTD) (FBI) [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2023, 8:11 PM
To: Wells, Robert R. (CTD) (FBI) [redacted]
Subject: Fwd: Media Request: FBI Richmond Document cites SPLC

b7E -3

Hi Boss.

Per [redacted] message below, [redacted]

b5 -1

b6 -1

b7C -1

b7E -4

Kellie

From: [redacted] (CTD) (FBI) [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2023, 8:07 PM
To: Hardiman, Kellie M. (CTD) (FBI) [redacted]
Cc: [redacted] (CTD) (FBI) [redacted]
Subject: RE: Media Request: FBI Richmond Document cites SPLC

b6 -1

b7C -1

b7E -3

Yes, ma'am. They reached out in the last few days [redacted]

b5 -1

b7E -4

From: Hardiman, Kellie M. (CTD) (FBI) [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2023 8:06 PM
To: [redacted] (CTD) (FBI) [redacted]
Cc: [redacted] (CTD) (FBI) [redacted]
Subject: Re: Media Request: FBI Richmond Document cites SPLC

b6 -1

b7C -1

b7E -3

Hi [redacted]
I just want to clarify [redacted] The AD
will need to speak to the timing tomorrow morning, so I wanted to double check. [redacted]

b5 -1

b6 -1

b7C -1

[redacted] I just want to give the AD the right info.

Thank you,
Kellie

From: [redacted] (CTD) (FBI) [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2023 6:57:19 PM
To: Machtinger, Michael P. (CTD) (FBI) [redacted] Hardiman, Kellie M. (CTD) (FBI)

b6 -1

b7C -1

b7E -3

[redacted] McQueen, Steven L. (CTD) (FBI) [redacted] (CTD) (FBI)
[redacted] (CTD) (FBI) [redacted] (CTD) (FBI)

From: Turner, Suzanne (INSD) (FBI)
Subject: RE: Media Request: FBI Richmond Document cites SPLC
To: Meador, Stanley M. (RH) (FBI); Jones, Jason Allen (OGC) (FBI); Byron, Pamela (DI) (FBI); [redacted] (OPA) (FBI); Beidler, Douglas S. (SecD) (FBI); Coakley, Miriam M. (OGC) (FBI); Ugoretz, Tonya L. (DI) (FBI); Wells, Robert R. (CTD) (FBI); Dunham, Christopher G. (OCA) (FBI); [redacted] (OCA) (FBI); [redacted] (CTD) (FBI); [redacted] (CTD) (FBI); [redacted] (DI) (FBI)
Cc: Milhoan, Catherine L. (OPA) (FBI); Goodwater, Douglas M. (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] (RH) (FBI); [redacted] (OGC) (FBI); [redacted] (OGC) (FBI); Rojas, Rachel L. (InTO) (FBI); Platt, Lon Stuart (OPR) (FBI); Hardiman, Kellie M. (CTD) (FBI)
Sent: February 8, 2023 9:03 PM (UTC-05:00)

b6 -1
b7C -1

Hello,

Just offering a different view of this leaked document. [redacted]

[redacted]

b5 -1

Suzanne

From: Meador, Stanley M. (RH) (FBI) [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2023 6:36 PM
To: Jones, Jason Allen (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]; Byron, Pamela (DI) (FBI) [redacted]; [redacted] (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] Beidler, Douglas S. (SecD) (FBI); [redacted] Coakley, Miriam M. (OGC) (FBI); [redacted] Ugoretz, Tonya L. (DI) (FBI); [redacted] Wells, Robert R. (CTD) (FBI); [redacted] Turner, Suzanne (INSD) (FBI); [redacted] Dunham, Christopher G. (OCA) (FBI); [redacted] (OCA) (FBI); [redacted] (CTD) (FBI); [redacted] (CTD) (FBI); [redacted] (DI) (FBI); [redacted]
Cc: Milhoan, Catherine L. (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] Goodwater, Douglas M. (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] (RH) (FBI); [redacted] (OGC) (FBI); [redacted] (OGC) (FBI); [redacted] Rojas, Rachel L. (InTO) (FBI); [redacted] Platt, Lon Stuart (OPR) (FBI); [redacted] Hardiman, Kellie M. (CTD) (FBI); [redacted]
Subject: Re: Media Request: FBI Richmond Document cites SPLC

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

Thanks Jason,

[redacted]

b5 -1
b7E -4

Stanley

From: Jones, Jason Allen (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2023 6:22:03 PM
To: Byron, Pamela (DI) (FBI) [redacted] (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] Beidler, Douglas S.

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

From: Jones, Jason Allen (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: Re: Media Request: FBI Richmond Document cites SPLC
To: Turner, Suzanne (INSD) (FBI); Meador, Stanley M. (RH) (FBI); Byron, Pamela (DI) (FBI); [redacted] (OPA) (FBI); Beidler, Douglas S. (SecD) (FBI); Coakley, Miriam M. (OGC) (FBI); Ugoretz, Tonya L. (DI) (FBI); Wells, Robert R. (CTD) (FBI); Dunham, Christopher G. (OCA) (FBI); [redacted] (OCA) (FBI); [redacted] (CTD) (FBI); [redacted] (CTD) (FBI); [redacted] (DI) (FBI)
Cc: Milhoan, Catherine L. (OPA) (FBI); Goodwater, Douglas M. (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] (RH) (FBI); [redacted] (OGC) (FBI); [redacted] (OGC) (FBI); Rojas, Rachel L. (InTO) (FBI); Platt, Lon Stuart (OPR) (FBI); Hardiman, Kellie M. (CTD) (FBI)
Sent: February 8, 2023 9:37 PM (UTC-05:00)

b6 -1
b7C -1

I don't disagree. My point is that [redacted]
[redacted]

b5 -1
b6 -3
b7C -3

From: Turner, Suzanne (INSD) (FBI) [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2023 9:03:29 PM
To: Meador, Stanley M. (RH) (FBI) [redacted] Jones, Jason Allen (OGC) (FBI) [redacted] Byron, Pamela (DI) (FBI) [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] Beidler, Douglas S. (SecD) (FBI) [redacted] Coakley, Miriam M. (OGC) (FBI) [redacted] Ugoretz, Tonya L. (DI) (FBI) [redacted] Wells, Robert R. (CTD) (FBI) [redacted] Dunham, Christopher G. (OCA) (FBI) [redacted] (OCA) (FBI) [redacted] (CTD) (FBI) [redacted] (CTD) (FBI) [redacted] (DI) (FBI) [redacted]
Cc: Milhoan, Catherine L. (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] Goodwater, Douglas M. (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] (RH) (FBI) [redacted] (OGC) (FBI) [redacted] (OGC) (FBI) [redacted] Rojas, Rachel L. (InTO) (FBI) [redacted] Platt, Lon Stuart (OPR) (FBI) [redacted] Hardiman, Kellie M. (CTD) (FBI) [redacted]
Subject: RE: Media Request: FBI Richmond Document cites SPLC

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

Hello,

Just offering a different view of this leaked document. [redacted]
[redacted]

b5 -1

Suzanne

From: Meador, Stanley M. (RH) (FBI) [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2023 6:36 PM
To: Jones, Jason Allen (OGC) (FBI) [redacted] Byron, Pamela (DI) (FBI) [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] Beidler, Douglas S. (SecD) (FBI) [redacted] Coakley, Miriam M. (OGC) (FBI) [redacted] Ugoretz, Tonya L. (DI) (FBI) [redacted] Wells, Robert R. (CTD) (FBI) [redacted] Turner, Suzanne (INSD) (FBI) [redacted] Dunham, Christopher G. (OCA) (FBI) [redacted] (OCA) (FBI) [redacted] (CTD) (FBI) [redacted] (CTD) (FBI) [redacted] (DI) (FBI) [redacted]
Cc: Milhoan, Catherine L. (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] Goodwater, Douglas M. (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted]

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

From:
Subject: RE: Coordination of Draft statement regarding leaked RH intel document
To: Coakley, Miriam M. (OGC) (FBI); Ugoretz, Tonya L. (DI) (FBI); Milhoan, Catherine L. (OPA) (FBI); Goodwater, Douglas M. (OPA) (FBI); Wells, Robert R. (CTD) (FBI); Jones, Jason Allen (OGC) (FBI)
Cc: [redacted] (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] (DO) (DET); Dunham, Christopher G. (OCA) (FBI)
Sent: February 9, 2023 12:18 PM (UTC-05:00)

b6 -1
b7C -1

Looks good. One small suggestion in yellow.
I would send it out. It is migrating onto Fox

<https://www.foxnews.com/media/purported-fbi-document-suggests-agency-targeting-catholics-attend-latin-mass>

From: Coakley, Miriam M. (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]
Sent: Thursday, February 9, 2023 12:12 PM
To: Ugoretz, Tonya L. (DI) (FBI) [redacted]; Milhoan, Catherine L. (OPA) (FBI) [redacted]; Goodwater, Douglas M. (OPA) (FBI) [redacted]; Wells, Robert R. (CTD) (FBI) [redacted]; Lenzner, Jonathan Falk (DO) (DET) [redacted]; Jones, Jason Allen (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]
Cc: [redacted] (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] (DO) (DET); [redacted] (DO) (DET); Dunham, Christopher G. (OCA) (FBI) [redacted]
Subject: Re: Coordination of Draft statement regarding leaked RH intel document

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

Slight tweaks in CAPS for consideration as I'm working off the phone at the moment:

Potential statement for review/edits - :

[Large redacted block]

b5 -1

From: Ugoretz, Tonya L. (DI) (FBI) [redacted]
Sent: Thursday, February 9, 2023 11:58:25 AM
To: Milhoan, Catherine L. (OPA) (FBI) [redacted]; Goodwater, Douglas M. (OPA) (FBI) [redacted]; Wells, Robert R. (CTD) (FBI) [redacted]; Lenzner, Jonathan Falk (DO) (DET) [redacted]; Jones, Jason Allen (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]; Coakley, Miriam M. (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]
Cc: [redacted] (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] (DO) (DET); Dunham, Christopher G. (OCA) (FBI) [redacted]
Subject: RE: Coordination of Draft statement regarding leaked RH intel document

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

Acknowledging receipt and will respond with any edits shortly.

From: Milhoan, Catherine L. (OPA) (FBI) [redacted]
Sent: Thursday, February 9, 2023 11:54 AM
To: Goodwater, Douglas M. (OPA) (FBI) [redacted]; Ugoretz, Tonya L. (DI) (FBI) [redacted]; Wells, Robert R. (CTD) (FBI) [redacted]; Lenzner, Jonathan Falk (DO) (DET) [redacted]; Jones, Jason Allen (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]; Coakley, Miriam M. (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]
Cc: [redacted] (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] (DO) (DET); Dunham, Christopher G. (OCA) (FBI) [redacted]
Subject: RE: Coordination of Draft statement regarding leaked RH intel document

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

All,
We have received two new inquiries in addition to the 3 last night and are making the decision to respond in the next hour. We want to get our statement out before this picks up any steam.

DI/CTD/OCG,

Please review the draft and let us know if you have edits or concerns.

Thanks,
Cathy

Cathy L. Milhoan
Assistant Director
FBI Office of Public Affairs

[Redacted]

b7E -3

From: Goodwater, Douglas M. (OPA) (FBI) [Redacted]
Sent: Thursday, February 9, 2023 11:07 AM
To: Ugoretz, Tonya L. (DI) (FBI) [Redacted] Wells, Robert R. (CTD) (FBI) [Redacted] Lenzner, Jonathan Falk (DO) (DET) [Redacted] Jones, Jason Allen (OGC) (FBI) [Redacted] Coakley, Miriam M. (OGC) (FBI) [Redacted]
Cc: Milhoan, Catherine L. (OPA) (FBI) [Redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [Redacted] [Redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [Redacted]
Subject: Coordination of Draft statement regarding leaked RH intel document

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

Draft/pre decision
Coordination for media statement – DI/CTD/OGC

Potential statement for review/edits – :

[Large Redacted Area]

b5 -1

From: Lenzner, Jonathan Falk (DO) (DET)
Subject: RE: Coordination of Draft statement regarding leaked RH intel document
To: Coakley, Miriam M. (OGC) (FBI); Ugoretz, Tonya L. (DI) (FBI); Milhoan, Catherine L. (OPA) (FBI); Goodwater, Douglas M. (OPA) (FBI); Wells, Robert R. (CTD) (FBI); Jones, Jason Allen (OGC) (FBI); [redacted] (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] (DO) (DET); Dunham, Christopher G. (OCA) (FBI)
Sent: February 9, 2023 12:22 PM (UTC-05:00)

b6 -1
b7C -1

Looks good. One small suggestion in yellow.

I would send it out. It is migrating onto Fox <https://www.foxnews.com/media/purported-fbi-document-suggests-agency-targeting-catholics-attend-latin-mass>

From: Coakley, Miriam M. (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]
Sent: Thursday, February 9, 2023 12:12 PM
To: Ugoretz, Tonya L. (DI) (FBI) [redacted]; Milhoan, Catherine L. (OPA) (FBI) [redacted]; Goodwater, Douglas M. (OPA) (FBI) [redacted]; Wells, Robert R. (CTD) (FBI) [redacted]; Lenzner, Jonathan Falk (DO) (DET) [redacted]; Jones, Jason Allen (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]; [redacted]
Cc: [redacted] (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] (DO) (DET); [redacted] Dunham, Christopher G. (OCA) (FBI) [redacted]
Subject: Re: Coordination of Draft statement regarding leaked RH intel document

b6 -1
b7C -1
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Potential statement for review/edits - :

[Large redacted block]

b5 -1

From: Ugoretz, Tonya L. (DI) (FBI) [redacted]
Sent: Thursday, February 9, 2023 11:58:25 AM
To: Milhoan, Catherine L. (OPA) (FBI) [redacted]; Goodwater, Douglas M. (OPA) (FBI) [redacted]; [redacted] Wells, Robert R. (CTD) (FBI) [redacted]; Lenzner, Jonathan Falk (DO) (DET) [redacted]; [redacted] Jones, Jason Allen (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]; Coakley, Miriam M. (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]
Cc: [redacted] (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] (DO) (DET); [redacted] Dunham, Christopher G. (OCA) (FBI) [redacted]
Subject: RE: Coordination of Draft statement regarding leaked RH intel document

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

Acknowledging receipt and will respond with any edits shortly.

From: Milhoan, Catherine L. (OPA) (FBI) [redacted]
Sent: Thursday, February 9, 2023 11:54 AM
To: Goodwater, Douglas M. (OPA) (FBI) [redacted]; Ugoretz, Tonya L. (DI) (FBI) [redacted]; Wells, Robert R. (CTD) (FBI) [redacted]; Lenzner, Jonathan Falk (DO) (DET) [redacted]; Jones, Jason Allen (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]; Coakley, Miriam M. (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]
Cc: [redacted] (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] (DO) (DET); [redacted] Dunham, Christopher G. (OCA) (FBI) [redacted]
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b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

From: Ugoretz, Tonya L. (DI) (FBI)
Subject: RE: Coordination of Draft statement regarding leaked RH intel document
To: Lenzner, Jonathan Falk (DO) (DET); Coakley, Miriam M. (OGC) (FBI); Milhoan, Catherine L. (OPA) (FBI); Goodwater, Douglas M. (OPA) (FBI); Wells, Robert R. (CTD) (FBI); Jones, Jason Allen (OGC) (FBI)
Cc: [redacted] (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] (DO) (DET); Dunham, Christopher G. (OCA) (FBI)
Sent: February 9, 2023 12:29 PM (UTC-05:00)

b6 -1
b7C -1

My edits in red below.

From: Lenzner, Jonathan Falk (DO) (DET) [redacted]
Sent: Thursday, February 9, 2023 12:22 PM
To: Coakley, Miriam M. (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]; Ugoretz, Tonya L. (DI) (FBI) [redacted]; Milhoan, Catherine L. (OPA) (FBI) [redacted]; Goodwater, Douglas M. (OPA) (FBI) [redacted]; [redacted] Wells, Robert R. (CTD) (FBI) [redacted]; Jones, Jason Allen (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]
Cc: [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted]; [redacted] (DO) (DET) [redacted]; Dunham, Christopher G. (OCA) (FBI) [redacted]
Subject: RE: Coordination of Draft statement regarding leaked RH intel document

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

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Sent: Thursday, February 9, 2023 12:12 PM
To: Ugoretz, Tonya L. (DI) (FBI) [redacted]; Milhoan, Catherine L. (OPA) (FBI) [redacted]; Goodwater, Douglas M. (OPA) (FBI) [redacted]; Wells, Robert R. (CTD) (FBI) [redacted]; Lenzner, Jonathan Falk (DO) (DET) [redacted]; Jones, Jason Allen (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]
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b6 -1
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Potential statement for review/edits - :

[Large redacted box]

b5 -1

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Sent: Thursday, February 9, 2023 11:58:25 AM
To: Milhoan, Catherine L. (OPA) (FBI) [redacted]; Goodwater, Douglas M. (OPA) (FBI) [redacted]; [redacted] Wells, Robert R. (CTD) (FBI) [redacted]; Lenzner, Jonathan Falk (DO) (DET) [redacted]; [redacted] Jones, Jason Allen (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]; Coakley, Miriam M. (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]
Cc: [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted]

b6 -1
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b7E -3

From: Goodwater, Douglas M. (OPA) (FBI)
Subject: RE: Coordination of Draft statement regarding leaked RH intel document
To: Ugoretz, Tonya L. (DI) (FBI); Lenzner, Jonathan Falk (DO) (DET); Coakley, Miriam M. (OGC) (FBI);
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Cc: [redacted] (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] (DO) (DET);
Dunham, Christopher G. (OCA) (FBI)
Sent: February 9, 2023 12:34 PM (UTC-05:00)

b6 -1
b7C -1

FINAL STATEMENT -- Being sent out momentarily. Thank you all

[Large redacted block]

b5 -1

From: Ugoretz, Tonya L. (DI) (FBI) [redacted]
Sent: Thursday, February 9, 2023 12:29 PM
To: Lenzner, Jonathan Falk (DO) (DET) [redacted]; Coakley, Miriam M. (OGC) (FBI) [redacted];
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[redacted] (DO) (DET) [redacted] Dunham, Christopher G. (OCA) (FBI) [redacted]
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[redacted] (DO) (DET) [redacted] Dunham, Christopher G. (OCA) (FBI) [redacted]
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Milhoan, Catherine L. (OPA) (FBI); Wells, Robert R. (CTD) (FBI); Jones, Jason Allen (OGC) (FBI)
Cc: [redacted] (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] (DO) (DET);
Dunham, Christopher G. (OCA) (FBI)
Sent: February 9, 2023 12:36 PM (UTC-05:00)

b6 -1
b7C -1

Apologies for extra email –
Additional all caps fixed:

[Large redacted block]

b5 -1

From: Goodwater, Douglas M. (OPA) (FBI)
Sent: Thursday, February 9, 2023 12:34 PM
To: Ugoretz, Tonya L. (DI) (FBI) [redacted] Lenzner, Jonathan Falk (DO) (DET) [redacted]
Coakley, Miriam M. (OGC) (FBI) [redacted] Milhoan, Catherine L. (OPA) (FBI) [redacted]
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Cc: [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted]
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To: Lenzner, Jonathan Falk (DO) (DET) [redacted] Coakley, Miriam M. (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]
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Sent: Thursday, February 9, 2023 12:22 PM
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Milhoan, Catherine L. (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] Goodwater, Douglas M. (OPA) (FBI)
[redacted] Wells, Robert R. (CTD) (FBI) [redacted] Jones, Jason Allen (OGC) (FBI)
Cc: [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted]
[redacted] (DO) (DET) [redacted] Dunham, Christopher G. (OCA) (FBI) [redacted]
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Cc: [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted]
[redacted] (DO) (DET) [redacted] Dunham, Christopher G. (OCA) (FBI) [redacted]
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Cc: [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted]
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From: Milhoan, Catherine L. (OPA) (FBI) [redacted]
Sent: Thursday, February 9, 2023 11:54 AM
To: Goodwater, Douglas M. (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] Ugoretz, Tonya L. (DI) (FBI) [redacted]
Wells, Robert R. (CTD) (FBI) [redacted] Lenzner, Jonathan Falk (DO) (DET) [redacted] Jones, Jason

b7E -3

From: Dunham, Christopher G. (OCA) (FBI)
Subject: RE: Coordination of Draft statement regarding leaked RH intel document
To: Goodwater, Douglas M. (OPA) (FBI); Ugoretz, Tonya L. (DI) (FBI); Lenzner, Jonathan Falk (DO) (DET); Coakley, Miriam M. (OGC) (FBI); Milhoan, Catherine L. (OPA) (FBI); Wells, Robert R. (CTD) (FBI); Jones, Jason Allen (OGC) (FBI)
Cc: [redacted] (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] (DO) (DET)
Sent: February 9, 2023 12:36 PM (UTC-05:00)

b6 -1
b7C -1

One additional minor edit [redacted]

b5 -1

From: Goodwater, Douglas M. (OPA) (FBI) [redacted]
Sent: Thursday, February 9, 2023 12:36 PM
To: Ugoretz, Tonya L. (DI) (FBI) [redacted]; Lenzner, Jonathan Falk (DO) (DET) [redacted]
Coakley, Miriam M. (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]; Milhoan, Catherine L. (OPA) (FBI) [redacted]
Wells, Robert R. (CTD) (FBI) [redacted]; Jones, Jason Allen (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]
Cc: [redacted] (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] (DO) (DET); [redacted] (DO) (DET); Dunham, Christopher G. (OCA) (FBI) [redacted]
Subject: RE: Coordination of Draft statement regarding leaked RH intel document

b6 -1
b7C -1
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Apologies for extra email –
Additional all caps fixed:

[Large redacted block]

b5 -1

From: Goodwater, Douglas M. (OPA) (FBI)
Sent: Thursday, February 9, 2023 12:34 PM
To: Ugoretz, Tonya L. (DI) (FBI) [redacted]; Lenzner, Jonathan Falk (DO) (DET) [redacted]
Coakley, Miriam M. (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]; Milhoan, Catherine L. (OPA) (FBI) [redacted]
Wells, Robert R. (CTD) (FBI) [redacted]; Jones, Jason Allen (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]
Cc: [redacted] (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] (DO) (DET); [redacted] (DO) (DET); Dunham, Christopher G. (OCA) (FBI) [redacted]
Subject: RE: Coordination of Draft statement regarding leaked RH intel document

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

FINAL STATEMENT – Being sent out momentarily. Thank you all

[Large redacted block]

b5 -1

From: Ugoretz, Tonya L. (DI) (FBI) [redacted]

b7E -3

From: Lenzner, Jonathan Falk (DO) (DET)
Subject: RE: Coordination of Draft statement regarding leaked RH intel document
To: Goodwater, Douglas M. (OPA) (FBI)
Sent: February 9, 2023 12:40 PM (UTC-05:00)

Doug [redacted]

b5 -1

From: Goodwater, Douglas M. (OPA) (FBI) [redacted]
Sent: Thursday, February 9, 2023 12:34 PM
To: Ugoretz, Tonya L. (DI) (FBI) [redacted] Lenzner, Jonathan Falk (DO) (DET) [redacted]
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Cc: [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted]
[redacted] (DO) (DET) [redacted] Dunham, Christopher G. (OCA) (FBI) [redacted]
Subject: RE: Coordination of Draft statement regarding leaked RH intel document

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

My edits in red below.

From: Lenzner, Jonathan Falk (DO) (DET) [redacted]
Sent: Thursday, February 9, 2023 12:22 PM
To: Coakley, Miriam M. (OGC) (FBI) [redacted] Ugoretz, Tonya L. (DI) (FBI) [redacted]
Milhoan, Catherine L. (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] Goodwater, Douglas M. (OPA) (FBI) [redacted]
[redacted] Wells, Robert R. (CTD) (FBI) [redacted] Jones, Jason Allen (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]
Cc: [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted]
[redacted] (DO) (DET) [redacted] Dunham, Christopher G. (OCA) (FBI) [redacted]
Subject: RE: Coordination of Draft statement regarding leaked RH intel document

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

Looks good. One small suggestion in yellow.

I would send it out. It is migrating onto Fox <https://www.foxnews.com/media/purported-fbi-document-suggests-agency-targeting-catholics-attend-latin-mass>

From: Goodwater, Douglas M. (OPA) (FBI)
Subject: RE: Coordination of Draft statement regarding leaked RH intel document
To: Lenzner, Jonathan Falk (DO) (DET)
Sent: February 9, 2023 12:46 PM (UTC-05:00)

Correct- just in a hurry – I sent another email fixing that [redacted]
Sorry for extra emails – was just trying to get it to the FOX digital editor ASAP

From: Lenzner, Jonathan Falk (DO) (DET) [redacted]
Sent: Thursday, February 9, 2023 12:40 PM
To: Goodwater, Douglas M. (OPA) (FBI) [redacted]
Subject: RE: Coordination of Draft statement regarding leaked RH intel document

b5 -1
b7E -3

Doug [redacted]

From: Goodwater, Douglas M. (OPA) (FBI) [redacted]
Sent: Thursday, February 9, 2023 12:34 PM
To: Ugoretz, Tonya L. (DI) (FBI) [redacted] Lenzner, Jonathan Falk (DO) (DET) [redacted]
Coakley, Miriam M. (OGC) (FBI) [redacted] Milhoan, Catherine L. (OPA) (FBI) [redacted]
Wells, Robert R. (CTD) (FBI) [redacted] Jones, Jason Allen (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]
Cc: [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted]
[redacted] (DO) (DET) [redacted] Dunham, Christopher G. (OCA) (FBI) [redacted]
Subject: RE: Coordination of Draft statement regarding leaked RH intel document

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

FINAL STATEMENT – Being sent out momentarily. Thank you all

[Large redacted block]

b5 -1

From: Ugoretz, Tonya L. (DI) (FBI) [redacted]
Sent: Thursday, February 9, 2023 12:29 PM
To: Lenzner, Jonathan Falk (DO) (DET) [redacted] Coakley, Miriam M. (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]
Milhoan, Catherine L. (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] Goodwater, Douglas M. (OPA) (FBI) [redacted]
[redacted] Wells, Robert R. (CTD) (FBI) [redacted] Jones, Jason Allen (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]
Cc: [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted]
[redacted] (DO) (DET) [redacted] Dunham, Christopher G. (OCA) (FBI) [redacted]
Subject: RE: Coordination of Draft statement regarding leaked RH intel document

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

My edits in red below.

From: Lenzner, Jonathan Falk (DO) (DET) [redacted]
Sent: Thursday, February 9, 2023 12:22 PM
To: Coakley, Miriam M. (OGC) (FBI) [redacted] Ugoretz, Tonya L. (DI) (FBI) [redacted]
Milhoan, Catherine L. (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] Goodwater, Douglas M. (OPA) (FBI) [redacted]
[redacted] Wells, Robert R. (CTD) (FBI) [redacted] Jones, Jason Allen (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]

b7E -3

From: Goodwater, Douglas M. (OPA) (FBI)
Subject: RE: Coordination of Draft statement regarding leaked RH intel document
To: Lenzner, Jonathan Falk (DO) (DET)
Sent: February 9, 2023 12:51 PM (UTC-05:00)

Here is what was sent to all outlets who wrote or inquired – it has also been provided to OCA:

Attributable to FBI:

While our standard practice is to not comment on specific intelligence products, this particular field office product - disseminated only within the FBI - regarding racially or ethnically motivated violent extremism does not meet the exacting standards of the FBI. Upon learning of the document, FBI Headquarters quickly began taking action to remove the document from FBI systems and conduct a review of the basis for the document. The FBI is committed to sound analytic tradecraft and to investigating and preventing acts of violence and other crimes while upholding the constitutional rights of all Americans and will never conduct investigative activities or open an investigation based solely on First Amendment protected activity.

From: Goodwater, Douglas M. (OPA) (FBI)
Sent: Thursday, February 9, 2023 12:46 PM
To: Lenzner, Jonathan Falk (DO) (DET) [redacted]
Subject: RE: Coordination of Draft statement regarding leaked RH intel document

b7E -3

Correct- just in a hurry – I sent another email fixing that [redacted]
Sorry for extra emails – was just trying to get it to the FOX digital editor ASAP

From: Lenzner, Jonathan Falk (DO) (DET) [redacted]
Sent: Thursday, February 9, 2023 12:40 PM
To: Goodwater, Douglas M. (OPA) (FBI) [redacted]
Subject: RE: Coordination of Draft statement regarding leaked RH intel document

b5 -1
b7E -3

Doug [redacted]

From: Goodwater, Douglas M. (OPA) (FBI) [redacted]
Sent: Thursday, February 9, 2023 12:34 PM
To: Ugoretz, Tonya L. (DI) (FBI) [redacted] Lenzner, Jonathan Falk (DO) (DET) [redacted]
Coakley, Miriam M. (OGC) (FBI) [redacted] Milhoan, Catherine L. (OPA) (FBI) [redacted]
Wells, Robert R. (CTD) (FBI) [redacted] Jones, Jason Allen (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]
Cc: [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted]
[redacted] (DO) (DET) [redacted] Dunham, Christopher G. (OCA) (FBI) [redacted]
Subject: RE: Coordination of Draft statement regarding leaked RH intel document

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

FINAL STATEMENT – Being sent out momentarily. Thank you all

[Large redacted block]

b5 -1

From: Coakley, Miriam M. (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: Letter to AG Garland and Director Wray
To: Lenzner, Jonathan Falk (DO) (DET); McCulloch, Scott (DO) (DET); [redacted] (DO) (DET);
Milhoan, Catherine L. (OPA) (FBI); Goodwater, Douglas M. (OPA) (FBI); Jones, Jason Allen (OGC) (FBI);
Polinsky, Melissa (OGC) (FBI); Brooker, Bradley A. (OGC) (DET); Dunham, Christopher G. (OCA) (FBI);
[redacted] (OGC) (FBI); Meador, Stanley M. (RH) (FBI)
Sent: February 10, 2023 4:48 PM (UTC-05:00)
Attached: Letter to Attorney General Garland & Director Wray (2.10.2023).pdf

b6 -1
b7C -1

Good afternoon,

In case you have not seen it as I believe it is in the media, here is a letter from the Virginia AG, signed by multiple state AGs, concerning the domain awareness product and demanding related documents and information. RH SAC is tracking.

Thanks,
Miriam

Miriam Coakley
Chief of Staff
Office of the General Counsel
Federal Bureau of Investigation

b7E -3

[redacted] (d) | [redacted] (c)

Confidentiality Statement: This message is transmitted to you by the Office of the General Counsel of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The message, along with any attachments, may be confidential and legally privileged. If you are not the intended recipient of this message, please destroy it promptly without further retention or dissemination (unless otherwise required by law). Please notify the sender of the error by a separate e-mail or by calling [redacted]

b7E -3



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
Office of the Attorney General

Jason S. Miyares
Attorney General

202 North 9th Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219
804-786-2071
Fax 804-786-1991
Virginia Relay Services
800-828-1120
711

February 10, 2023

The Honorable Merrick B. Garland
Attorney General
United States Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20530

The Honorable Christopher Wray
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
935 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20535

Via Email and U.S. Mail

Re: Federal Bureau of Investigation Infiltrating Catholic Congregations

Dear Attorney General Garland and Director Wray:

We are the chief legal officers of our respective States charged not only with enforcing the law, but also with securing the civil rights of our citizens. We write with outrage and alarm to address the anti-Catholic internal memorandum produced by the FBI's Richmond Field Office on January 23, 2023, which was released to the public this week.¹ The FBI must immediately and unequivocally order agency personnel not to target Americans based on their religious beliefs and practices. We also demand that the FBI produce publicly all materials relating to the memorandum and its production.

“If there is any fixed star in our constitutional constellation, it is that no official, high or petty, can prescribe what shall be orthodox in . . . religion.”² This country was founded on the right of all people to worship in the church, mosque, or synagogue of their choice, free from government

¹ FBI, *Interest of Racially or Ethnically Motivated Violent Extremists in Radical-Traditionalist Catholic Ideology Almost Certainly Presents New Mitigation Opportunities*, reprinted in Kyle Seraphin, *The FBI Doubles Down on Christians and White Supremacy in 2023*, UncoverDC (Feb. 8, 2023), <https://tinyurl.com/3fdb69ha>.

² *West Virginia State Bd. of Educ. v. Barnette*, 319 U.S. 624, 642 (1943).

interference. Countless millions were drawn to our country because of that very right. Indeed, some of our first States were founded as safe havens for religious dissenters. There is no right more sacred to American democracy than the right to worship freely.

We are horrified to learn that at least one field office of the FBI apparently does not agree with this proposition. Anti-Catholic bigotry appears to be festering in the FBI, and the Bureau is treating Catholics as potential terrorists because of their beliefs.

On Wednesday, the public learned of an internal memorandum produced by the FBI's Richmond Field Office.³ The memorandum identifies "radical-traditionalist Catholic[s]" as potential "racially or ethnically motivated violent extremists."⁴ The memorandum deploys alarmingly detailed theological distinctions to distinguish between the Catholics whom the FBI deems acceptable, and those it does not. Among those beliefs which distinguish the bad Catholics from the good ones are a preference for "the Traditional Latin Mass and pre-Vatican II teachings," and adherence to traditional Catholic teachings on sex and marriage (which the memorandum glibly describes as "anti-LGBTQ").⁵ The memorandum even appears to accuse the Supreme Court and the Governor of Virginia of "[c]atalyzing" the bad Catholics through "legislation or judicial decisions in areas such as abortion rights, immigration, affirmative action, and LGBTQ protections," singling out the Supreme Court's recent decision in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization*⁶ and Governor Youngkin's support for sensible abortion regulations as examples.⁷

After defining which Catholics are the dangerous ones, the memorandum proposes dealing with those Catholics through "the development of sources with access," including in "places of worship."⁸ In other words, the memorandum proposes recruiting Catholics to enter a sacred house of worship, talk to their fellow Catholics, and report those conversations back to the FBI so that the federal government can keep tabs on the bad Catholics. To allocate these "sources," the document includes an appendix with a list of Catholic "hate groups" that was assembled by the Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC),⁹ apparently without any independent vetting from the FBI.¹⁰

³ *Interest of Racially or Ethnically Motivated Violent Extremists*, *supra* note 1.

⁴ *Ibid.*

⁵ *Ibid.*

⁶ 142 S. Ct. 2228 (2022).

⁷ See, e.g., Myah Ward, *Youngkin will pursue 15-week abortion ban in Virginia*, Politico (June 24, 2022), [tinyurl.com/yckykeus](https://www.tinyurl.com/yckykeus).

⁸ *Interest of Racially or Ethnically Motivated Violent Extremists*, *supra* note 1.

⁹ The memorandum's reliance on the SPLC is particularly disappointing, given that the SPLC has been utterly discredited as a reliable source. Its founder is said to have "viewed civil-rights work mainly as a marketing tool for bilking gullible Northern liberals," and former staffers have confessed that the SPLC has been "ripping off its donors" by failing to "live[] up to the values it espoused." Bob Moser, *The Reckoning of Morris Dees and the Southern Poverty Law Center*, New Yorker (Mar. 21, 2019), <https://www.tinyurl.com/ht6nkfn2>. It should come as no surprise, then, that even the mainstream media has begun to call into question the SPLC's mission and methods. See, e.g., David Montgomery, *Is the Southern Poverty Law Center Judging Hate Fairly?*, The Washington Post (Nov. 8, 2018), <https://www.tinyurl.com/mwcj6vuz>; Ben Schreckinger, *Has a Civil Rights Stalwart Lost Its Way?*, Politico (June 28, 2017), <https://www.tinyurl.com/y7zfmxsu>. Indeed, the FBI at one time recognized this reality, having reportedly dropped the SPLC as a hate-crimes resource in 2014. Valerie Richardson, *FBI, Southern Poverty Law Center partnership alarms conservatives*, AP News (July 30, 2018), <https://www.tinyurl.com/yckkpt77>.

¹⁰ *Interest of Racially or Ethnically Motivated Violent Extremists*, *supra* note 1.

After the American public learned of the memorandum, the Bureau apparently emailed a smattering of reporters to inform them that “FBI Headquarters quickly began taking action to remove the document from FBI systems and conduct a review of the basis for the document.”¹¹ The Bureau’s “action” occurred only in response to public outrage over the memorandum, which the FBI never intended the public to see at all. Had the memorandum not been revealed to the public, it might well still be an intelligence product available to the Bureau.

Suffice to say we are not persuaded by the FBI’s damage-control efforts. The FBI’s scrubbing of the document from its systems and the purported “review” of the process that created it in no way reassures us that this memorandum does not reflect a broader program of secretive surveillance of American Catholics or other religious adherents, and infiltration of their houses of worship. It assures us only that the FBI is embarrassed at the public revelation of the memorandum’s contents.

The memorandum’s targeting of Catholics because they prefer to pray in the ancient liturgical language of the Church, and the tactics it proposes for dealing with those Catholics, harkens back to some of the worst chapters of our past. This country has a sordid history of discrimination against Catholics. An entire political party, the Know Nothings, “formed in the 1850s to decrease the political influence of immigrants and Catholics”—groups that were often interchangeable given the rise of German and Irish immigration in the mid-19th century—and gained “hundreds of seats in Federal and State Government.”¹² A few decades later, in the 1870s, our Constitution was nearly amended to prohibit States from aiding “sectarian” schools.¹³ It was an “open secret” that “‘sectarian’ was code for ‘Catholic.’”¹⁴ This amendment was “born of bigotry” and “arose at a time of pervasive hostility to the Catholic Church and to Catholics in general.”¹⁵ When the federal amendment failed, dozens of States adopted these amendments in their own constitutions.¹⁶ And this discrimination did not end in the nineteenth century. Just a few decades ago the Ku Klux Klan—more infamous for its vicious campaign of wanton violence against Black Americans in the South—also targeted religious minorities such as Jews and Catholics.¹⁷

The targeting of Catholics for treatment as “violent extremists” because of the language in which they pray or because of the beliefs to which they subscribe is unacceptable, unconstitutional, and deeply un-American. It is particularly concerning that this memorandum originated in Virginia. Virginia is the birthplace of religious freedom in America and has a proud history of protecting the right to worship free from government interference or intimidation. Shortly after Independence, Virginia enacted Thomas Jefferson’s “Bill for establishing religious freedom” which decreed that “no man shall be . . . restrained, molested or burdened . . . or shall otherwise

¹¹ Brittany Bernstein, *FBI Retracts Memo on “Radical Traditionalist Catholic Ideology,” Says It Failed to Meet Bureau Standards*, National Review (Feb. 9, 2023), tinyurl.com/2kz3jxkd.

¹² *Espinoza v. Montana Dep’t of Rev.*, 140 S. Ct. 2246, 2269 (2020) (Alito, J., concurring).

¹³ See *Espinoza*, 140 S. Ct. at 2259.

¹⁴ *Ibid.* (cleaned up).

¹⁵ *Ibid.* (cleaned up).

¹⁶ *Id.* at 2268–69 (Alito, J., concurring).

¹⁷ Josh Zeitz, *When America Hated Catholics*, Politico (Sept. 23, 2015), <https://tinyurl.com/7xuuwpwy>.

suffer, on account of his religious opinions or belief.”¹⁸ When the former colonies came together to draft the Bill of Rights, they included first and foremost that the new federal government could “make no law” which “prohibit[ed] [the] free exercise” of religion.¹⁹ That foundational protection of those beliefs nearest and dearest to persons of faith extends to all sincere beliefs, whether or not those beliefs may be considered “acceptable.”²⁰

The un-American and unconstitutional memorandum alarms us for three additional reasons. First, it is part of a dangerous tendency in the FBI and DOJ to label those who hold views contrary to the Administration as violent extremists or terrorists. In October 2021, Attorney General Garland directed the FBI to “address[] threats” to school boards and administrators posed by parents and guardians protesting school board meetings, labeling those protests as “run[ning] counter to our nation’s core values.”²¹ The weaponization of the DOJ and FBI to suppress political and religious views inconsistent with the Administration’s orthodoxy is an alarming trend that must be immediately curtailed.

Second, spying on Catholics in their churches and cathedrals is an absurd use of federal law-enforcement and counterintelligence resources. Every day, lethal amounts of fentanyl cross the southwestern land border unimpeded.²² The Russian government successfully hacked software used by federal agencies and conducted an unprecedented espionage operation against the United States.²³ And a Chinese spy balloon recently crossed the entire continental expanse of the United States unmolested.²⁴ The Administration should focus its resources on addressing these real and ongoing threats to Americans, rather than labeling traditional Catholics as violent extremists and recruiting “sources” to spy on them.

Finally, we are particularly alarmed by the memorandum’s suggestion that FBI operatives should be developing “sources with access,” including in “places of worship,” to identify the bad Catholics. The FBI has been down this road before, having infiltrated countless mosques throughout the country in the wake of the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks.²⁵ The FBI

¹⁸ *Report of the Committee of Revisors Appointed by the General Assembly of Virginia in 1777* 58 (1784).

¹⁹ U.S. Const. amend. 1.

²⁰ *Church of the Lukumi Babalu Aye, Inc. v. City of Hialeah*, 508 U.S. 520, 531 (1993).

²¹ Letter from the Attorney General to the Director of the FBI, *et al.* (Oct. 4, 2021), available at tinyurl.com/57y267kh; Ariana Figueroa, *U.S. Attorney General Defends FBI Probe of Threats Against School Board Members*, *Virginia Mercury* (Oct. 28, 2021), <https://tinyurl.com/bdzf5wjw>.

²² U.S. Attorney’s Office for the S.D. Cal., *Fentanyl Seizures at Border Continue to Spike, Making San Diego a National Epicenter for Fentanyl Trafficking; U.S. Attorney’s Office Prioritizes Prosecutions and Prevention Programs* (Aug. 11, 2022), <https://tinyurl.com/2p9x3p63>.

²³ Government Accountability Office, *SolarWinds Cyberattack Demands Significant Federal and Private-Sector Response* (Apr. 22, 2021), <https://tinyurl.com/2s4xec8c>; Cybersecurity & Infrastructure Security Agency, *Emergency Directive 21-01 – Mitigate Solarwinds Orion Code Compromise* (Dec. 13, 2020), <https://tinyurl.com/27vfnjpd>.

²⁴ Katie Bo Lillis, *et al.*, *Initial Classified Balloon Report Wasn’t Flagged as Urgent, Drawing Criticism*, *CNN* (Feb. 8, 2023), <https://tinyurl.com/dnsme2rm>.

²⁵ See, e.g., Sabrina Alimahomed-Wilson, *When the FBI Knocks: Racialized State Surveillance of Muslims*, *45 Critical Sociology* 871 (2019), available at <https://tinyurl.com/2p84jvkc>.

disavowed this ignominious practice in 2008,²⁶ and revised its internal guidelines in 2010²⁷ and 2013²⁸ to prevent its operatives from callously disregarding the religious liberty of American citizens. It would be very concerning indeed if the FBI had revived this practice against American Catholics or, worse, if it had never shut down the program in the first place.

DOJ and the FBI must desist from investigating and surveilling Americans who have done nothing more than exercise their natural and constitutional right to practice their religion in a manner of their choosing. And they should reveal to the American public the extent to which they have engaged in such activities. We will take all lawful and appropriate means to protect the rights of our constituents as guaranteed by our Constitution.

To that end, we request that you respond to this letter by: (1) producing the full, unredacted January 23, 2023 FBI report to the undersigned Attorneys General; (2) producing any and all documentation used in drafting the report; (3) producing any and all documents implementing the report's recommendations or interpreting the report's conclusions; (4) providing a representative to present to the undersigned Attorneys General or their delegates a full and complete briefing of the process by which the report was drafted, an explanation of its conclusions, and the effect that is likely to be experienced by the Catholic populations of the undersigned's States, and what efforts, if any, have been taken to ensure that the memorandum's recommendations have not been, and will not be, implemented; and (5) providing information on whether the FBI has been adhering to its guidelines restricting the use of operatives to infiltrate houses of worship and if not, providing an explanation as to the extent of those activities and their constitutionality.

Sincerely,



Jason S. Miyares
Attorney General of Virginia

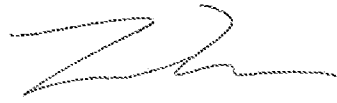
²⁶ FBI Response to Allegations of Mosque Surveillance and Monitoring of the Muslim Community (May 30, 2008), <https://tinyurl.com/4pcftj6b> (“The FBI does not monitor the lawful activities of individuals in the United States, nor does the FBI have a surveillance program to monitor the constitutionally protected activities of houses of worship. We do not target or monitor legal activity of Muslim groups anywhere in the nation.”).

²⁷ FBI, Corporate Policy Directive (Dec. 23, 2010), *available at* <https://tinyurl.com/33p5mvh6> (outreach personnel “must operate with honesty and transparency” for the sake of “developing trust and confidence”).

²⁸ FBI, Community Outreach in Field Offices Corporate Policy Directive and Policy Implementation Guide (Mar. 4, 2013), *available at* <https://tinyurl.com/4b82en48> (requiring officers to maintain “appropriate separation of operational and outreach efforts”).



Steve Marshall
Attorney General
State of Alabama



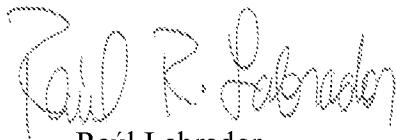
Treg Taylor
Attorney General
State of Alaska



Tim Griffin
Attorney General
State of Arkansas



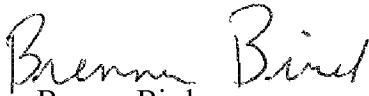
Christopher M. Carr
Attorney General
State of Georgia



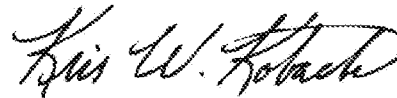
Raúl Labrador
Attorney General
State of Idaho



Todd Rokita
Attorney General
State of Indiana



Brenna Bird
Attorney General
State of Iowa



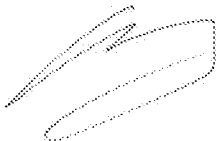
Kris Kobach
Attorney General
State of Kansas



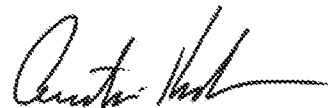
Jeff Landry
Attorney General
State of Louisiana



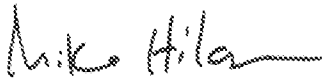
Daniel Cameron
Attorney General
Commonwealth of Kentucky



Andrew Bailey
Attorney General
State of Missouri



Austin Knudsen
Attorney General
State of Montana



Mike Hilgers
Attorney General
State of Nebraska



Dave Yost
Attorney General
State of Ohio



Alan Wilson
Attorney General
State of South Carolina



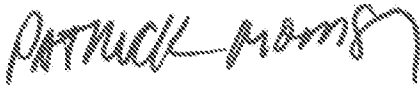
Jonathan Skrmetti
Attorney General
State of Tennessee



Ken Paxton
Attorney General
State of Texas



Sean D. Reyes
Attorney General
State of Utah



Patrick Morrisey
Attorney General
State of West Virginia

CC: The Honorable Jim Jordan
Chairman, Select Subcommittee on the Weaponization of the Federal Government
2138 Rayburn House Building
Washington, DC 20515

Mr. Stanley M. Meador
Special Agent in Charge
Richmond Field Office
Federal Bureau of Investigation
1970 East Parham Road
Richmond, VA 23228

From:

Subject: intel piece that has been withdrawn

To: Milhoan, Catherine L. (OPA) (FBI); Abbate, Paul M. (DO) (FBI); Young, Ryan T. (IB) (FBI)

Cc: [redacted] (DO) (DET)

Sent: February 10, 2023 6:03 PM (UTC-05:00)

b6 -1

b7C -1

I don't know if we are there yet, [redacted]

[redacted]

b5 -1

<https://www.foxnews.com/politics/doj-fbi-targeting-catholics-violent-extremists-under-scrutiny-state-ags-bigotry-festering>

Jonathan Lenzner
Chief of Staff
Federal Bureau of Investigation

[redacted]

b7E -3

From: Lenzner, Jonathan Falk (DO) (DET)
Subject: intel piece that has been withdrawn
To: Milhoan, Catherine L. (OPA) (FBI); Abbate, Paul M. (DO) (FBI); Young, Ryan T. (IB) (FBI); Dunham, Christopher G. (OCA) (FBI)
Cc: [redacted] (DO) (DET); McCulloch, Scott (DO) (DET)
Sent: February 10, 2023 6:22 PM (UTC-05:00)

b6 -1
b7C -1

I don't know if we are there yet, [redacted]

[redacted]

b5 -1

<https://www.foxnews.com/politics/doj-fbi-targeting-catholics-violent-extremists-under-scrutiny-state-ags-bigotry-festering>

Jonathan Lenzner
Chief of Staff
Federal Bureau of Investigation

[redacted]

b7E -3

From: Wells, Robert R. (CTD) (FBI)
Subject: FW: Letter to AG Garland and Director Wray
To: Knapp, Larissa L. (NSB) (FBI)
Sent: February 10, 2023 7:08 PM (UTC-05:00)
Attached: Letter to Attorney General Garland & Director Wray (2.10.2023).pdf

See the attached letter re the RH product.

From: Machtinger, Michael P. (CTD) (FBI) [redacted]
Sent: Friday, February 10, 2023 5:54 PM
To: Wells, Robert R. (CTD) (FBI) [redacted] Holstead, Donald M. (CTD) (FBI) [redacted] Tremaroli, Craig L. (CTD) (FBI) [redacted] Hardiman, Kellie M. (CTD) (FBI) [redacted] (CTD) (FBI) [redacted] (CTD) (FBI) [redacted]
Cc: McQueen, Steven L. (CTD) (FBI) [redacted]
Subject: Fwd: Letter to AG Garland and Director Wray

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

Fysa

From: [redacted] OGC (FBI) [redacted]
Sent: Friday, February 10, 2023, 5:37 PM
To: McQueen, Steven L. (CTD) (FBI) [redacted] Machtinger, Michael P. (CTD) (FBI) [redacted]
Cc: [redacted] OGC (FBI) [redacted] OGC (FBI) [redacted] [redacted] OGC (FBI) [redacted] McCarthy, Dawn L. (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]
Subject: Fw: Letter to AG Garland and Director Wray

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

Mike and Steve

We just received this from our DGC and wanted to make sure you were aware in case you hadn't already received it. We will circle back with our management Monday to discuss how OGC can assist.

Thanks.

[redacted]
Associate Division Counsel
FBI-San Francisco
[redacted] cell

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

Confidentiality Statement:

This message is transmitted to you by the Office of the General Counsel of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The message, along with any attachments, may be confidential and legally privileged. If you are not the intended recipient of this message, please destroy it promptly without further retention or dissemination (unless otherwise required by law). Please notify the sender of the error by a separate e-mail.

From: Brooker, Bradley A. (OGC) (DET) [redacted]
Sent: Friday, February 10, 2023 2:14 PM
To: McCarthy, Dawn L. (OGC) (FBI) [redacted] (OGC) (FBI) [redacted] (OGC) (FBI) [redacted] (OGC) (FBI) [redacted] (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]
Subject: FW: Letter to AG Garland and Director Wray

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

FYSA

From: Coakley, Miriam M. (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]

Sent: Friday, February 10, 2023 4:48 PM

To: Lenzner, Jonathan Falk (DO) (DET) [redacted] McCulloch, Scott (DO) (DET) [redacted]

[redacted] (DO) (DET) [redacted] Milhoan, Catherine L. (OPA) (FBI)

[redacted] Goodwater, Douglas M. (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] Jones, Jason Allen (OGC)

(FBI) [redacted] Polinsky, Melissa (OGC) (FBI) [redacted] Brooker, Bradley A. (OGC) (DET)

[redacted] Dunham, Christopher G. (OCA) (FBI) [redacted] (OGC) (FBI)

[redacted] Meador, Stanley M. (RH) (FBI) [redacted]

Subject: Letter to AG Garland and Director Wray

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

Good afternoon,

In case you have not seen it as I believe it is in the media, here is a letter from the Virginia AG, signed by multiple state AGs, concerning the domain awareness product and demanding related documents and information. RH SAC is tracking.

Thanks,
Miriam

Miriam Coakley
Chief of Staff
Office of the General Counsel
Federal Bureau of Investigation

[redacted] (d) | [redacted] (c)

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

Confidentiality Statement: This message is transmitted to you by the Office of the General Counsel of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The message, along with any attachments, may be confidential and legally privileged. If you are not the intended recipient of this message, please destroy it promptly without further retention or dissemination (unless otherwise required by law). Please notify the sender of the error by a separate e-mail or by calling [redacted]

b7E -3

From: Knapp, Larissa L. (NSB) (FBI)
Subject: Fwd: Letter to AG Garland and Director Wray
To: [redacted] (OGC) (FBI); [redacted] (NSB) (FBI); Wells, Robert R. (CTD) (FBI)
Sent: February 10, 2023 8:13 PM (UTC-05:00)
Attached: Letter to Attorney General Garland & Director Wray (2.10.2023).pdf

b6 -1
b7C -1

Thanks Bobby

+ Team for vis

From: Wells, Robert R. (CTD) (FBI) [redacted]
Sent: Friday, February 10, 2023 7:08:21 PM
To: Knapp, Larissa L. (NSB) (FBI) [redacted]
Subject: FW: Letter to AG Garland and Director Wray

b7E -3

See the attached letter re the RH product.

From: Machtinger, Michael P. (CTD) (FBI) [redacted]
Sent: Friday, February 10, 2023 5:54 PM
To: Wells, Robert R. (CTD) (FBI) [redacted] Holstead, Donald M. (CTD) (FBI) [redacted] Tremaroli, Craig L. (CTD) (FBI) [redacted] Hardiman, Kellie M. (CTD) (FBI) [redacted] (CTD) (FBI) [redacted] (CTD) (FBI) [redacted]
Cc: McQueen, Steven L. (CTD) (FBI) [redacted]
Subject: Fwd: Letter to AG Garland and Director Wray

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

Fysa

From: [redacted] (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]
Sent: Friday, February 10, 2023, 5:37 PM
To: McQueen, Steven L. (CTD) (FBI) [redacted] Machtinger, Michael P. (CTD) (FBI) [redacted]
Cc: [redacted] (OGC) (FBI) [redacted] (OGC) (FBI) [redacted] [redacted] (OGC) (FBI) [redacted] McCarthy, Dawn L. (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]
Subject: Fw: Letter to AG Garland and Director Wray

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

Mike and Steve

We just received this from our DGC and wanted to make sure you were aware in case you hadn't already received it. We will circle back with our management Monday to discuss how OGC can assist.

Thanks.

[redacted]
Associate Division Counsel
FBI-San Francisco
[redacted] cell

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

Confidentiality Statement:

This message is transmitted to you by the Office of the General Counsel of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The message, along with any attachments, may be confidential and legally privileged. If you are not the intended recipient of this message, please destroy it promptly without further retention or dissemination (unless otherwise required by law). Please notify the sender of the error by a separate e-mail.

From: Lenzner, Jonathan Falk (DO) (DET)
Subject: RE: intel piece that has been withdrawn
To: Milhoan, Catherine L. (OPA) (FBI); Abbate, Paul M. (DO) (FBI); Young, Ryan T. (IB) (FBI); Dunham, Christopher G. (OCA) (FBI)
Cc: [redacted] (DO) (DET); McCulloch, Scott (DO) (DET)
Sent: February 13, 2023 1:56 PM (UTC-05:00)

b6 -1
b7C -1

Looks like at least one religious organization is speaking out publicly:

<https://www.washingtonexaminer.com/news/catholic-league-condemns-fbi-internal-memo-targeting-catholics>

From: Lenzner, Jonathan Falk (DO) (DET)
Sent: Friday, February 10, 2023 6:22 PM
To: Milhoan, Catherine L. (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] Abbate, Paul M. (DO) (FBI) [redacted]
Young, Ryan T. (IB) (FBI) [redacted] Dunham, Christopher G. (OCA) (FBI) [redacted]
Cc: [redacted] (DO) (DET) [redacted] McCulloch, Scott (DO) (DET) [redacted]
Subject: intel piece that has been withdrawn

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

I don't know if we are there yet. [redacted]

[redacted]

b5 -1

<https://www.foxnews.com/politics/doj-fbi-targeting-catholics-violent-extremists-under-scrutiny-state-ags-bigotry-festering>

Jonathan Lenzner
Chief of Staff
Federal Bureau of Investigation

[redacted]

b7E -3

From: Young, Ryan T. (IB) (FBI)
Subject: Re: intel piece that has been withdrawn
To: Lenzner, Jonathan Falk (DO) (DET)
Sent: February 13, 2023 4:58 PM (UTC-05:00)

Not a good look... Real frustrating when it is self-inflicted. I'll be back in town Wednesday. We can look into next best steps.

Thanks, Ryan

From: Lenzner, Jonathan Falk (DO) (DET) [redacted]
Sent: Monday, February 13, 2023 1:55:54 PM
To: Milhoan, Catherine L. (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] Abbate, Paul M. (DO) (FBI) [redacted]
Young, Ryan T. (IB) (FBI) [redacted] Dunham, Christopher G. (OCA) (FBI) [redacted]
Cc: [redacted] (DO) (DET) [redacted] McCulloch, Scott (DO) (DET) [redacted]
Subject: RE: intel piece that has been withdrawn

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

Looks like at least one religious organization is speaking out publicly:

<https://www.washingtonexaminer.com/news/catholic-league-condemns-fbi-internal-memo-targeting-catholics>

From: Lenzner, Jonathan Falk (DO) (DET)
Sent: Friday, February 10, 2023 6:22 PM
To: Milhoan, Catherine L. (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] Abbate, Paul M. (DO) (FBI) [redacted]
Young, Ryan T. (IB) (FBI) [redacted] Dunham, Christopher G. (OCA) (FBI) [redacted]
Cc: [redacted] (DO) (DET) [redacted] McCulloch, Scott (DO) (DET) [redacted]
Subject: intel piece that has been withdrawn

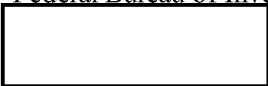
b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

I don't know if we are there yet. [redacted]
[redacted]

b5 -1

<https://www.foxnews.com/politics/doj-fbi-targeting-catholics-violent-extremists-under-scrutiny-state-ags-bigotry-festering>

Jonathan Lenzner
Chief of Staff
Federal Bureau of Investigation



b7E -3

From: [redacted] (DO) (FBI)
Subject: RH Intel Product Q&A
To: Lenzner, Jonathan Falk (DO) (DET); [redacted] (DO) (DET)
Sent: February 14, 2023 4:03 PM (UTC-05:00)

b6 -1
b7C -1

Thoughts?

[Large redacted area]

b5 -1

[redacted]

FBI Office of the Director

[redacted]

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

From: Lenzner, Jonathan Falk (DO) (DET)
Subject: FW: RH Intel Product Q&A
To: McCulloch, Scott (DO) (DET)
Sent: February 14, 2023 4:10 PM (UTC-05:00)

Any edits? Thanks

From: [redacted] (DO) (FBI) [redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, February 14, 2023 4:03 PM
To: Lenzner, Jonathan Falk (DO) (DET) [redacted] (DO) (DET)
[redacted]
Subject: RH Intel Product Q&A

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

Thoughts?

[Large redacted block]

b5 -1

[redacted]

Assistant Director

[redacted]

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

From: McCulloch, Scott (DO) (DET)
Subject: Re: RH Intel Product Q&A
To: Lenzner, Jonathan Falk (DO) (DET)
Sent: February 14, 2023 4:13 PM (UTC-05:00)

Will look now n

From: Lenzner, Jonathan Falk (DO) (DET) [Redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, February 14, 2023 4:10:14 PM
To: McCulloch, Scott (DO) (DET) [Redacted]
Subject: FW: RH Intel Product Q&A

b7E -3

Any edits? Thanks

From: [Redacted] (DO) (FBI) [Redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, February 14, 2023 4:03 PM
To: Lenzner, Jonathan Falk (DO) (DET) [Redacted] (DO) (DET)
[Redacted]
Subject: RH Intel Product Q&A

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

Thoughts?

[Redacted]

b5 -1

[Redacted]

FBI Office of the Director

[Redacted]

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

From: McCulloch, Scott (DO) (DET)
Subject: Re: RH Intel Product Q&A
To: Lenzner, Jonathan Falk (DO) (DET)
Sent: February 14, 2023 4:32 PM (UTC-05:00)

Would replace the last bullet with:

[Redacted]

b5 -1

(Though would run by Jason).

From: Lenzner, Jonathan Falk (DO) (DET) [Redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, February 14, 2023 4:10 PM
To: McCulloch, Scott (DO) (DET)
Subject: FW: RH Intel Product Q&A

b7E -1

Any edits? Thanks

From: [Redacted] (DO) (FBI) [Redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, February 14, 2023 4:03 PM
To: Lenzner, Jonathan Falk (DO) (DET) [Redacted] (DO) (DET)
[Redacted]
Subject: RH Intel Product Q&A

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

Thoughts?

[Redacted]

b5 -1

[Redacted]

For Office of the Director

[Redacted]

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

From: [redacted] (DO) (FBI)
Subject: NF FOV Media Availability
To: Lenzner, Jonathan Falk (DO) (DET); McCulloch, Scott (DO) (DET); [redacted] (DO) (DET); [redacted] (DO) (FBI)
Sent: February 14, 2023 5:10 PM (UTC-05:00)
Attached: Norfolk FO Media Planv4.docx

b6 -1
b7C -1

Gents,

The attached is the latest version of this media availability document, with edits from OPA and folks from our side.

Thanks,

[redacted]

[redacted]

FBI Office of the Director

[redacted]

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

From: [redacted] (DO) (FBI)
Subject: RE: NF FOV Media Availability
To: Lenzner, Jonathan Falk (DO) (DET); McCulloch, Scott (DO) (DET); [redacted] (DO) (DET); [redacted] (DO) (FBI)
Sent: February 14, 2023 5:29 PM (UTC-05:00)
Attached: Norfolk FO Media Planv6.docx

b6 -1
b7C -1

Sir,

Updated with Scott's edits [redacted] These are ready for the Director's book pending your edits.

b5 -1

Thanks,

[redacted]

b6 -1
b7C -1

From: [redacted] (DO) (FBI)
Sent: Tuesday, February 14, 2023 5:10 PM
To: Lenzner, Jonathan Falk (DO) (DET); [redacted] McCulloch, Scott (DO) (DET); [redacted] (DO) (DET); [redacted] (DO) (FBI)
[redacted]
Subject: NF FOV Media Availability

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

Gents,

The attached is the latest version of this media availability document, with edits from OPA and folks from our side.

Thanks,

[redacted]

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

[redacted]

FBI | Office of the Director

[redacted]

From: Lenzner, Jonathan Falk (DO) (DET)
Subject: your quick review - for press conference tomorrow
To: Jones, Jason Allen (OGC) (FBI); Coakley, Miriam M. (OGC) (FBI)
Sent: February 14, 2023 5:46 PM (UTC-05:00)

Jason/Miriam: can you review this quickly? Thanks.



b5 -1

Jonathan Lenzner
Chief of Staff
Federal Bureau of Investigation



b7E -3

From: Jones, Jason Allen (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: Re: your quick review - for press conference tomorrow
To: Lenzner, Jonathan Falk (DO) (DET); Coakley, Miriam M. (OGC) (FBI)
Sent: February 14, 2023 6:17 PM (UTC-05:00)

Looks ok to me.

From: Lenzner, Jonathan Falk (DO) (DET) [redacted] b7E -3
Sent: Tuesday, February 14, 2023 5:45:41 PM
To: Jones, Jason Allen (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]; Coakley, Miriam M. (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]
Subject: your quick review - for press conference tomorrow

Jason/Miriam: can you review this quickly? Thanks.

