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U.S. District Court

District of Columbia

Notice of Electronic Filing

The following transaction was entered on 4/25/2024 at 1:26 PM and filed on 4/25/2024

Case Name: JUDICIAL WATCH, INC. v. U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Case Number: [1:24-cv-00700-TJK](#)

Filer:

Document Number: No document attached

Docket Text:

MINUTE ORDER denying Defendant's [8] Motion to Extend Deadline to File Schedule, and denying without prejudice Heritage Plaintiffs' [10] Emergency Motion for Oral Argument on Motion to Consolidate. On April 16, 2024, the Court ordered the parties in this case to meet, confer, and file a joint proposed schedule for briefing or disclosure by April 30, 2024. Two days later, Defendant filed a [7] Motion to Consolidate Cases with two separate cases against Defendant involving similar FOIA requests. Then, on April 22, 2024, Defendant moved to extend the Courts April 30 deadline, arguing that until the Court rules on the motion to consolidate, it will not know whether it is necessary to also confer with the plaintiffs in those cases. However, the motion to consolidate depends, in part, on the outcome of the conferral between Defendant and Plaintiff. As Plaintiff explains in its opposition, if Defendant intends to produce the material requested, then Plaintiff anticipates dismissing the case, and if Defendant does not intend to produce the material, then Plaintiff has no objection to consolidating the cases and establishing a briefing schedule for all parties. Accordingly, the Court finds that there is no good cause for an extension based on the pending motion to consolidate--in fact, if the parties meet, confer, and file a joint proposed schedule for briefing or disclosure according to the current schedule in place, that will aid in the resolution of that motion. Thus, it is hereby ORDERED that Defendant's [8] Motion to Extend Deadline to File Schedule is DENIED. For these same reasons, the Court will also deny the Heritage Plaintiffs' [10] Emergency Motion for Oral Argument on Motion to Consolidate, without prejudice to its refiling should the Court need to decide the motion to consolidate. Signed by Judge Timothy J. Kelly on 4/25/2024. (lctjk2)

1:24-cv-00700-TJK Notice has been electronically mailed to: