

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

JUDICIAL WATCH, INC.,

Plaintiff,

v.

NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS  
ADMINISTRATION,

Defendant.

Civil Action No. 25-0577 (SLS)

**JOINT STATUS REPORT**

Plaintiff Judicial Watch, Inc., and Defendant the National Archives and Records Administration, provide an update regarding Plaintiff's claims arising under the Freedom of Information Act ("FOIA"), 5 U.S.C. § 552. Pursuant to the Court's April 29, 2026, Order, the parties provide the Court with the following updates as to the status of Plaintiff's FOIA request.

Plaintiff's FOIA request seeks all previously unreleased records regarding the assassination of President John F. Kennedy, including all records transferred to NARA by the Assassination Records Review Board (ARRB). NARA estimates that there are over six million pages of records responsive to Plaintiff's FOIA request. Since January 23, 2025, NARA has posted approximately 80,000 pages of responsive records online.

NARA cannot fully predict when records responsive to Judicial Watch's FOIA request will be released online because of the volume of material, the complexity of the digitization process, and the remaining restrictions on access such as grand jury and court sealed information, taxpayer information protected by 26 U.S.C. § 6103, deeded materials, and intellectual property. NARA will continue to work diligently to process Plaintiff's request and post records online on a rolling basis.

Additionally, fulfilling Plaintiff's request for records of the ARRB itself will be labor-intensive. The ARRB records are part of the JFK Collection but do not meet the definition of an "assassination record" within the statute. *See* President John F. Kennedy Assassination Records Collection Act of 1992, 44 U.S.C. § 2107 note, § 3(2). These records, which have not previously been fully reviewed for public release, must be digitized and reviewed line-by-line for FOIA exemptions.

Assassination records in the JFK Collection are also available to the public in NARA's Research Room, subject to Section 10 and 11 holds, which protect the information mentioned above. *See* 44 U.S.C. § 2107 note. The parties do not anticipate the need for a *Vaughn* index, *Open America* stay, or dispositive motions.

The parties propose updating the Court as to the status of NARA's processing on or before July 28, 2025. A proposed order is included herein.

Dated: May 27, 2025

Respectfully submitted,

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**[PROPOSED] ORDER**

Upon consideration of the parties' joint status report, it is hereby ORDERED that the parties shall file a status report on or before July 28, 2025, apprising the Court of Defendant's processing.

SO ORDERED.

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Dated

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SPARKLE L. SOOKNANAN  
United States District Judge