[Large redacted area]

b5 -1

Jonathan Lenzner
Chief of Staff
Federal Bureau of Investigation

[Redacted signature box]

b7E -1

From: Coakley, Miriam M. (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: Re: your quick review - for press conference tomorrow
To: Jones, Jason Allen (OGC) (FBI); Lenzner, Jonathan Falk (DO) (DET)
Sent: February 14, 2023 6:41 PM (UTC-05:00)

One nit for consideration [redacted]

b5 -1

[redacted]

[redacted]

From: Jones, Jason Allen (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, February 14, 2023 6:16:42 PM
To: Lenzner, Jonathan Falk (DO) (DET) [redacted] Coakley, Miriam M. (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]
Subject: Re: your quick review - for press conference tomorrow

b7E -3

Looks ok to me.

From: Lenzner, Jonathan Falk (DO) (DET) [redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, February 14, 2023 5:45:41 PM
To: Jones, Jason Allen (OGC) (FBI) [redacted] Coakley, Miriam M. (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]
Subject: your quick review - for press conference tomorrow

b7E -3

Jason/Miriam: can you review this quickly? Thanks.

[redacted]

b7E -1

Jonathan Lenzner
Chief of Staff
Federal Bureau of Investigation

[redacted]

b7E -3

From: [redacted] (DO) (FBI)
Subject: RE: NF FOV Media Availability
To: [redacted] (DO) (FBI)
Cc: Lenzner, Jonathan Falk (DO) (DET); McCulloch, Scott (DO) (DET); [redacted] (DO) (DET); [redacted] (DO) (FBI)
Sent: February 14, 2023 6:43 PM (UTC-05:00)
Attached: Norfolk FO Media Planv8.docx

b6 -1
b7C -1

[redacted]

b6 -1
b7C -1

This one can go home with him run a block!!!!!!!!!!

[redacted]

From: [redacted] (DO) (FBI)
Sent: Tuesday, February 14, 2023 5:33 PM
To: [redacted] (DO) (FBI) [redacted]
Cc: Lenzner, Jonathan Falk (DO) (DET) [redacted] McCulloch, Scott (DO) (DET) [redacted]
[redacted] (DO) (DET) [redacted] (DO) (FBI)
[redacted]
Subject: RE: NF FOV Media Availability

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

[redacted]

b6 -1
b7C -1

The attached remarks have been updated with the latest round of the Director's edits and questions.

Thanks,

[redacted]

b6 -1
b7C -1

From: [redacted] (DO) (FBI)
Sent: Tuesday, February 14, 2023 5:29 PM
To: Lenzner, Jonathan Falk (DO) (DET) [redacted] McCulloch, Scott (DO) (DET) [redacted]
[redacted] (DO) (DET) [redacted] (DO) (FBI)
[redacted]
Subject: RE: NF FOV Media Availability

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

Sir,

b5 -1

Updated with Scott's edits [redacted] These are ready for the Director's book pending your edits.

Thanks,

[redacted]

b6 -1
b7C -1

From: [redacted] (DO) (FBI)
Sent: Tuesday, February 14, 2023 5:10 PM
To: Lenzner, Jonathan Falk (DO) (DET) [redacted] McCulloch, Scott (DO) (DET) [redacted]
[redacted] (DO) (DET) [redacted] (DO) (FBI)
[redacted]
Subject: NF FOV Media Availability

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

Gents,

The attached is the latest version of this media availability document, with edits from OPA and folks from our side.

Thanks,

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

FBI Office of the Director

[Redacted]

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

From: Jones, Jason Allen (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: Re: your quick review - for press conference tomorrow
To: Coakley, Miriam M. (OGC) (FBI); Lenzner, Jonathan Falk (DO) (DET)
Sent: February 14, 2023 6:48 PM (UTC-05:00)

Good edits.

From: Coakley, Miriam M. (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, February 14, 2023 6:40:51 PM
To: Jones, Jason Allen (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]; Lenzner, Jonathan Falk (DO) (DET) [redacted]
Subject: Re: your quick review - for press conference tomorrow

b7E -3

One nit for consideration [redacted]

b5 -1

[redacted]

From: Jones, Jason Allen (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, February 14, 2023 6:16:42 PM
To: Lenzner, Jonathan Falk (DO) (DET) [redacted]; Coakley, Miriam M. (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]
Subject: Re: your quick review - for press conference tomorrow

b7E -3

Looks ok to me.

From: Lenzner, Jonathan Falk (DO) (DET) [redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, February 14, 2023 5:45:41 PM
To: Jones, Jason Allen (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]; Coakley, Miriam M. (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]
Subject: your quick review - for press conference tomorrow

b7E -3

Jason/Miriam: can you review this quickly? Thanks.

[redacted]

b5 -1

Jonathan Lenzner
Chief of Staff
Federal Bureau of Investigation

[redacted]

b7E -3

From: Lenzner, Jonathan Falk (DO) (DET)
Subject: RE: your quick review - for press conference tomorrow
To: Jones, Jason Allen (OGC) (FBI); Coakley, Miriam M. (OGC) (FBI)
Sent: February 14, 2023 6:50 PM (UTC-05:00)

Thank you both

From: Jones, Jason Allen (OGC) (FBI) [redacted] b7E -3
Sent: Tuesday, February 14, 2023 6:48 PM
To: Coakley, Miriam M. (OGC) (FBI) [redacted] Lenzner, Jonathan Falk (DO) (DET) [redacted]
Subject: Re: your quick review - for press conference tomorrow

Good edits.

From: Coakley, Miriam M. (OGC) (FBI) [redacted] b7E -3
Sent: Tuesday, February 14, 2023 6:40:51 PM
To: Jones, Jason Allen (OGC) (FBI) [redacted] Lenzner, Jonathan Falk (DO) (DET) [redacted]
Subject: Re: your quick review - for press conference tomorrow

One nit for consideration [redacted] b5 -1

[redacted]

From: Jones, Jason Allen (OGC) (FBI) [redacted] b7E -3
Sent: Tuesday, February 14, 2023 6:16:42 PM
To: Lenzner, Jonathan Falk (DO) (DET) [redacted] Coakley, Miriam M. (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]
Subject: Re: your quick review - for press conference tomorrow

Looks ok to me.

From: Lenzner, Jonathan Falk (DO) (DET) [redacted] b7E -3
Sent: Tuesday, February 14, 2023 5:45:41 PM
To: Jones, Jason Allen (OGC) (FBI) [redacted] Coakley, Miriam M. (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]
Subject: your quick review - for press conference tomorrow

Jason/Miriam: can you review this quickly? Thanks.

[redacted] b5 -1

Jonathan Lenzner
Chief of Staff
Federal Bureau of Investigation



b7E -3

From:
Subject: Richmond talking points - edit
To:
Sent: February 14, 2023 6:55 PM (UTC-05:00)

Team: OGC came back with two suggestions for the Richmond TPs. I have put them in yellow below. The first is to

[Redacted]

b5 -1

The second is in the last bullet point – I have just added it in yellow as an option.

We have already put them in his book, so I would suggest bringing this version with [Redacted] tomorrow, just so you have it tomorrow. However, even if you don't adopt it for tomorrow, I want to make sure we have shared, since

b6 -1

b7C -1

[Redacted]

b5 -1

One nit for consideration

[Redacted]

b5 -1

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Jonathan Lenzner
Chief of Staff
Federal Bureau of Investigation

[Redacted]

b5 -1

From: Lenzner, Jonathan Falk (DO) (DET)
Subject: Richmond talking points - edit
To: [redacted] (DO) (FBI); [redacted] (DO) (DET); McCulloch, Scott (DO) (DET); [redacted] (DO) (FBI); Milhoan, Catherine L. (OPA) (FBI); Goodwater, Douglas M. (OPA) (FBI)
Sent: February 14, 2023 6:59 PM (UTC-05:00)

b6 -1
b7C -1

Team: OGC came back with two suggestions for the Richmond TPs. I have put them in yellow below. The first is to

[redacted]

b5 -1
b6 -1
b7C -1

The second is in the last bullet point – I have just added it in yellow as an option. We have already put the last draft in his book for the night and he has left, so I would suggest bringing this version with [redacted] tomorrow, just so you have it tomorrow. However, even if you don't adopt it for tomorrow, I want to make sure we have shared among the group, since this issue will surely continue for our enjoyment.

[redacted]

b5 -1

Jonathan Lenzner
Chief of Staff
Federal Bureau of Investigation

[redacted]

b7E -3

From: [redacted] (DO) (FBI)
Subject: RE: Richmond talking points - edit
To: Lenzner, Jonathan Falk (DO) (DET); [redacted] (DO) (DET); McCulloch, Scott (DO) (DET); [redacted] (DO) (FBI); Milhoan, Catherine L. (OPA) (FBI); Goodwater, Douglas M. (OPA) (FBI)
Sent: February 14, 2023 7:42 PM (UTC-05:00)
Attached: Norfolk FO Media Planv9.docx

b6 -1
b7C -1

Got it! I have updated the draft and re-attached the latest.

Thanks,

[redacted]

b6 -1
b7C -1

From: Lenzner, Jonathan Falk (DO) (DET) [redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, February 14, 2023 6:59 PM
To: [redacted] (DO) (FBI); [redacted] (DO) (DET); [redacted] (DO) (FBI); McCulloch, Scott (DO) (DET); [redacted] (DO) (FBI); [redacted] Milhoan, Catherine L. (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] Goodwater, Douglas M. (OPA) (FBI); [redacted]
Subject: Richmond talking points - edit

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

Team: OGC came back with two suggestions for the Richmond TPs. I have put them in yellow below. The first is to

[redacted]

The second is in the last bullet point – I have just added it in yellow as an option. We have already put the last draft in his book for the night and he has left, so I would suggest bringing this version with [redacted] tomorrow, just so you have it tomorrow. However, even if you don't adopt it for tomorrow, I want to make sure we have shared among the group, since this issue will surely continue for our enjoyment.

b5 -1
b6 -1
b7C -1

[Large redacted block]

b5 -1

Jonathan Lenzner
Chief of Staff
Federal Bureau of Investigation

[redacted]

b7E -3

From: Hawkins, Krysti E. (DO) (FBI)
Subject: FW: Richmond talking points - edit
To: Abbate, Paul M. (DO) (FBI)
Sent: February 15, 2023 9:43 AM (UTC-05:00)
Attached: Norfolk FO Media Planv9.docx

Boss,
Per your request related to the Director's Tough Questions Document drafted by OPA.

Thank you,
Krysti

From: Goodwater, Douglas M. (OPA) (FBI) [redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, February 14, 2023 10:13 PM
To: Hawkins, Krysti E. (DO) (FBI) [redacted]
Subject: Fwd: Richmond talking points - edit

b7E -3

Krysti
By the time I arrived here, the DO was done with edits. [redacted]
[redacted] I thought we fixed that a couple times but keeps finding it's way back in.

b5 -1

From: [redacted] (DO) (FBI) [redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, February 14, 2023, 7:42 PM
To: Lenzner, Jonathan Falk (DO) (DET) [redacted] (DO) (DET)
[redacted] McCulloch, Scott (DO) (DET) [redacted] (DO)
(FBI) [redacted] Milhoan, Catherine L. (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] Goodwater, Douglas M.
(OPA) (FBI) [redacted]
Subject: RE: Richmond talking points - edit

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

Got it! I have updated the draft and re-attached the latest.

Thanks,
[redacted]

b6 -1
b7C -1

From: Lenzner, Jonathan Falk (DO) (DET) [redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, February 14, 2023 6:59 PM
To: [redacted] (DO) (FBI) [redacted] (DO) (DET) [redacted]
McCulloch, Scott (DO) (DET) [redacted] (DO) (FBI)
[redacted] Milhoan, Catherine L. (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] Goodwater, Douglas M. (OPA)
(FBI) [redacted]
Subject: Richmond talking points - edit

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

Team: OGC came back with two suggestions for the Richmond TPs. I have put them in yellow below. The first is to
[redacted]
The second is in the last bullet point – I have just added it in yellow as an option. We have already put the last draft
in his book for the night and he has left, so I would suggest bringing this version with [redacted] tomorrow, just so
you have it tomorrow. However, even if you don't adopt it for tomorrow, I want to make sure we have shared among
the group, since this issue will surely continue for our enjoyment.

b5 -1
b6 -1
b7C -1

[redacted]

b5 -1

From: Coakley, Miriam M. (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: FW: Richmond Intel Product Proposed Redactions
To: Jones, Jason Allen (OGC) (FBI)
Cc: Polinsky, Melissa (OGC) (FBI) [redacted] (OGC) (FBI)
Sent: February 16, 2023 11:35 AM (UTC-05:00)
Attached: [redacted] Richmond Product 2023-02-15 - Richmond Feedback + OCA.pdf

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -7

From: [redacted] (OGC) (FBI)
Sent: Wednesday, February 15, 2023 5:26 PM
To: [redacted] (OGC) (FBI) [redacted] (OGC) (FBI)
Cc: [redacted] (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]
Subject: FW: Richmond Intel Product Proposed Redactions

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

Sorry for so many threads on this. In case this is helpful context: Richmond called OCA this afternoon and [redacted]

b5 -1

From: [redacted] (OCA) (FBI) [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, February 15, 2023 5:09 PM
To: [redacted] (CTD) (FBI) [redacted] (CTD) (FBI) [redacted]
[redacted] (OGC) (FBI) [redacted] (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]
Cc: Dunham, Christopher G. (OCA) (FBI) [redacted] (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]
[redacted] (OGC) (FBI) [redacted] (OCA) (FBI) [redacted]
Subject: Richmond Intel Product Proposed Redactions

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

DELIBERATIVE / PRE-DECISIONAL / DRAFT

[redacted]

b6 -1
b7C -1

Attached please find a revised version of the intelligence product [redacted]
[redacted] OCA concurs with the proposed redactions in the attachment. Can you please advise if CTD concurs with the proposed redactions?

b5 -1

Thank you,

[redacted]

b6 -1
b7C -1

[redacted]
Office of Congressional Affairs
[redacted] (Cell)
[redacted] (Desk)

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

From: Brooker, Bradley A. (OGC) (DET)
Subject: FW: New Request from HJC re Richmond Product
To: McCarthy, Dawn L. (OGC) (FBI); [redacted] (OGC) (FBI); [redacted] (OGC) (FBI); [redacted] (OGC) (FBI); [redacted] (OGC) (FBI); Jones, Jason Allen (OGC) (FBI)
Sent: February 16, 2023 2:13 PM (UTC-05:00)
Attached: 2023-02-16 JDJ MJ to Wray re Catholic DP template.pdf, 2.16.23 FINAL Wray Letter Cloud-Lankford.pdf

b6 -1
b7C -1

FYSA. No action required.

From: [redacted] (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]
Sent: Thursday, February 16, 2023 12:48 PM
To: Polinsky, Melissa (OGC) (FBI) [redacted] Brooker, Bradley A. (OGC) (DET) [redacted]
Coakley, Miriam M. (OGC) (FBI) [redacted] McNally, Richard (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]
Cc: [redacted] (OGC) (FBI) [redacted] (OGC) (FBI)
[redacted] (OGC) (FBI) [redacted] (OGC) (FBI)
[redacted]
Subject: New Request from HJC re Richmond Product

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

As anticipated, we received the attached request from House Judiciary Chairman Jordan today regarding the Richmond product. Until now, we had only received informal requests from the intelligence committees for the unredacted product. In today's letter, the Judiciary Committee seeks:

1. All documents and communications referring or relating to intelligence products about "racially or ethnically motivated violent extremists" and "radical-traditionalist Catholics" for the period of January 20, 2021, to the present;
2. All documents and communications referring or relating to the basis for the January 23, 2023, Domain Prospective, entitled "Interest of Racially or Ethnically Motivated Violent Extremist Radical-Traditionalist Catholic Ideology Almost Certainly Presents New Mitigation Opportunities," approved and disseminated by FBI's Richmond Field Office;
3. A list of the FBI investigations, local law enforcement agency reporting, and liaison reporting, with varying degrees of cooperation and access that the FBI's Richmond Field Office relied upon to make its assessments in the January 23, 2023, Domain Prospective, entitled "Interest of Racially or Ethnically Motivated Violent Extremist Radical-Traditionalist Catholic Ideology Almost Certainly Presents New Mitigation Opportunities"; and
4. A list of all FBI employees involved in drafting, reviewing, approving, or disseminating the January 23, 2023, Domain Prospective, entitled "Interest of Racially or Ethnically Motivated Violent Extremist Radical-Traditionalist Catholic Ideology Almost Certainly Presents New Mitigation Opportunities."

In addition, we received a similar letter from various members of the House and Senate (led by Rep. Mike Cloud (R-TX) and Senator Lankford (R-OK)) requesting similar information.

Best,
[redacted]

b6 -1
b7C -1

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

February 16, 2023

Christopher Wray
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
935 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20535

Dear Director Wray,

We are deeply concerned about the bulletin issued on January 23, 2023, by the Richmond field office warning against, “Radical Traditionalist Catholic Ideology.”¹ While the document was ultimately rescinded after it became public, the formation and issuance of such an advisory to FBI agents and field offices raise numerous concerns. In addition to the extreme process flaws that the approval of such an advisory demonstrates, of particular concern is the continued reliance that the FBI apparently places on data and resources from the partisan Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC).

As you know, the document alarmingly asserted that “racially or ethnically motivated violent extremists (RMVEs) in radical-traditionalist Catholic (RTC) ideology *almost certainly presents opportunities for threat mitigation* through the exploration of new avenues for tripwire and source development,” (emphasis added). It also suggested that the FBI relies on attendance at RTC or “traditionalist Catholic houses of worship”, as well as “language indicative of adherence to RTC ideology in social media postings” for its assessments. We are concerned that the FBI does not have processes in place to ensure that Catholics are not the subject of FBI suspicion or investigation simply because of how and where they worship or what they believe. As you are well aware, the First Amendment protects such speech, beliefs and actions as part of the free exercise of religion.

The advisory included an analyst note stating that, “RTCs are typically characterized by the rejection of the Second Vatican Council (Vatican II) as a valid church council; disdain for most popes elected since Vatican II, particularly Pope Francis and Pope John Paul II; and frequent adherence to anti-Semitic, anti-immigrant, anti-LGBTQ, and white supremacist ideology.” The advisory also singled out traditional Catholics for their pro-life views, accusing RTCs of “hostility towards abortion-rights advocates” in the aftermath of the *Dobbs* decision, and describing “legislation or judicial decisions in areas such as abortion rights... and LGBTQ protections,” naming Governor Youngkin’s pro-life legislation as an example, as a “common cause” of RTCs and RMVEs. This specific call out to prolife views is of even greater concern, considering the slow rate of investigation and response to the violent attacks that a number of prolife pregnancy centers² and Catholic Churches³ have experienced since the *Dobbs* decision was leaked in May of last year.

¹ <https://www.uncoverdc.com/2023/02/08/the-fbi-doubles-down-on-christians-and-white-supremacy-in-2023/>

² <https://catholicvote.org/pregnancy-center-attack-tracker/>

³ <https://catholicvote.org/tracker-church-attacks/>

It is of great concern that the FBI did not have the oversight structure in place to stop this document before it was ever published or utilized. And it is crucial that the FBI develop and maintain policies that prevent such objectively discriminatory practices from being advised or implemented again.

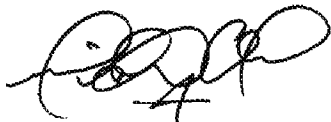
Of further concern is the reliance the FBI seems to continue to place on biased data from the Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC) on organizations it classifies as “hate groups”, despite its overt political bias and previous pushback from Congress. While the SPLC claims to be a group working to expel hate, it is in fact perpetuating hate against people of faith because of their religious views. Official government investigations and tracking should not be based on such biased reporting, which has already led to violent attacks against peaceful faith-based organizations.⁴ We call on the FBI to finally stop using data from the SPLC.

It should go without saying that violence and threats toward any person or group of people should be taken seriously. As lawmakers, we are concerned about the rise in violence and hate toward individuals and groups, and as recently as last Congress enacted legislation to prevent and respond to hate crimes⁵. But personal religious beliefs, or agreeing with the Catholic Church’s teaching on sex and marriage are not violent or extreme.

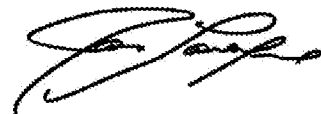
Targeting people on the basis of their religious beliefs and affiliation violates the Constitution. While the FBI claims it “does not investigate, collect, or maintain information on U.S. persons solely for the purpose of monitoring activities protected by the First Amendment,” the fact that such a document was able to be published and released in the first place is of great concern.

We request that the FBI respond to this letter by providing us with all documents and correspondence related to the origin and purpose of the document, including what agents developed the policy and whether any actions were taken in response to it, such as the tracking or monitoring of individuals who attend “Traditionalist Catholic houses of worship.” We also ask that the FBI provide us with a detailed explanation of what actions will be taken to educate all field offices on the Constitutional protections of the First Amendment, and to clarify that the free exercise of religion and religious beliefs do not equate to extremism, and are therefore not a basis for targeting or tracking.

