

Monday, November 16, 2020

Georgia Secretary of State
2 MLK Jr. Dr. SE, Suite 802
Floyd W. Tower
Atlanta, Georgia 30334
Email: openrecords@sos.ga.gov
CC: rgermany@sos.ga.gov
[Submitted via Online Form](#)

Re: Public Records Request

Pursuant to the O.C.G.A. §50-18-70 et seq., and the implementing regulations of your agency¹, Accountable.US requests access to and copies:

PHONE CALLS WITH THE SENATOR LINDSEY GRAHAM

1. I am requesting releasable copies of incoming-and-outgoing phone logs between Secretary of State Brad Raffensperger (landline and/or mobile) and the following individuals (listed below as “Graham’s Team”) associated with U.S. Senator Lindsey Graham from October 15, 2020, to November 17, 2020.

Graham’s Team

- U.S. Senator Lindsey Graham
- Chief of Staff Richard Strauss Perry (U.S. Senate Office)
- Communications Director Kevin Bishop (U.S. Senate Office)
- Deputy Communications Director Toby Tyler (U.S. Senate Office)
- Press Secretary Alice James (U.S. Senate Office)
- Campaign Manager Scott Farmer (Campaign Committee)
- Communications Director T.W. Arrighi (Campaign Committee)
- Chief Counsel Andrew Ferguson (U.S. Senate Committee)

2. I am requesting releasable copies of incoming-and-outgoing phone logs between Deputy Secretary of State Jordan Fuch (landline and/or mobile) and the following individuals (listed below as “Graham’s Team”) associated with U.S. Senator Lindsey Graham from October 15, 2020, to November 17, 2020.

Graham’s Team

¹ 40 C.F.R. § 1515 et seq

ACCOUNTABLE^{US}

- U.S. Senator Lindsey Graham
 - Chief of Staff Richard Strauss Perry (U.S. Senate Office)
 - Communications Director Kevin Bishop (U.S. Senate Office)
 - Deputy Communications Director Toby Tyler (U.S. Senate Office)
 - Press Secretary Alice James (U.S. Senate Office)
 - Campaign Manager Scott Farmer (Campaign Committee)
 - Communications Director T.W. Arrighi (Campaign Committee)
 - Chief Counsel Andrew Ferguson (U.S. Senate Committee)
3. I am requesting releasable copies of incoming-and-outgoing phone logs between Press Secretary Ari Schaffer (landline and/or mobile) and the following individuals (listed below as “Graham’s Team”) associated with U.S. Senator Lindsey Graham from October 15, 2020, to November 17, 2020.

Graham’s Team

- U.S. Senator Lindsey Graham
 - Chief of Staff Richard Strauss Perry (U.S. Senate Office)
 - Communications Director Kevin Bishop (U.S. Senate Office)
 - Deputy Communications Director Toby Tyler (U.S. Senate Office)
 - Press Secretary Alice James (U.S. Senate Office)
 - Campaign Manager Scott Farmer (Campaign Committee)
 - Communications Director T.W. Arrighi (Campaign Committee)
 - Chief Counsel Andrew Ferguson (U.S. Senate Committee)
4. I am requesting releasable copies of incoming-and-outgoing phone logs between External Affairs Director Sam Teasley (landline and/or mobile) and the following individuals (listed below as “Graham’s Team”) associated with U.S. Senator Lindsey Graham from October 15, 2020, to November 17, 2020.

Graham’s Team

- U.S. Senator Lindsey Graham
- Chief of Staff Richard Strauss Perry (U.S. Senate Office)
- Communications Director Kevin Bishop (U.S. Senate Office)
- Deputy Communications Director Toby Tyler (U.S. Senate Office)
- Press Secretary Alice James (U.S. Senate Office)
- Campaign Manager Scott Farmer (Campaign Committee)
- Communications Director T.W. Arrighi (Campaign Committee)
- Chief Counsel Andrew Ferguson (U.S. Senate Committee)

EMAILS WITH THE SENATOR LINDSAY GRAHAM

ACCOUNTABLE^{.US}

5. I am requesting releasable copies of incoming-and-outgoing emails (including attachments) between Secretary of State Brad Raffensperger and the following individuals (listed below as “Graham’s Team”) associated with U.S. Senator Lindsey Graham from October 15, 2020, to November 17, 2020.

Graham’s Team

- U.S. Senator Lindsey Graham
- Richard Strauss Perry (known emails include richard_perry@lgraham.senate.gov and richard-perry@lgraham.senate.gov)
- Kevin Bishop (known emails include kevin_bishop@lgraham.senate.gov and kevin_bishop@graham.senate.gov)
- Toby Tyler (known email includes toby_tyler@lgraham.senate.gov)
- Alice James (known email includes alice_james@lgraham.senate.gov and alice_james@graham.senate.gov)
- Brad Watts (known email includes brad_watts@judiciary-rep.senate.gov and brad_watts@tillis.senate.gov)
- Andrew Ferguson
- Scott Farmer
- T.W. Arrighi

6. I am requesting releasable copies of incoming-and-outgoing emails (including attachments) between Deputy Secretary of State Jordan Fuch and the following individuals (listed below as “Graham’s Team”) associated with U.S. Senator Lindsey Graham from October 15, 2020, to November 17, 2020.

Graham’s Team

- U.S. Senator Lindsey Graham
- Richard Strauss Perry (known emails include richard_perry@lgraham.senate.gov and richard-perry@lgraham.senate.gov)
- Kevin Bishop (known emails include kevin_bishop@lgraham.senate.gov and kevin_bishop@graham.senate.gov)
- Toby Tyler (known email includes toby_tyler@lgraham.senate.gov)
- Alice James (known email includes alice_james@lgraham.senate.gov and alice_james@graham.senate.gov)
- Brad Watts (known email includes brad_watts@judiciary-rep.senate.gov and brad_watts@tillis.senate.gov)
- Andrew Ferguson
- Scott Farmer
- T.W. Arrighi

7. I am requesting releasable copies of incoming-and-outgoing emails (including attachments) between Press Secretary Ari Schaffer and the following individuals (listed below as

ACCOUNTABLE^{.US}

“Graham’s Team”) associated with U.S. Senator Lindsey Graham from October 15, 2020, to November 17, 2020.

- U.S. Senator Lindsey Graham
- Richard Strauss Perry (known emails include richard_perry@lgraham.senate.gov and richard-perry@lgraham.senate.gov)
- Kevin Bishop (known emails include kevin_bishop@lgraham.senate.gov and kevin_bishop@graham.senate.gov)
- Toby Tyler (known email includes toby_tyler@lgraham.senate.gov)
- Alice James (known email includes alice_james@lgraham.senate.gov and alice_james@graham.senate.gov)
- Brad Watts (known email includes brad_watts@judiciary-rep.senate.gov and brad_watts@tillis.senate.gov)
- Andrew Ferguson
- Scott Farmer
- T.W. Arrighi

I am requesting releasable copies of incoming-and-outgoing emails (including attachments) between External Affairs Director Sam Teasley and the following individuals (listed below as “Graham’s Team”) associated with U.S. Senator Lindsey Graham from October 15, 2020, to November 17, 2020.

Graham’s Team

- U.S. Senator Lindsey Graham
- Richard Strauss Perry (known emails include richard_perry@lgraham.senate.gov and richard-perry@lgraham.senate.gov)
- Kevin Bishop (known emails include kevin_bishop@lgraham.senate.gov and kevin_bishop@graham.senate.gov)
- Toby Tyler (known email includes toby_tyler@lgraham.senate.gov)
- Alice James (known email includes alice_james@lgraham.senate.gov and alice_james@graham.senate.gov)
- Brad Watts (known email includes brad_watts@judiciary-rep.senate.gov and brad_watts@tillis.senate.gov)
- Andrew Ferguson
- Scott Farmer
- T.W. Arrighi

If possible, we would prefer to receive this information electronically via e-mail at FOIA@accountable.us. Alternatively, we prefer PDF files on a USB drive or CD/DVD sent by mail to Accountable.US, 1919 M St. NW, Suite 450, Washington, DC 20036. If you have questions or need additional information, please feel free to call me at (312) 772-5218.

Fee Waiver Request

ACCOUNTABLE^{.US}

Accountable.US requests a waiver of fees because it qualifies for classification as a “news media” requester, responsible only for duplication fees under FOIA's fee assessment provisions.²

So-called media status is consistent with how Accountable.US components have been treated by multiple agencies. The U.S. Department of the Treasury, Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB), and Federal Communications Commission (FCC) have all recognized this status in light of the regular publication and dissemination activities in which Accountable.US and its components, engage. Accountable.US will also make materials it gathers available on its public website.³

The disclosure of the requested information is also “in the public interest because it is likely to contribute significantly to public understanding” of government operations and is not “primarily in the commercial interest of the requester.” The disclosure of the information sought under this request will document and reveal the operations of the federal government, including how public funds are spent and how officials conduct the public's business. There is significant public interest in the integrity of the most recent general election.⁴

This request is primarily and fundamentally for non-commercial purposes.⁵ The Internal Revenue Service has recognized Accountable.US as tax-exempt under Section of the Internal Revenue Code. Accordingly, Accountable.US does not have a commercial purpose and the release of the information requested is not in Accountable.US's financial interest. Accountable.US's mission is to ensure public officials are advancing policies in the public's interest not for special interests.

Accordingly, Accountable.US qualifies for a fee waiver.

Conclusion

If you have any questions regarding this request, including how to construe the records sought or appropriate searches to locate them, please contact Accountable.US.

If my request is denied in whole or part, I ask that you justify all deletions by reference to specific exemptions of the act. Additionally, if any documents are withheld based on the Agency's interpretation of any exemption, Accountable.US requests that you provide an index of those documents as required under *Vaughn v. Rosen*, 484 F.2d 820 (D.C. Cir. 1973), cert. denied, 415 U.S. 977 (1974). Specifically, this Vaughn index should describe withheld documents with enough specificity to determine whether the material is exempt under the act and must describe each document or portion withheld.

² 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(4)(A)(iii).

³ Accountable.US and its components have demonstrated a commitment to public disclosure and public education through its website. For example, their websites contain multiple substantive analyses, document repositories, and other educational resources: AlliedProgress.org/research; AlliedProgress.org/campaigns; RestorePublicTrust.org/news; RestorePublicTrust.org/BigPharmasBestFriends; WesternValuesProject.org/DepartmentofInfluence

⁵ 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(4)(A)(iii).

ACCOUNTABLE^{.US}

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Kayla Hancock

c/o Abraham Payton