Sincerely,



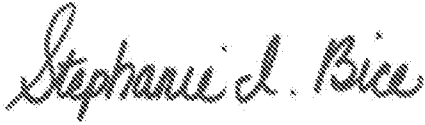
Michael Cloud
Member of Congress



James Lankford
U.S. Senator

⁴ <https://www.washingtonexaminer.com/southern-poverty-law-center-website-triggered-frc-shooting>

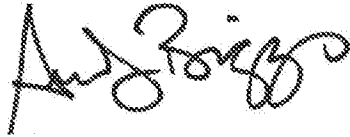
⁵ Public Law 117-13



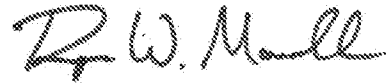
Stephanie Bice
Member of Congress



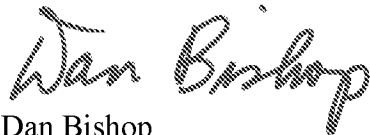
Mike Braun
U.S. Senator



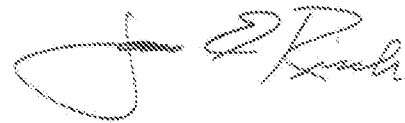
Andy Biggs
Member of Congress



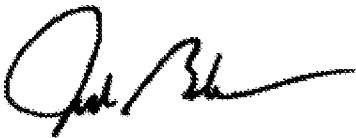
Roger Marshall, M.D.
U.S. Senator



Dan Bishop
Member of Congress



James E. Risch
U.S. Senator



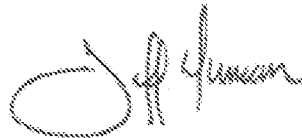
Josh Brecheen
Member of Congress



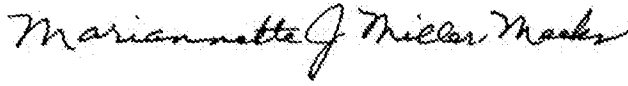
U.S. Rick Scott
U.S. Senator



Ben Cline
Member of Congress



Jeff Duncan
Member of Congress



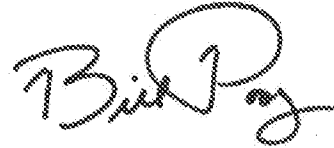
Mariannette Miller-Meeks, M.D.
Member of Congress



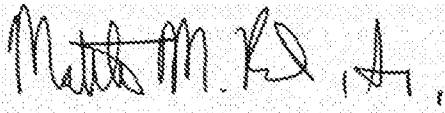
Ralph Norman
Member of Congress



Andy Ogles
Member of Congress



Bill Posey
Member of Congress



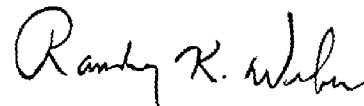
Matt Rosendale
Member of Congress



Christopher H. Smith
Member of Congress



Greg Steube
Member of Congress



Randy Weber
Member of Congress

ONE HUNDRED EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

2128 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING

WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6216

(202) 225-8868
judiciary.house.gov

February 16, 2023

The Honorable Christopher A. Wray
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
935 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20535

Dear Director Wray:

The Committee on the Judiciary is continuing to examine the Federal Bureau of Investigation's (FBI) handling of domestic violent extremism (DVE) investigations. Over the last year, we have written to you several times about startling allegations that the FBI is misusing DVE resources for apparent political purposes.¹ Since those letters, new information has become public about the FBI's targeting of a set of Catholic Americans for their religious beliefs. We therefore write to request additional information about this serious misuse of federal law-enforcement resources.

On January 23, 2023, the FBI's Richmond Field Office published an official document that linked "racially or ethnically motivated violent extremists" (RMVEs) with a "radical-traditionalist Catholic" (RTC) ideology.² In this document, the FBI purported to distinguish what it called "traditional Catholics" from the disfavored RTC adherents, who the FBI characterized as embracing "anti-Semitic, anti-immigrant, anti-LGBTQ, and white supremacist ideology."³ The FBI even identified certain public policy issues—such as immigration and life issues—that it believed would "catalyz[e]" RTC adherents.⁴ In addition to attempting to separate and categorize Catholic Americans based on theological distinctions, the FBI underscored the

¹ See, e.g., Letter from Rep. Jim Jordan, Ranking Member, H. Comm. on the Judiciary, to Hon. Christopher A. Wray, Dir., Fed. Bureau of Investigation (July 27, 2022); Letter from Rep. Jim Jordan, Ranking Member, H. Comm. on the Judiciary, to Hon. Christopher A. Wray, Dir., Fed. Bureau of Investigation (Sept. 14, 2022); Letter from Rep. Jim Jordan, Ranking Member, H. Comm. on the Judiciary, to Hon. Christopher A. Wray, Dir., Fed. Bureau of Investigation (Sept. 19, 2022).

² Fed. Bureau of Investigation, U.S. Dep't of Justice, Domain Perspective, Interest of Racially or Ethnically Motivated Violent Extremist Radical-Traditionalist Catholic Ideology Almost Certainly Presents New Mitigation Opportunities (Jan. 23, 2023).

³ *Id.*

⁴ *Id.*

The Honorable Christopher A. Wray

February 16, 2023

Page 2

political nature of its actions: “FBI Richmond assesses RMVE interest in RTCs is likely to increase over the next 12 or 24 months in the run-up to the next general election cycle.”⁵

The FBI’s document cites to biased and partisan sources, including the Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC), *Salon*, and *The Atlantic*, to support its assessment.⁶ The SPLC misleadingly defines RTCs as “the largest group of serious anti-Semites in America” and believes to have identified nine RTC “hate groups” across the United States.⁷ The SPLC also identifies the broad term “Christian identity” as a hate group—a term that could arguably encompass millions of Americans with sincerely held religious beliefs.⁸ The SPLC routinely maligns several mainstream conservative and religious organizations as “hate” groups, simply because the SPLC disagrees with their views.⁹ The fact that the FBI would blindly accept and regurgitate the SPLC’s spin is highly concerning and undercuts the FBI’s assertion that it is unbiased and politically neutral.

In the wake of the backlash against the FBI’s anti-Catholic document, the FBI withdrew the document and blamed the local level field office for its creation and dissemination.¹⁰ However, there remain many questions about the genesis, review, and approval of this document, as well as the FBI’s commitment to upholding First Amendment protected activity. To inform our ongoing oversight of the FBI, please provide the following documents and information:

1. All documents and communications referring or relating to intelligence products about “racially or ethnically motivated violent extremists” and “radical-traditionalist Catholics” for the period of January 20, 2021, to the present;
2. All documents and communications referring or relating to the basis for the January 23, 2023, Domain Prospective, entitled “Interest of Racially or Ethnically Motivated Violent Extremist Radical-Traditionalist Catholic Ideology Almost Certainly Presents New Mitigation Opportunities,” approved and disseminated by FBI’s Richmond Field Office;
3. A list of the FBI investigations, local law enforcement agency reporting, and liaison reporting, with varying degrees of cooperation and access that the FBI’s Richmond Field Office relied upon to make its assessments in the January 23, 2023, Domain Prospective, entitled “Interest of Racially or Ethnically Motivated Violent Extremist Radical-Traditionalist Catholic Ideology Almost Certainly Presents New Mitigation Opportunities”; and
4. A list of all FBI employees involved in drafting, reviewing, approving, or disseminating the January 23, 2023, Domain Prospective, entitled “Interest of Racially or Ethnically

⁵ *Id.*

⁶ *Id.* at 11.

⁷ Southern Poverty Law Center, *Radical Traditional Catholicism*, <https://www.splcenter.org/fighting-hate/extremist-files/ideology/radical-traditional-catholicism> (last visited Feb. 13, 2023).

⁸ *Id.*

⁹ See, e.g., Susan Ferrechio, *SPLC finds fewer hate groups but still targets evangelicals, conservatives as haters*, WASH. TIMES (Mar. 10, 2022).

¹⁰ Kayla Bailey, *FBI labeling Catholics as possible violent extremists is an excuse to oppress ‘political enemies’*: *Evita Duffy*, FOX NEWS (Feb. 12, 2023).

The Honorable Christopher A. Wray

February 16, 2023

Page 3

Motivated Violent Extremist Radical-Traditionalist Catholic Ideology Almost Certainly Presents New Mitigation Opportunities.”

Please provide this information as soon as possible, but no later than 5:00 p.m. on March 2, 2023. We remind you that whistleblower disclosures are protected by law and that we will not tolerate any effort to retaliate against whistleblowers for their disclosures.

The Judiciary Committee is authorized to conduct oversight of the Federal Bureau of Investigation pursuant to the Rules of the House of Representatives.¹¹ If you have any questions, please contact Committee staff at (202) 225-6906. Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Jim Jordan
Chairman



Mike Johnson
Chairman
Subcommittee on the Constitution
and Limited Government

cc: The Honorable Jerrold L. Nadler, Ranking Member
The Honorable Mary Gay Scanlon, Ranking Member, Subcommittee on the Constitution
and Limited Government

¹¹ Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, R. X (2023).

From: Wells, Robert R. (CTD) (FBI)
Subject: FW: Richmond Intel Product Proposed Redactions
To: Knapp, Larissa L. (NSB) (FBI)
Sent: February 16, 2023 2:51 PM (UTC-05:00)
Attached: [redacted] Richmond Product 2023-02-15 - Richmond Feedback + OCA.pdf

b7E -7

FYI – We are working to share the RH document with SSCI and HPSCI. I concurred with the redactions proposed by RH. This will still have to be coordinated with DOJ prior to being shared with SSCI and HPSCI.

From: [redacted] (CTD) (FBI) [redacted]
Sent: Thursday, February 16, 2023 10:50 AM
To: Wells, Robert R. (CTD) (FBI) [redacted]
Cc: [redacted] (CTD) (FBI) [redacted]
Subject: FW: Richmond Intel Product Proposed Redactions

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

Sir:

SAC Richmond – through OCA, has asked that you also review and sign off on the attached going out. [redacted]

b5 -1
b7E -6

Thanks.

[redacted]

b6 -1
b7C -1

From: [redacted] (OCA) (FBI) [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, February 15, 2023 5:09 PM
To: [redacted] (CTD) (FBI) [redacted] (CTD) (FBI) [redacted]
[redacted] (OGC) (FBI) [redacted] (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]
Cc: Dunham, Christopher G. (OCA) (FBI) [redacted] (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]
[redacted] (OGC) (FBI) [redacted] (OCA) (FBI) [redacted]
Subject: Richmond Intel Product Proposed Redactions

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

DELIBERATIVE / PRE-DECISIONAL / DRAFT

[redacted]

Attached please find a revised version of the intelligence product [redacted]

b5 -1
b6 -1
b7C -1

[redacted] OCA concurs with the proposed redactions in the attachment. Can you please advise if CTD concurs with the proposed redactions?

Thank you,

[redacted]

[redacted]

Office of Congressional Affairs

[redacted] (Cell)
[redacted] (Desk)

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

From: Wells, Robert R. (CTD) (FBI)
Subject: FW: Richmond Intel Product Proposed Redactions
To: Knapp, Larissa L. (NSB) (FBI)
Cc: [redacted] (OGC) (FBI) [redacted] (NSB) (FBI)
Sent: February 16, 2023 2:52 PM (UTC-05:00)
Attached: [redacted] Richmond Product 2023-02-15 - Richmond Feedback + OCA.pdf

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -7

FYI – We are working to share the RH document with SSCI and HPSCI. I concurred with the redactions proposed by RH. This will still have to be coordinated with DOJ prior to being shared with SSCI and HPSCI.

From: [redacted] (CTD) (FBI) [redacted]
Sent: Thursday, February 16, 2023 10:50 AM
To: Wells, Robert R. (CTD) (FBI) [redacted]
Cc: [redacted] (CTD) (FBI) [redacted]
Subject: FW: Richmond Intel Product Proposed Redactions

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

Sir:

SAC Richmond – through OCA, has asked that you also review and sign off on the attached going out. [redacted]
[redacted]

b5 -1
b7E -6

Thanks.

[redacted]

b6 -1
b7C -1

From: [redacted] (OCA) (FBI) [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, February 15, 2023 5:09 PM
To: [redacted] (CTD) (FBI) [redacted] (CTD) (FBI) [redacted]
[redacted] (OGC) (FBI) [redacted] (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]
Cc: Dunham, Christopher G. (OCA) (FBI) [redacted] (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]
[redacted] (OGC) (FBI) [redacted] (OCA) (FBI) [redacted]
Subject: Richmond Intel Product Proposed Redactions

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

DELIBERATIVE / PRE-DECISIONAL / DRAFT

[redacted]

Attached please find a revised version of the intelligence product [redacted]
[redacted] OCA concurs with the proposed redactions in the attachment. Can you please advise if CTD concurs with the proposed redactions?

b5 -1
b6 -1
b7C -1

Thank you,

[redacted]

[redacted]

Office of Congressional Affairs

[redacted] (Cell)
[redacted] (Desk)

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

From: [redacted] (OCA) (FBI)
Subject: RE: OCA Weekly Memo - February 6 through February 10, 2023
To: [redacted] (DO) (FBI); Lenzner, Jonathan Falk (DO) (DET); McCulloch, Scott (DO) (DET); [redacted] (DO) (DET); [redacted] (DO) (FBI); [redacted] (OGC) (FBI); [redacted] (OPA) (FBI); Coakley, Miriam M. (OGC) (FBI); Sinha, Shohini S. (DO) (FBI); [redacted] (DO) (FBI); [redacted] (DO) (FBI); [redacted] (DO) (FBI); [redacted] (HRD) (FBI); [redacted] (DO) (FBI)
Cc: Dunham, Christopher G. (OCA) (FBI); [redacted] (OCA) (FBI)
Sent: February 17, 2023 8:46 AM (UTC-05:00)
Attached: 20230224 OCA Internal Weekly Memo.pdf, 2.15.23 - Letter to FBI on APEC Appointment of Dominic Ng92 (002).pdf, Letter to Attorney General Garland & Director Wray (2.10.2023).pdf, [redacted] REP BIGGS 702 Oversight Letter.pdf [redacted]

Good morning,

Attached, please find the weekly report from the Office of Congressional Affairs for February 21 through February 24, 2023.

Thank you,

[redacted]
 Legislative Affairs Specialist
 FBI | Office of Congressional Affairs
 Cell: [redacted]
 Des: [redacted]

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-4305

February 15, 2023

Director Christopher Wray
Federal Bureau of Investigation Headquarters
935 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20535-0001

Dear Director Wray,

It has come to our attention that President Biden has appointed an individual with existing Chinese Communist Party (CCP) ties to an advisory role. China has proved themselves as our greatest adversary and foreign competitor, and yet our leaders continuously jeopardize U.S. national security by allowing the People's Republic of China (PRC) to infiltrate our third-party sector and federal government. This lack of scrutiny should be promptly evaluated, and the Biden Administration should take immediate steps to ensure blunders like this will not happen again.

On July 25th, 2022, the Biden Administration appointed Dominic Ng as a U.S. member of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Business Advisory Council. The primary purpose of APEC is to advise world leaders on international affairs and commerce. However, more recent and substantial allegations discovered Mr. Ng's past connections to U.S.-based Chinese third party entities. Between 2013 and 2017, he served as the executive director of the China Overseas Exchange Association (COEA) which is a front organization for the United Front Work Department (UFWD). UFWD is a Chinese intelligence service whose mission is to liaison with foreign political parties, influence operations, and collect intelligence.¹ According to the U.S.-China Economic and Security Exchange Commission (USCC), COEA merged with the China Overseas Friendship Association (COFA), which remained a front group for UFWD when Mr. Ng began a 5-year term as COFA's executive director in 2019. Organizations like the UFWD and its affiliated groups play an increasingly important role in Chinese foreign policy and allow political actors like Mr. Ng to gain influence in sensitive American institutions to advocate for the interests of communist China. This tactic is regularly employed by the CCP to infiltrate governments and influence policies for CCP-oriented outcomes.

Throughout his tenure as the executive director of two UFWD front groups, Mr. Ng has met with UFWD and Chinese government leaders dozens of times in the U.S. and China. This includes a

¹ 2009 Report to Congress of the U.S.-China Economic and Security Review Commission, November 2009.
https://www.uscc.gov/sites/default/files/annual_reports/2009-Report-to-Congress.pdf

meeting(s) with Tung Chee-hwa, a U.S. government-recognized influence operative that USCC has previously connected with UFWD. Additionally, APEC is slated to host a summit of world leaders, including Chinese President Xi Jinping, in San Francisco this fall, which will expose Mr. Ng and potentially our nation's secrets to numerous CCP officials and possible intelligence operatives. Mr. Ng, who leads East West Bank in Southern California, donated \$100,000 to the Biden Victory Fund, and \$35,500 to the Democrat National Committee (DNC).² Not only does Mr. Ng's ties to CCP operatives raise national security concerns, but there is a potential conflict of interest in his appointment to the APEC Business Advisory Council, which began in 2023. As a result of Mr. Ng's membership on the Business Advisory Council, he will have access to privileged information and intelligence that risks exposure to UFWD and, subsequently, the Chinese Community Party.

Prior to his appointment to APEC, California Democratic Representative Judy Chu advocated for Mr. Ng's nomination to be the U.S. Secretary of Commerce. Like Mr. Ng, California Representative Judy Chu is the "honorary president" for the All America Chinese Youth Federations (AACYPF), a 501(c)(3) non-profit whose mission is to strengthen the social impact of the Chinese community within the U.S. However, under Representative Chu's tenure, five of AACYPF's leaders have been alleged members of organizations belonging to UFWD. For decades, a broad range of Chinese entities have forged ties with foreign government and business leaders and reaped the benefits of exposed national intelligence. Communist China is creating and operating front organizations in the U.S. that are designed to influence events, businesses and leaders throughout our nation, and their mission is proving successful.

If the Biden Administration does not take the CCP seriously, our leaders are risking an endless slew of national security breaches. In 2015, the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) data system was hacked, effecting 4.1 million individuals current and former federal employees at the time, and exposing sensitive background information – including fingerprints, financial and travel history, and family and employment information – gathered for government security clearances. China may use this opportunity and others like it to exploit U.S. government officials and employees and pursue their agenda through the collection of sensitive intelligence information. This is why the president's appointment of Mr. Ng to the APEC Business Advisory Council is just another example of the reach and motives of the CCP and the lengths its affiliated organizations will go to install influential Chinese operatives in U.S. leadership roles.

The Biden Administration has allowed the CCP to infiltrate the third-party sector and, consequently, political leaders that have existing relationships to these groups and are privy to U.S. intelligence. Further encroachments cannot be tolerated, and we request the FBI investigate and provide a report to Congress on the extent of Mr. Ng's knowledge of sensitive information, as well as any potential violations of the Espionage Act. We look forward to your response and working with you to safeguard our national security.

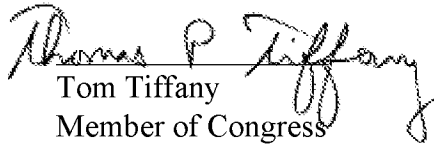
² Campaign Finance Data – Receipts, Federal Election Commission.

https://www.fec.gov/data/receipts/?data_type=processed&committee_id=C00010603&committee_id=C00703975&committee_id=C00743246&contributor_name=ng%2C+dominic

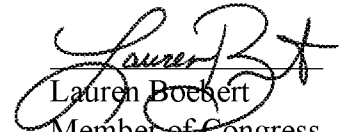
Sincerely,



Lance Gooden
Member of Congress



Tom Tiffany
Member of Congress



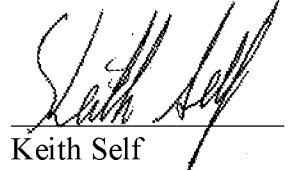
Lauren Boebert
Member of Congress



Ben Cline
Member of Congress



Doug LaMalfa
Member of Congress



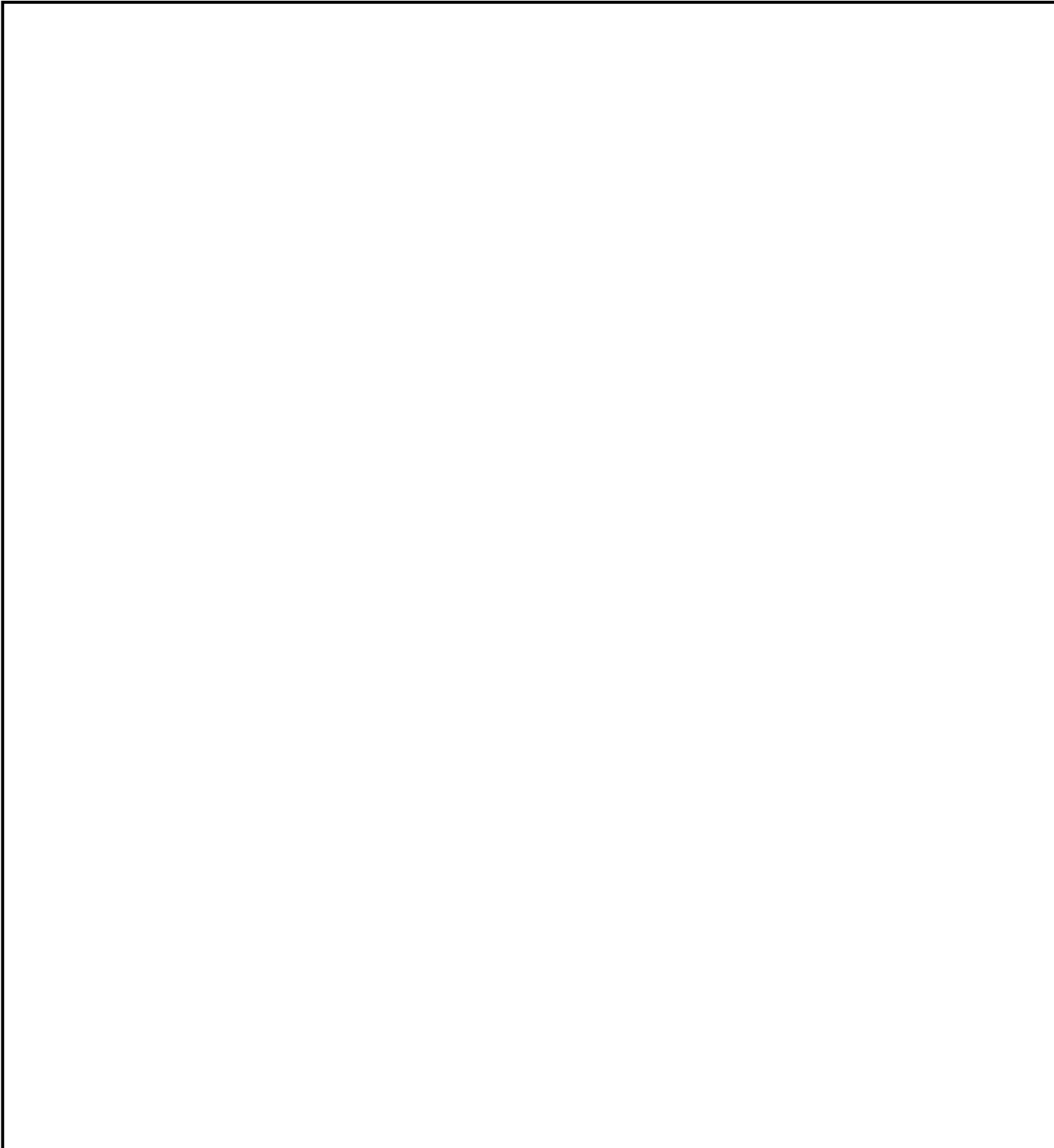
Keith Self
Member of Congress

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Office of **Congressional Affairs**



To: Director Christopher A. Wray
From: Acting Assistant Director Christopher G. Dunham
Date: February 17, 2023
Subject: Weekly Report for February 21 through February 24



b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -4



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0305

February 15, 2023

Christopher Wray
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
935 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20535

Dear Director Wray,

In December 2022, Department of Justice and the Office of the Director of National Intelligence declassified a 2021 report¹ detailing continued abuses of Section 702 of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (FISA). Specifically, the report mentions one instance in which “FBI queried the names of a local political party” and one instance in which “an [intelligence analyst] conducted approximately [redacted] queries... using only the name of a U.S. congressman.” These instances should frighten every American and Congress deserves an explanation for them.

FISA Section 702 was designed to grant federal intelligence agencies the authorities to monitor non-U.S. persons located outside the United States to acquire foreign intelligence information. However, over the years Section 702 has led to the abundant collection of information related to Americans and information that is not foreign intelligence. While concerning, matters are made worse by continuous reports that federal agents are querying the 702 database specifically looking for information related to Americans. These “backdoor searches” are a violation of the Fourth Amendment and cannot continue.

During the last reauthorization of Section 702, Congress considered an amendment to require a warrant for access to 702 data relating to U.S. persons. However, federal intelligence agencies used scare tactics to convince legislators that unchecked use of this information is the only way to keep our nation safe from harm. The Fourth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution is clear—Americans have the right to be free from warrantless surveillance by government bureaucrats.

As Congress begins conversations on whether FISA 702 authorities should be reauthorized beyond December 31, 2023, please answer the following questions by March 3, 2023:

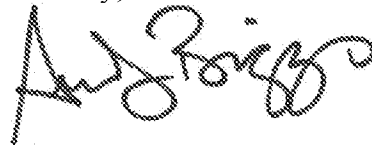
1. Was the “U.S. congressman” mentioned in footnote 92 made aware of the search of their name in the 702 database? If not, please explain the reasoning.

¹ *Semiannual Assessment of Compliance with Procedures and Guidelines Issued Pursuant to Section 702 of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act, Submitted by the Attorney General and the Director of National Intelligence* (Dec. 2021), <https://www.intelligence.gov/assets/documents/702%20Documents/declassified/24th-Joint-Assessment-of-FISA-702-Compliance.pdf>.

2. What steps were taken to discipline the intelligence analyst responsible for the query conducted in footnote 92?
3. Similarly, what steps were taken to discipline the FBI agent mentioned on page 58 who “queried the names of a local political party”?
4. For the below three groups, over the last five years, how many times were each queried? How many times did those queries return hits? How many times were those hits opened for review?
 - a. Members of Congress or congressional staff;
 - b. Political party officials;
 - c. Campaign personnel and candidates.
5. What steps have been taken to remind analysts and other personnel with access to the database that the two searches mentioned above are not permitted under law? If none, please explain why. Please provide a copy of the latest comprehensive guidance disseminated to agents.
6. What new steps have been taken to minimize non-foreign intelligence information and information that relates to Americans in the database to remove the temptation for agents to inappropriately query for such information?

If the responses to any of the questions above require a classified setting, please contact my office so that a briefing may be promptly arranged.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Andy Biggs". The signature is written in a cursive, somewhat stylized font with a large initial "A" and a prominent flourish at the end.

Andy Biggs
Member of Congress

From: [redacted] (OPA) (FBI)
Subject: Fox News Prep
To: Lenzner, Jonathan Falk (DO) (DET); McCulloch, Scott (DO) (DET); [redacted] (DO) (DET); [redacted] (DO) (FBI); [redacted] (DO) (FBI)
Cc: Milhoan, Catherine L. (OPA) (FBI); Goodwater, Douglas M. (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] (OPA) (FBI)
Sent: February 17, 2023 1:58 PM (UTC-05:00)
Attached: Director FOX Media Prep .docx

b6 -1
b7C -1

Good afternoon! Attaching the prep document for the Fox News interview.

[redacted]
Acting Section Chief
Office of Public Affairs
Desk: [redacted]
Mobile: [redacted]

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

From: [redacted] (DO) (DET)
Subject: Fox
To: [redacted] (DO) (FBI); [redacted] (DO) (FBI)
Cc: Lenzner, Jonathan Falk (DO) (DET); McCulloch, Scott (DO) (DET)
Sent: February 21, 2023 6:20 PM (UTC-05:00)
Attached: Director FOX Media Prep v2.docx

b6 -1
b7C -1

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted] I'll be out of pocket most of tomorrow, but [redacted] and I

chatted this afternoon about the plan for getting the paper ready to have printed for the Director by COB.

b5 -1
b6 -1
b7C -1

From: Coakley, Miriam M. (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: FW: Fox News TPs
To: Jones, Jason Allen (OGC) (FBI)
Sent: February 22, 2023 3:20 PM (UTC-05:00)
Attached: Director FOX Media Prep v3.docx

Hi,

I reviewed ps. 15-17 and I'm okay with it – I have not looked through the rest of it.

Thanks,
Miriam

From: [redacted] (DO) (FBI) [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, February 22, 2023 3:03 PM
To: Coakley, Miriam M. (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]
Subject: Fox News TPs

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

I am at my desk if you have any questions or concerns. Thanks!

[redacted]

[redacted]
Special Counsel to the Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation

[redacted] (office); [redacted] (cell)

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

From: Coakley, Miriam M. (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: Updated version FW: Fox News TPs
To: Jones, Jason Allen (OGC) (FBI)
Sent: February 22, 2023 5:04 PM (UTC-05:00)
Attached: Director FOX Media Prep v3.docx

Sorry for the late forward.

From: [redacted] (DO) (FBI) [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, February 22, 2023 4:13 PM
To: Coakley, Miriam M. (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]
Subject: RE: Fox News TPs

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

Sorry for the follow up email, slightly revised draft attached [redacted]
[redacted] FYI - We have to send this over tonight, so it can be printed out for the Director's plane ride back tomorrow.

b5 -1

Thanks.
[redacted]

From: [redacted] (DO) (FBI)
Sent: Wednesday, February 22, 2023 3:03 PM
To: Coakley, Miriam M. (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]
Subject: Fox News TPs

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

I am at my desk if you have any questions or concerns. Thanks!
[redacted]

[redacted]
Special Counsel to the Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
[redacted] (office); [redacted] (cell)

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

From: Coakley, Miriam M. (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: RE: Fox News TPs
To: [redacted] (DO) (FBI)
Cc: Jones, Jason Allen (OGC) (FBI)
Sent: February 22, 2023 5:30 PM (UTC-05:00)
Attached: Director FOX Media Prep v3 (005) .MC.docx

b6 -1
b7C -1

Hi,

I have some minor comments – attached. Jason also reviewed.

Thanks,
Miriam

From: [redacted] (DO) (FBI) [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, February 22, 2023 4:13 PM
To: Coakley, Miriam M. (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]
Subject: RE: Fox News TPs

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

Sorry for the follow up email, slightly revised draft attached [redacted]

[redacted] FYI - We have to send this over tonight, so it can be printed out for the Director's plane ride back tomorrow.

b5 -1

Thanks.

[redacted]

From: [redacted] (DO) (FBI)
Sent: Wednesday, February 22, 2023 3:03 PM
To: Coakley, Miriam M. (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]
Subject: Fox News TPs

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

I am at my desk if you have any questions or concerns. Thanks!

[redacted]

[redacted]
Special Counsel to the Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
[redacted] office) [redacted] (cell)

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

From: Lenzner, Jonathan Falk (DO) (DET)
Subject: Catholic leaders demand investigation into withdrawn FBI memo on 'Radical Traditionalists' | Washington Examiner
To: Milhoan, Catherine L. (OPA) (FBI); Goodwater, Douglas M. (OPA) (FBI); Young, Ryan T. (IB) (FBI)
Cc: McCulloch, Scott (DO) (DET); [REDACTED] (DO) (DET); Abbate, Paul M. (DO) (FBI)
Sent: February 22, 2023 7:53 PM (UTC-05:00)

b6 -1
b7C -1

<https://www.washingtonexaminer.com/news/justice/catholic-leaders-gop-investigation-withdrawn-fbi-radical-traditionalist-catholics>

I've been out so please forgive me if I am behind. We had discussed [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] If we have already addressed this please disregard. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

b5 -1
b7E -4

From: Young, Ryan T. (IB) (FBI)
Subject: Re: Catholic leaders demand investigation into withdrawn FBI memo on 'Radical Traditionalists' | Washington Examiner
To: Lenzner, Jonathan Falk (DO) (DET); Milhoan, Catherine L. (OPA) (FBI); Goodwater, Douglas M. (OPA) (FBI); Ugoretz, Tonya L. (DI) (FBI)
Cc: McCulloch, Scott (DO) (DET) [redacted] (DO) (DET); Abbate, Paul M. (DO) (FBI)
Sent: February 22, 2023 9:01 PM (UTC-05:00)

b6 -1
b7C -1

Jon [redacted]
[redacted] We went through next steps with the DD today regarding the products and mitigation/corrective actions planned. I'll get you an update on where we stand. Enjoy your evening.

b5 -1

All the Best, Ryan

From: Lenzner, Jonathan Falk (DO) (DET) [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, February 22, 2023 7:53:08 PM
To: Milhoan, Catherine L. (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] Goodwater, Douglas M. (OPA) (FBI)
[redacted] Young, Ryan T. (IB) (FBI) [redacted]
Cc: McCulloch, Scott (DO) (DET) [redacted] (DO) (DET) [redacted]
Abbate, Paul M. (DO) (FBI) [redacted]
Subject: Catholic leaders demand investigation into withdrawn FBI memo on 'Radical Traditionalists' | Washington Examiner

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

<https://www.washingtonexaminer.com/news/justice/catholic-leaders-gop-investigation-withdrawn-fbi-radical-traditionalist-catholics>

I've been out so please forgive me if I am behind. We had discussed [redacted]
[redacted] If we have already addressed this please disregard [redacted]
[redacted]
[redacted]

b5 -1

From: Goodwater, Douglas M. (OPA) (FBI)
Subject: Engagement request - [REDACTED]
To: Abbate, Paul M. (DO) (FBI); Lenzner, Jonathan Falk (DO) (DET); McCulloch, Scott (DO) (DET)
Cc: Milhoan, Catherine L. (OPA) (FBI); Hawkins, Krysti E. (DO) (FBI); [REDACTED] (OPA) (FBI); [REDACTED] (OPA) (FBI)
Sent: February 23, 2023 3:33 PM (UTC-05:00)
Attached: OPA request for D_DD engagement with [REDACTED].docx

b5 -1
b6 -1
b7C -1

DD Abbate/COS Lenzner-
Per discussion with AD Milhoan regarding engagement with [REDACTED] please find attached recommendation. b5 -1

OPA will coordinate the logistics and timing of the call/meeting once participant is determined.

Thank you

Doug Goodwater
Section Chief
FBI Office of Public Affairs

From: Goodwater, Douglas M. (OPA) (FBI)
Subject: Richmond product - top lines -- REVISED by OPA
To: Abbate, Paul M. (DO) (FBI); Wells, Robert R. (CTD) (FBI); Ugoretz, Tonya L. (DI) (FBI); Meador, Stanley M. (RH) (FBI); Dunham, Christopher G. (OCA) (FBI); Byron, Pamela (DI) (FBI); Hardiman, Kellie M. (CTD) (FBI)
Cc: Milhoan, Catherine L. (OPA) (FBI); Hawkins, Krysti E. (DO) (FBI); [redacted] (DI) (FBI); [redacted] (OGC) (FBI); Goodwater, Douglas M. (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] (DO) (DET); [redacted] (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] (IB) (FBI); [redacted] (OPA) (FBI)
Sent: February 24, 2023 4:10 PM (UTC-05:00)

b6 -1
b7C -1

All-

After conversation with AD Milhoan, the updated/revised talking points for this topic are below. Please share with anyone not included. There are multiple events in coming days with different participants- trying to ensure consistency.

Thank you
Doug



b5 -1



Doug Goodwater
Section Chief
FBI Office of Public Affairs

From:
Subject: RE: Richmond product - top lines -- REVISED by OPA
To: Goodwater, Douglas M. (OPA) (FBI); Wells, Robert R. (CTD) (FBI); Ugoretz, Tonya L. (DI) (FBI); Meador, Stanley M. (RH) (FBI); Dunham, Christopher G. (OCA) (FBI); Byron, Pamela (DI) (FBI); Hardiman, Kellie M. (CTD) (FBI)
Cc: Milhoan, Catherine L. (OPA) (FBI); Hawkins, Krysti E. (DO) (FBI); [redacted] (DI) (FBI); [redacted] (OGC) (FBI); [redacted] (DO) (DET); [redacted] (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] (IB) (FBI); [redacted] (OPA) (FBI)
Sent: February 24, 2023 4:36 PM (UTC-05:00)

b6 -1
b7C -1

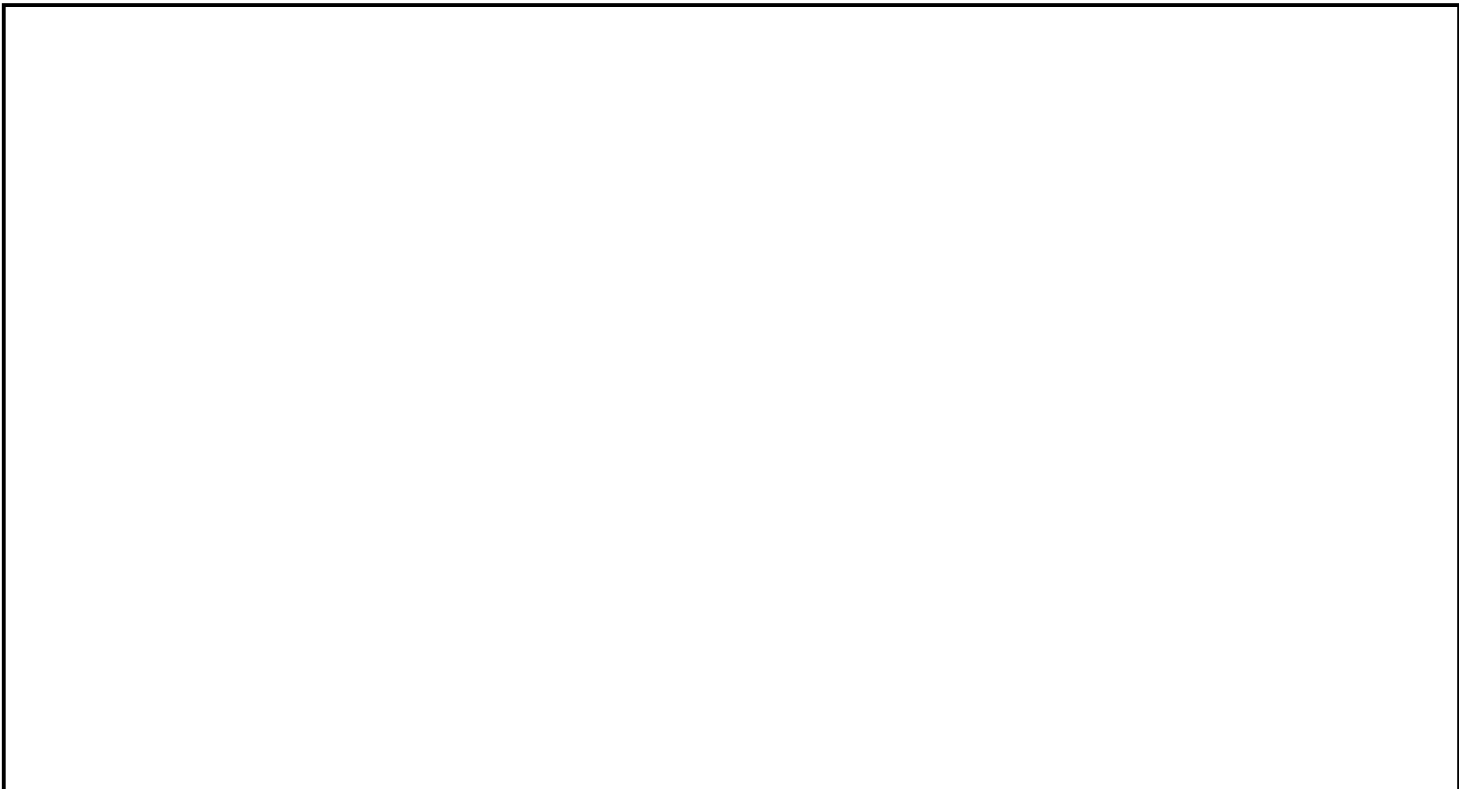
Thank you Doug.

From: Goodwater, Douglas M. (OPA) (FBI) [redacted]
Sent: Friday, February 24, 2023 4:10 PM
To: Abbate, Paul M. (DO) (FBI) [redacted]; Wells, Robert R. (CTD) (FBI) [redacted]; Ugoretz, Tonya L. (DI) (FBI) [redacted]; Meador, Stanley M. (RH) (FBI) [redacted]; Dunham, Christopher G. (OCA) (FBI) [redacted]; Byron, Pamela (DI) (FBI) [redacted]; Hardiman, Kellie M. (CTD) (FBI) [redacted]
Cc: Milhoan, Catherine L. (OPA) (FBI) [redacted]; Hawkins, Krysti E. (DO) (FBI) [redacted]; [redacted] (DI) (FBI) [redacted]; [redacted] (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]; Goodwater, Douglas M. (OPA) (FBI) [redacted]; [redacted] (DO) (DET) [redacted]; [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted]; [redacted] (IB) (FBI) [redacted]; [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted]
Subject: Richmond product - top lines -- REVISED by OPA

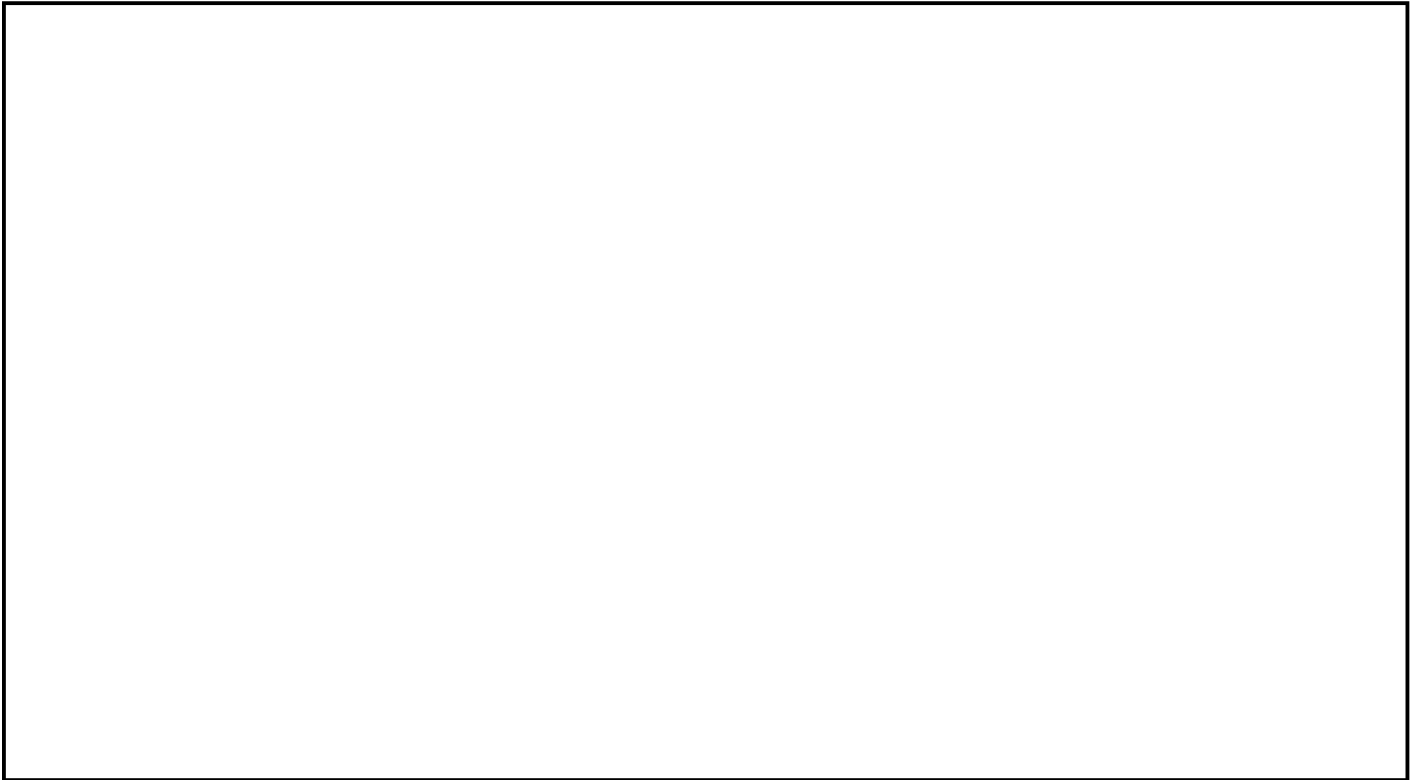
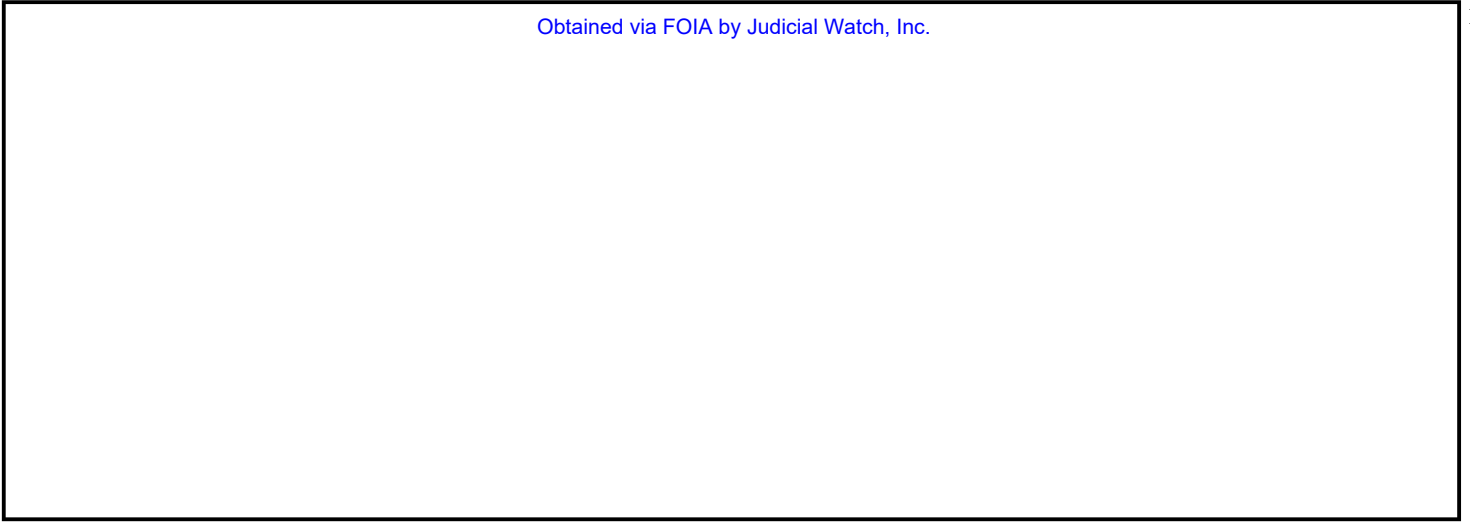
b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

All-
 After conversation with AD Milhoan, the updated/revised talking points for this topic are below. Please share with anyone not included. There are multiple events in coming days with different participants- trying to ensure consistency.

Thank you
Doug



b5 -1



Doug Goodwater
Section Chief
FBI Office of Public Affairs

From: Abbate, Paul M. (DO) (FBI)
Subject: Richmond product - top lines -- REVISED by OPA
To: Goodwater, Douglas M. (OPA) (FBI)
Sent: February 24, 2023 5:43 PM (UTC-05:00)

Thank you Doug.

From: Goodwater, Douglas M. (OPA) (FBI) [redacted]
Sent: Friday, February 24, 2023 4:10 PM
To: Abbate, Paul M. (DO) (FBI) [redacted] Wells, Robert R. (CTD) (FBI) [redacted] Ugoretz, Tonya L. (DI) (FBI) [redacted] Meador, Stanley M. (RH) (FBI) [redacted] Dunham, Christopher G. (OCA) (FBI) [redacted] Byron, Pamela (DI) (FBI) [redacted] Hardiman, Kellie M. (CTD) (FBI) [redacted]
Cc: Milhoan, Catherine L. (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] Hawkins, Krysti E. (DO) (FBI) [redacted] [redacted] (DI) (FBI) [redacted] (OGC) (FBI) [redacted] Goodwater, Douglas M. (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] (DO) (DET) [redacted] [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] (IB) (FBI) [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted]
Subject: Richmond product - top lines -- REVISED by OPA

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

All-
After conversation with AD Milhoan, the updated/revised talking points for this topic are below. Please share with anyone not included. There are multiple events in coming days with different participants- trying to ensure consistency.

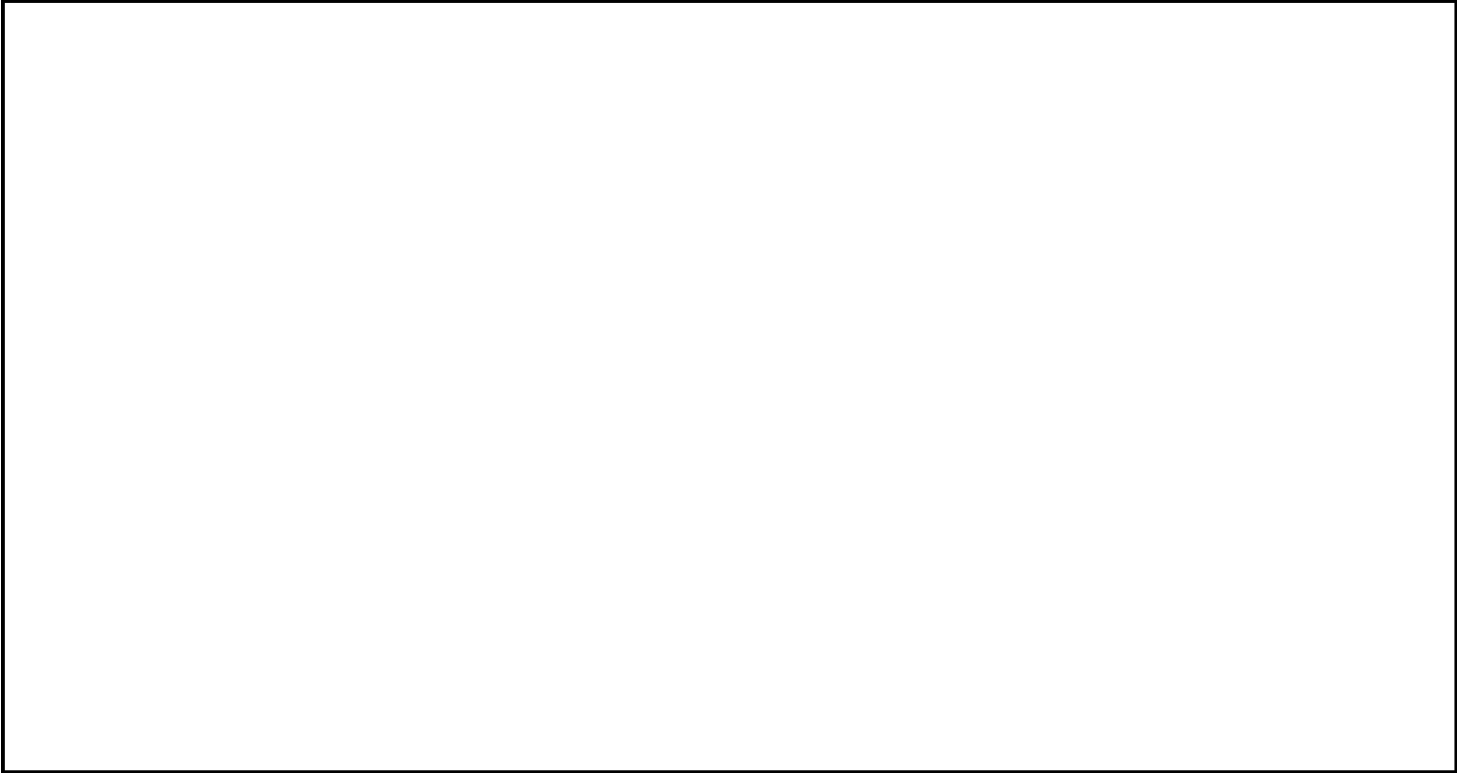
Thank you
Doug



b5 -1



b5 -1



b5 -1

Doug Goodwater
Section Chief
FBI Office of Public Affairs

From:
Subject: Richmond product - top lines -- REVISED by OPA
To: Milhoan, Catherine L. (OPA) (FBI); Goodwater, Douglas M. (OPA) (FBI)
Sent: February 26, 2023 6:13 PM (UTC-05:00)

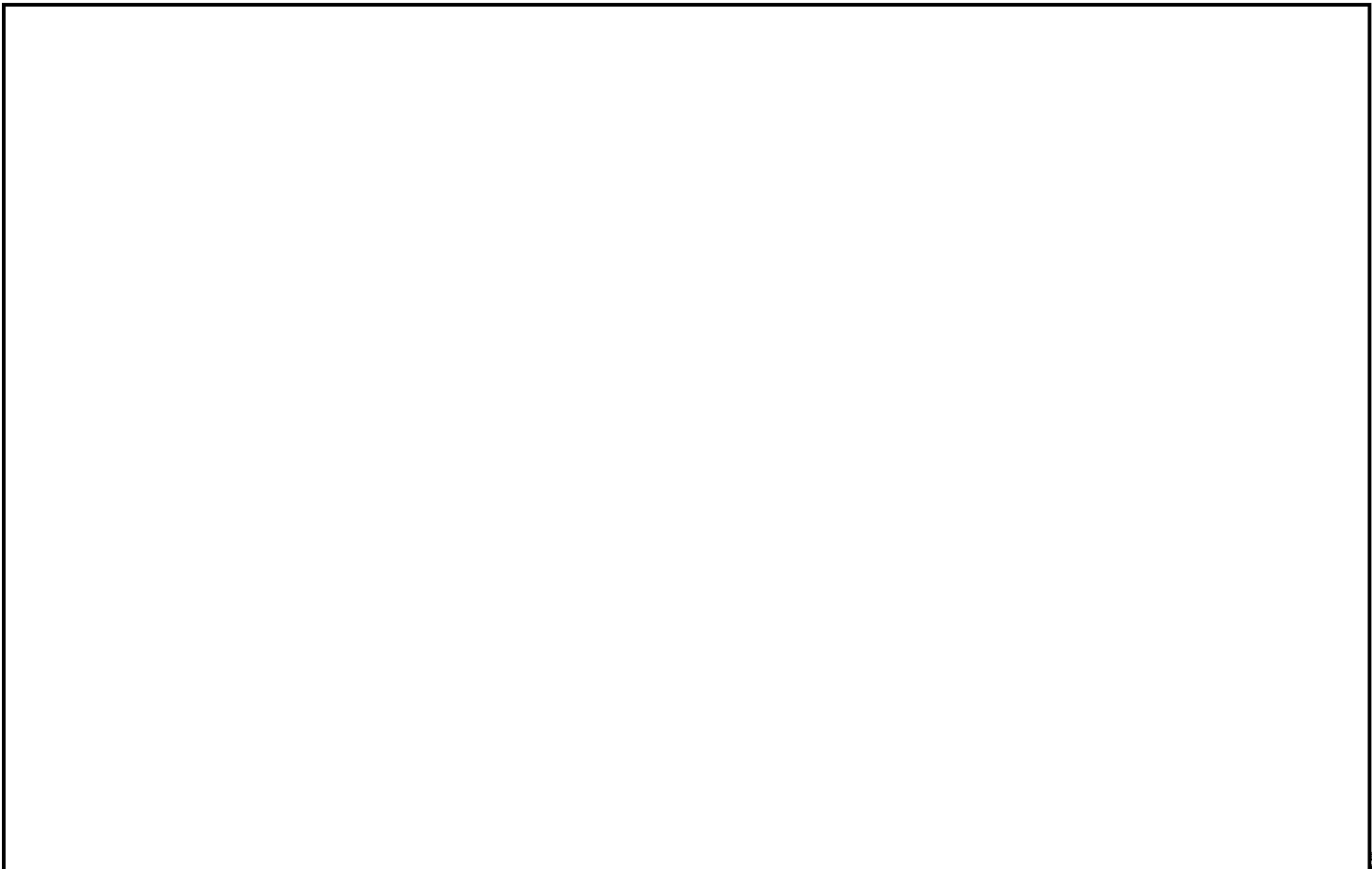
Cathy / Doug,

From: Goodwater, Douglas M. (OPA) (FBI) [redacted]
Sent: Friday, February 24, 2023 4:10 PM
To: Abbate, Paul M. (DO) (FBI) [redacted] Wells, Robert R. (CTD) (FBI) [redacted] Ugoretz, Tonya L. (DI) (FBI) [redacted] Meador, Stanley M. (RH) (FBI) [redacted] Dunham, Christopher G. (OCA) (FBI) [redacted] Byron, Pamela (DI) (FBI) [redacted] Hardiman, Kellie M. (CTD) (FBI) [redacted]
Cc: Milhoan, Catherine L. (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] Hawkins, Krysti E. (DO) (FBI) [redacted] [redacted] (DI) (FBI) [redacted] (OGC) (FBI) [redacted] Goodwater, Douglas M. (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] (DO) (DET) [redacted] [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted] (IB) (FBI) [redacted] (OPA) (FBI) [redacted]
Subject: Richmond product - top lines -- REVISED by OPA

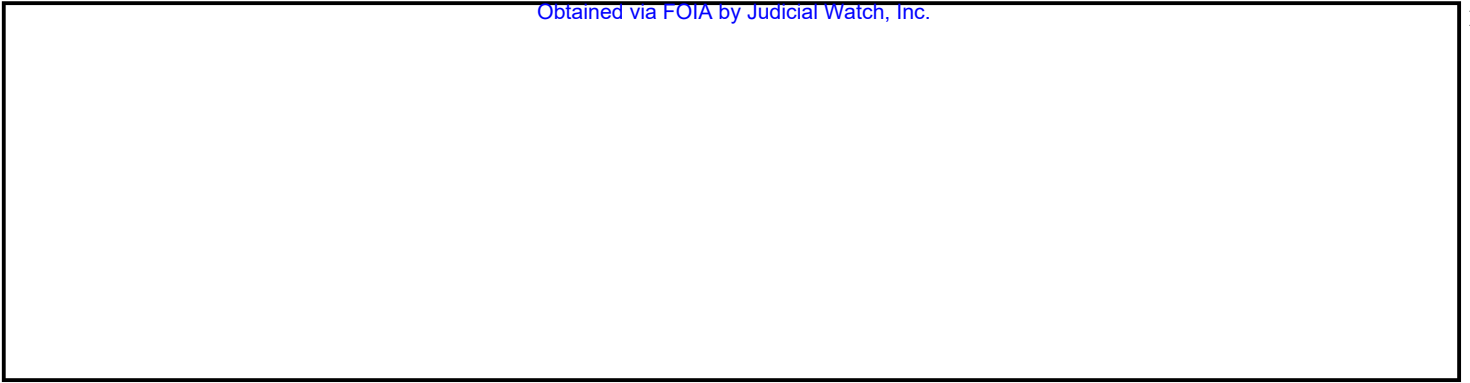
b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

All-
After conversation with AD Milhoan, the updated/revised talking points for this topic are below. Please share with anyone not included. There are multiple events in coming days with different participants- trying to ensure consistency.

Thank you
Doug



b5 -1



Doug Goodwater
Section Chief
FBI Office of Public Affairs

From: Coakley, Miriam M. (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: FW: Yesterday's AG Hearing Transcript
To: Jones, Jason Allen (OGC) (FBI)
Sent: March 2, 2023 1:21 PM (UTC-05:00)
Attached: GARLAND - SJC Oversight 03-01-23.pdf

From: [redacted] (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]
Sent: Thursday, March 2, 2023 11:49 AM
To: Polinsky, Melissa (OGC) (FBI) [redacted] Brooker, Bradley A. (OGC) (DET) [redacted]
Coakley, Miriam M. (OGC) (FBI) [redacted] Ellis, Kristin (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]
(OGC) (FBI) [redacted] (OGC) (FBI) [redacted] (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]
[redacted] (OGC) (FBI) [redacted] (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]
[redacted] (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]
Cc: [redacted] (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]
Subject: Yesterday's AG Hearing Transcript

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

All,

An unofficial transcript of yesterday's AG hearing is attached. I have excerpted some of the more notable exchanges below (with Senators Grassley, Cruz, and Hawley regarding the Hunter Biden investigation, the FBI's arrest of Mark Houck, the Richmond product, and the Mar-a-Lago documents investigation). There were also additional questions related to the school board memo and threats to crisis pregnancy centers throughout.

Best

[redacted]

b6 -1
b7C -1

Senator Grassley (R-IA)

- GRASSLEY: At last year's FBI oversight hearing, Wray committed to protecting whistleblowers that have approached my office about wrongdoing at the department and the FBI. Do you commit to me, this committee, and the Senate as a whole that any retaliatory conduct against whistleblowers will be disciplined?
- GARLAND: I do, Senator, and you know well more than any other member of this committee, that I've been a staunch supporter of whistleblowers and of the False Claims Act, during the entire period of my role as a judge as well.
- GRASSLEY: I'm going to set up a hypothetical fact pattern for you and ask you to tell me how you would handle it. The Justice Department and FBI receive information from over a dozen sources. That's the first one. Second, those sources provide similar information about potential criminal conduct relating to a single individual. And third, that information was shared with the Department and FBI over a period of years. According to department policy and procedures, what steps would the department take to determine the truth and accuracy of the information provided by those sources?
- GARLAND: I'm sorry, these are whistleblowers. So, their internal sources, is that what you're saying? I'm not sure.
- GRASSLEY: Doesn't matter where it comes from, just the fact that I want to know you got that information. How would you go about handling it?
- GARLAND: Yeah. So, reports of wrongdoing are normally reported to whatever the appropriate department component is, it might be U.S. Attorney's Offices in the district in which it illegitimately took place. It might be to the directly to FBI components and to FBI task forces. In cases involving whistleblowers, of

course, there are specific provisions for making complaints to the Inspector General's office or the Office of Professional Responsibility, or the inspections division of the FBI.

- GRASSLEY: Recent lawfully protected whistleblower disclosures to my office indicate that the Justice Department and the FBI had at one time over a dozen sources that provided potentially criminal information relating to Hunter Biden. The alleged volume and similarity of the information would demand that the Justice Department investigate the truth and accuracy of the information. According to-- what -- accordingly, what steps has the Justice Department taken to determine the truth and accuracy of information provided? Congress and the American people, I think, have a right to know.
- GARLAND: So, as the committee well knows from my confirmation hearing, I promise to leave – I promised to leave the matter of Hunter Biden in the hands of the U.S. Attorney for the District of Delaware, who was appointed in the previous administration. So, any information like that should have gone or should or should have gone to that U.S. Attorney's offices and the FBI squad that's working with him. I have pledged not to interfere with that investigation. And I have carried through on my pledge
- GRASSLEY: In April 2022, you testified to Senator Haggerty, that the Hunter Biden investigation was insulated from political interference because it was assigned to as you just now told me to the Delaware Attorney's Office, however, that could be misleading because without special console authority, he could need permission of another U.S. Attorney in certain circumstances to bring charges outside the district of Delaware. I'd like clarification from you with respect to these concerns.
- GARLAND: The U.S. Attorney in Delaware has been advised that he has full authority to make those kinds of referrals that you're talking about or to bring cases in other jurisdictions if he feels it's necessary. And I will assure you that if he does, he will be able to do that.
- GRASSLEY: Does Delaware U.S. Attorney lack independent charging authority over certain criminal allegations against the president's son outside of the district of Delaware?
- GARLAND: He would have to bring -- if it's in another district, he would have to bring the case in another district. But as I said, I have promised to ensure that he's able to carry out his investigation and that he be able to run it. And if he needs to bring it in another jurisdiction, he will have full authority to do that.
- GRASSLEY: If you provided the Delaware U.S. attorney with special console authority, isn't it true that he would need permission of another U.S. attorney to bring charges?
- GARLAND: It's a kind of a complicated question. If under the regulations that kind of act, he would have to bring to me under -- to the Attorney General, under the regulations, those kind of charging decisions would have to be brought, I would then have to, you know, authorize it and permit it to be brought in another jurisdiction. And that is exactly what I promised to do here already, that if he needs to do bring a case in another jurisdiction, he will have my full authority to do that.
- GRASSLEY: Has the Delaware U.S. Attorney sought permission from permission of another U.S. Attorney's Office, such as in the District of Columbia or in California to bring charges? If so, was it denied?
- GARLAND: So, I don't know the answer to that. I do -- and I don't want to get into the internal elements of decision making by the U.S. attorney, but he has been advised that he is not to be denied anything that he needs. And if that were to happen, it should ascend through the department's ranks, and I have not heard anything from that office to suggest that they are not able to do everything that the U.S. attorney wants to do.
- GRASSLEY: Well, let me give you my view. If Weiss, the U.S. attorney there in Delaware, must seek permission from a Biden appointed U.S. attorney to bring charges, then the Hunter Biden Criminal Investigation isn't insulated from political interference as you've publicly proclaimed, if the Justice Department received

information that foreign persons had evidence of improper or unlawful financial payment paid to elected officials or other politically exposed persons, and those payments may have influenced policy decisions, would that pose a national security concern and demand a full investigation? And when Wray was here, he seemed to answer that question in that it was a national security concern. I want your opinion.

GARLAND: In the way that you're -- if I -- if I follow the question exactly right, if it's an agent of a foreign government asking someone and paying someone to do things to support that foreign government in secret, yes, I definitely think that would be a national security problem.

Senator Cruz (R-TX)

CRUZ: As you know, as I observed at your confirmation hearing, you had built a long record on the Federal Court of Appeals and a reputation of being relatively nonpartisan. And so, I had hopes that your tenure as Attorney General would continue that record. I have to say, I'm deeply disappointed in what the last two years have shown. In my judgment, the Department of Justice has been politicized to the greatest extent I've ever seen in this country. And it is done a discredit to the Department of Justice, to the FBI, and to the administration of law in this country. Let me start with a simple question, General Garland, is it a federal crime to protest outside of a judge's home with the intent of influencing that judge as to a pending case?

GARLAND: The answer to that is yes, but I also want to at least respond to your characterization of the department ...

CRUZ: Sure.

GARLAND: ... which I vigorously disagree with. I believe the men and women of the department pursue their work every single day in a non partisan and an appropriate crime (ph).

CRUZ: General Garland, there are thousands of men and women who do that. And I'll tell you, I hear from prosecutors at the Department of Justice, I hear from agents at the FBI who are angry that it is treated as the enforcement arm for the DNC instead of upholding the law in a fair and evenhanded manner. So, you are right. There are thousands of men and women that are, that are doing the job, but it is the political leadership that you are responsible for. So, you just said, yes, it's a crime to protest at the home of a judge. Same goes for jurors, by the way, with the intent of in influencing a case. But in the wake of the leak of the Dobbs decision, when rioters descended of the homes of six Supreme Court Justices night after night after night, you did nothing. The Department did nothing. When extremist groups like Ruth Sent Us and Jane's Revenge, openly organized campaigns of harassment at the homes of justices, you sat on your hands. When these same groups posted online information about where the justices worship. Or their home addresses or where their kids went to school, you again sat on your hands and did nothing. Your failure to act, to protect the safety of the justices and their families was an obvious product of political bias. You agree with Roe versus Wade. You disagree with the Dobbs decision and the Department of Justice under this president was perfectly happy to refuse to enforce the law and allow threats of violence. And as you know, those threats finally materialized with Nicholas Roske, a 26- year-old man from California who traveled across the country, was arrested outside the home of Justice Kavanaugh, armed with a handgun, a knife, and burglary tools. And he said he came there to kill Justice Kavanaugh because he was enraged by the leaked opinion.

Now, of course, you're prosecuting. That individual for attempted murder. But did you bring even a single case to enforce this law or did the Department of Justice decide this law doesn't apply if it's harassing justices for an opinion we don't like?

GARLAND: When the Dobbs draft was leaked, I did something no Attorney General in the history of the

Department had ever done before. For the first time in history, I ordered United States Marshals 24/7 to defend every residence of every justice ...

CRUZ: But Garland is a judge you're familiar with asking counsel and answer a question?

GARLAND: I am answering ...

CRUZ: As the Department of Justice enforced this statute, have you brought a single case against any of these protestors threatening the judge -- justices under 18 USC Section 1507? Have you brought even one?

GARLAND: Senator, you asked me whether I sat on my hands and quite of the opposite, I sent 70 United States Marshals ...

CRUZ: Let me try again.

GARLAND: ... to defend and ...

CRUZ: Have you -- has the Department of Justice brought even a single case under this statute? So yes, no question. It's not a give a speech on the other things you did.

GARLAND: The job of the United States Marshals is to defend the lives of the ...

CRUZ: So, the answer is, no?

GARLAND: It's to defend the lives of the justices, and that's our number one priority...

CRUZ: Are you unwilling to say no? The answer is no. You know, it's, no, I know, it's no. Everyone in this, in this hearing room knows it's no, you're not willing to answer a question. Have you brought a case under this statute? Yes, or no?

GARLAND: As far as I know, we haven't. And what we have done is defended to the lies of the justices with the 70 U.S. Marshals.

CRUZ: So how do you decide, how do you decide which criminal statutes the DOJ enforces and which one it doesn't?

GARLAND: The United States Marshals know that they have full ...

CRUZ: I recognize you want give a separate speech.

GARLAND: No, I don't want ...

CRUZ: How do you decide which statutes you enforce and which ones you don't?

GARLAND: But Marshals on scene make that determination in light of the priority of defense ...

CRUZ: The marshals do not make a determination over whether to prosecute you, the Attorney General will make a determination and you spent 20 years as a judge and you're perfectly content with justices being afraid for their children's lives, and you did nothing to prosecute.

Let's shift to another area.

GARLAND: That is, can I answer the question?

CRUZ: No, you cannot. You refused to answer the question.

GARLAND: I am answering your question. The Attorney General ...

CRUZ: How did you choose ...

GARLAND: ... does not decide whether to arrest.

CRUZ: How did you choose not to, not to enforce this statute?

GARLAND: The Marshals on scene ...

CRUZ: Marshals don't make that decision.

GARLAND: They do make the decision of whether to make an arrest.

CRUZ: Prosecute someone no they don't.

GARLAND: If they make a, if they make an arrest ...

CRUZ: Marshals do not have prosecution.

GARLAND: If they make an arrest, then it goes to the Marshals.

CRUZ: All right, let's change topics, because our time is limited. We've also seen across the country violent attacks this pregnancy centers. By similar left wing terrorist groups, including one graffiti of a fire bomb building said Jane was here. There have been attacks all over the country and yet the Department of Justice has not brought these violent criminals to justice. You contrast that. If you're a violent criminal and you attack a crisis pregnancy center, that is not a priority in the Biden Department of Justice. Contrast that to Mark Houck, who's a pro-life activist. He's a sidewalk counselor, and he had an altercation with someone who allegedly interfered with his son's personal space and threatened his son, and he pushed him.

Now, in an ordinary world, pushing someone would be maybe a simple misdemeanor assault, but not under the Biden Department of Justice. If you're a pro-life activist, what can you expect? Well, in this instance, according to Mr. Houck's wife, two dozen agents clad in body armor and ballistic helmets and shields, and a battering ram showed up at his house pointing rifles at his family. Why do you send two dozen agents in body armor to arrest a sidewalk counselor who happens to be prone life, but you don't devote resources to count -- to prosecute people who are violently fire bombing crisis pregnancies?

GARLAND: It is a priority of the department to prosecute and investigate and find the people who are doing those fire bombings. They are doing it at night and then secret. So, and we have found two -- we have found one group which we did prosecute.

CRUZ: You found one. How many have there been, how many attacks ...

GARLAND: There have been a lot. And if you have any information specifically as to who those people are (inaudible) ...

CRUZ: May I ask you something, did you ...

GARLAND: (Inaudible).

CRUZ: ... personally authorized 20 agents go into Mr. Houck's house? And he offered to turn himself in through counsel. But you didn't want that. The Department of Justice wanted to make a show of it. Did you personally authorize it and do you want to apologize to Mr. -- Mrs. Houck and her seven children for being terrorized?

GARLAND: The decisions about how to do that are made at the level of the FBI agents on scene.

CRUZ: And did you know about it?

GARLAND: I did not know about it until, the way you're describing it, and my understanding is the FBI disagrees with that description.

CRUZ: Was it a mistake?

DURBIN: Senator's time has expired. I'm going to allow the witness to respond to any of the questions that were asked.

CRUZ: Was it a mistake?

DURBIN: I'm going to chair the committee, Senator, I'm sorry you're not. I'm going ...

CRUZ: You said you'd allow him to respond. I've repeated the question I asked, which is, was it a mistake to send 20 agents to arrest him at the (inaudible)?

DURBIN: You had your time, and more ...

CRUZ: You just said, you're going to allow him to respond. You just said, I'm going to allow him to respond to the question. So, I repeated the question, was it a mistake you asked? That was the pending question.

DURBIN: (Inaudible) I'll ask the questions. I ...

CRUZ: That's the question I had already asked.

DURBIN: Well ...

CRUZ: You just said you'd let him respond.

DURBIN: I'm going to let him respond right now. Please don't interrupt him. Thank you.

GARLAND: The decisions about how to do tactical arrests are made by the f FBI agents in the field. The FBI has, publicly stated that it disagrees with the description you gave of what happened in that example. I don't -- that's the best I can answer.

###

CRUZ: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. General Garland, the Department of Justice should enforce the law regardless of politics. I do not believe that has been what is happening in the last two years. Among other things, I believe you very much want to indict Donald J. Trump. Toward that end, the Department of Justice has leaked that DOJ is investigating and intends to indict Hunter Biden. The purpose of those leaks, I believe, was to set the predicate for an indictment of Trump. To say, look how even-handed we are. We're indicting a Biden, we're indicting a Trump. Those leaks are not law or enforcing the law. They are politics. Did -- did you know about the leaks about the Hunter Biden investigation?

- GARLAND: I -- I don't know about the leak that you're talking about. And I'm not -- leaks are in violation of our -- our regulations and our requirements. So the answer is...
- CRUZ: But the leaks are consistently on one side of the aisle, advancing one political agenda. As you know, the FBI raided Donald Trump's Mar-a-Lago home. And subsequent to that raid, there have been multiple leaks about what was discovered there, including a photograph of documents that were discovered there. Did -- did you know about the leaks from that raid?
- GARLAND: The photograph -- the photograph was a filing in court in response to a motion filed by Mr. Trump. It was not a leak.
- CRUZ: So -- so you are testifying there haven't been leaks about the -- the Trump raid and investigation?
- GARLAND: I'm -- I'm responding to the point about the photo.
- CRUZ: Do you know about the leaks that have occurred concerning the Trump...
- GARLAND: I've read the leaks. They are inappropriate. We also don't know where they come from. Witnesses on the...
- CRUZ: Well, what's interesting is when the shoe was on the other foot, I believe your intention -- and I believe it's a political intention -- to indict President Trump became infinitely harder when classified documents were discovered repeatedly at President Biden's multiple residences. Court in the (ph) public record, those were first discovered on November 2nd, six days before the prior election. Department of Justice was notified on November 4th, and yet miraculously, there was no leak about the classified documents at President Biden's home. When it politically benefitted the effort to go after and charge Donald Trump, DOJ leaked. When it potentially harmed the Democrat President, DOJ did not leak. Does that strike you as -- as at all a double -- double standard?
- GARLAND: Leaks under all circumstances are inappropriate and they are not directed by anyone in the Justice Department.
- CRUZ: Well, let me say in particular on Hunter Biden I very much hope that an investigation of Hunter Biden is focused not just on his own personal substance abuse issues but on connections to his father and potential corruption. That is the matter of public concern and why people are concerned. And it was striking that the leak that came out from DOJ suggested this is just going after some poor -- poor person struggling with drugs instead of looking at the very real evidence of corruption. Will you commit that the investigation will actually examine the public corruption aspect and not simply scapegoat Hunter Biden as an individual?
- GARLAND: I can't comment about the investigation, other than to say that all of the matters involving Mr. -- Hunter Biden are in the purview of the U.S. Attorney in Delaware. He's not restricted in his investigation in any way.
- CRUZ: Well, you don't comment here but then you leak at the same time.

Senator Hawley (R-MO)

- HAWLEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Attorney General Garland, let me just ask you, does your department have a problem with anti-Catholic bias?
- GARLAND: Our department is -- protects all religions and all ideologies. It does not have any bias against any religion of any kind.

HAWLEY: Well, you could have surprised me because given the resources that you are expending, and the apparently intelligence assets that you are deploying against Catholics, it appears and other people have faith while simultaneously turning a blind eye while people were executed gang style on the streets of our cities, including in my home state. Your answer, frankly, surprises me.

Let's talk about the Mark Houck case. For example, you've been asked about this already today and frankly, your answers really astound me. This is a case where a Catholic pro-life demonstrator father was accused of disorderly conduct in front of an abortion center. The local prosecutor, the Philadelphia District Attorney, who is a Democrat, a liberal, very progressive declined to prosecute. There was a private suit that got dismissed. And then after all of that, your Justice Department sent between 20 and 30 armed agents in the early morning hours to the Houck's private residence to arrest this guy after he had offered to turn himself in voluntarily. Here's the photo. Once again, you can see the long guns you can see the ballistic shields, you can see that they're wearing bulletproof vests.

Why did the Justice Department do this? Why did you send 20 to 30 SWAT-style agents in a SWAT style team to this guy's house when everybody else had declined to prosecute and he'd offered to turn himself in?

GARLAND: Determinations of how to make arrests under arrest warrants are made based by the tactical operators in the district. They are not --

HAWLEY: But you certainly looked into it by this point, right? You know the answer, surely.

GARLAND: They -- all I know is what the FBI has said which was that they made decisions on the ground as to what was safest and easiest.

HAWLEY: So, you --

GARLAND: I do not agree with your description of what happened on the scene.

HAWLEY: You don't agree with my description. I'm pointing out what the photo is. There are agents here who have long guns and ballistic shields. Let's take a look at the hardened criminals that your Justice Department sent these armed agents to go terrorize on that morning. Here they are. Here they are at mass. Here's the seven children with Mr. Houck and his wife.

In this early morning, they were all home. Mrs. Houck has said repeatedly the children were screaming they feared for their lives. You got these agents demanding that he come out they've got the gun, she said pointing at the house and at them. He has offered to turn himself in and this is who you go to terrorize. What's really interesting to me is this seems to directly contradict your own memorandum about the use of force at the Justice Department.

You say officers may use only the force that is objectively reasonable to effectively control an incident. Are you telling me that in your opinion as Attorney General, it was objectively necessary to use 20 or 30 SWAT-style agents with long guns and ballistic shields for these people?

GARLAND: What I'm saying is that decisions about how to go about this were made on the ground by FBI agents.

HAWLEY: So, you're saying you don't know.

GARLAND: I'm saying what I just said --

HAWLEY: Which is that you're abdicating responsibility?

GARLAND: I'm not abdicating responsibility --

HAWLEY: Then give me the answer. Do you think in your opinion, you are the Attorney General of the United States, you are in charge of the Justice Department, and yes, sir, you are responsible.

GARLAND: Yes.

HAWLEY: So, give me an answer.

GARLAND: The FBI does not agree with your --

HAWLEY: I'm not asking about the FBI. You are the Attorney General, give me your answer. Do you think that it was objectively reasonable, and they followed your guidelines in sending 20 to 30 armed agents to terrorize these people, yes, or no?

GARLAND: The facts I have, which are those presented by the FBI are not consistent with your description.

HAWLEY: So, you think it was reasonable?

GARLAND: I'm saying the facts are not as you describe.

HAWLEY: What? That the children weren't there? That there wasn't -- that there weren't long guns there? That there weren't agents? What wasn't -- what -- what do you dispute? What's the factual premise you dispute specifically?

GARLAND: The FBI said they don't agree with your description of --

HAWLEY: Be specific. They don't agree with what?

GARLAND: Of how many agents or the agents who are there and what their roles were. They don't agree.

HAWLEY: Do you know the jury in this case acquitted Mr. Houck? I'm sure you're aware. Do you know how long it took them?

GARLAND: I am aware and we respect the decision of the jury.

HAWLEY: Do you know how long it took them?

GARLAND: I don't know.

HAWLEY: One hour. One hour. Philadelphia District Attorney declined to prosecute. Private suit's dismissed. You used an unbelievable show of force with guns that I just note, liberals usually decry. We're supposed to hate long guns and assault-style weapons, you're happy to deploy them against Catholics and innocent children, happy to, and then you hauled them into court and a jury acquitted him in one hour. I just suggest to you that that is a disgraceful performance by your Justice Department and a disgraceful use of resources.

I noticed a pattern though. The FBI field office in Richmond, on the 23rd of January of this year, issued a memorandum in which they advocated for and I quote, "the exploration of new avenues for tripwire and source development against traditionalist Catholics," it's there in plain language, "including those who favor the Latin mass." Attorney General, are you cultivating sources and spies in Latin mass parishes and other Catholic parishes around the country?

GARLAND: No, the Justice Department does not do that. It does not do investigations based on religion. I saw the document you said.

HAWLEY: What did you do about it?

GARLAND: It's appalling. It's appalling. I'm in complete agreement with you. I understand that the FBI has withdrawn it and it's now looking into how this could ever have happened.

HAWLEY: How did it happen?

GARLAND: That's what they're looking into. But I'm totally in agreement with you that document is appalling.

HAWLEY: I'll tell you how it happened. The -- this memorandum, which is supposed to be intelligent, cites extensively the Southern Poverty Law Center, which goes on to identify all of these different Catholics as being part of hate groups. Is this how the FBI under your direction and leadership is -- is this how they do their intelligence work? They look at left wing advocacy groups to target Catholics. Is this what's going on it? I mean, clearly it is how is this happening?

GARLAND: The FBI is not targeting Catholics. And as I've said, this is an inappropriate memorandum and it doesn't reflect the methods that the FBI is supposed to be using, should not be relying on any single organization without doing its own work.

HAWLEY: Let me just ask you, as my time expires here, a very direct question. How many informants do you have in Catholic churches across America?

GARLAND: I don't know. And I don't believe we have any informants aimed at Catholic churches. We have a rule against investigations based on First Amendment activity and Catholic churches are obviously, First Amendment.

HAWLEY: Well --

GARLAND: But I don't know the specific answer to your question.

HAWLEY: You don't know the specifics of anything it seems but apparently, on your watch, this Justice Department is targeting Catholics, targeting people of faith specifically for their faith views. And Mr. Attorney General, I'll just say to you, it's a disgrace.

###

HAWLEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Attorney General Garland, you said in our last exchange that it's your practice to defer to FBI agents in the field when it comes to investigations, apprehensions of subjects. I was interested, given your answer, to read in this morning's Washington Post that the FBI is saying that you overruled them when it came to raiding ex-President Trump's personal residence.

Washington Post reports this morning, showdown before the raid (ph), that senior FBI officials who would be in charge of leading the search resisted doing so as too combative and proposed and said to seek Trump's permission to search his property. These field agents wanted to shutter the criminal investigation altogether in early June, the Post reports, but they were overruled by main DOJ.

So I guess in light of your earlier testimony just this morning, my question is how often do you overrule FBI field agents for political purposes?

GARLAND: I have skimmed that article. It is not -- that's not an accurate reflection of what the article says and I'm not able to comment on the investigation. My comment earlier was about tactics on -- on the ground in

particular cases.

- HAWLEY: Wait -- wait -- wait, you said it's not -- I'm -- I'm reading to you from the article, quote, "senior FBI officials who would be in charge of leading the search resisted the plan as too combative and proposed instead to seek Trump's permission to seek his property, according to four people who spoke on condition of anonymity, to describe a sensitive investigation," end quote.
- GARLAND: Again, I have to say I'm not able to describe the investigation. I will say, as a general matter and at -- at a high level of -- of -- of generality, that in my experience -- long experience as a prosecutor, there is often a robust discussion, and in the end -- and it's encouraged among investigators and prosecutors ...
- HAWLEY: Attorney General, my time is very ...
- GARLAND: ... made.
- HAWLEY: My -- yes, and you made the decision.
- GARLAND: I did -- that's ...
- HAWLEY: Right? You said you did ...
- GARLAND: No, I'm sorry. What I said was I approved the decision ...
- HAWLEY: So you didn't make the decision to raid?
- GARLAND: I approved the decision to seek a search warrant after probable cause was ...
- HAWLEY: Overruling the FBI agents who did not want to do so. Did you talk about this at (ph) the White House beforehand?
- GARLAND: The memorandum does not -- that Washington Post article does not say what you're saying, I'm sorry, and I'm not able to describe this in any further detail.
- HAWLEY: ... I think -- I think, given that, Mr. Chairman, I'll just ask that this entire article be entered into the record.
- DURBIN: Without objection.
- HAWLEY: And we can read for ourselves. I invite people to go and look. It says exactly that FBI field agents did not want to conduct the raid and they were overruled by DOJ.
- So it doesn't seem to me, Attorney General, that the FBI has a lot of confidence in you because what they're doing clearly is trying to distance themselves from your decisions. They're out there leaking left, right and center, and saying "it wasn't us. We didn't want to do it. He made us do it." What's that say about their confidence in your leadership?
- GARLAND: You know, the previous Senator said that they're leaking all in favor of the left, now you're saying they're leaking all in favor of the right.
- HAWLEY: I'm asking you my question. Answer my question based on this evidence. Don't dissemble, Attorney General.
- DURBIN: Time is expired.

HAWLEY: Answer my question.

DURBIN: Time is expired. Senator Cotton?