

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](mailto:openrecords@sos.ga.gov)  
CC: [rgermany@sos.ga.gov](mailto: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 agency<sup>1</sup>, Accountable.US requests access to and copies:

### **PHONE CALLS WITH THE WHITE HOUSE AND U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE**

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) associated with U.S. Senator Lindsey Graham from October 15, 2020, to November 17, 2020.
  - President Donald Trump
  - Chief of Staff Mark Meadows
  - Attorney General Bill Barr
  - Rudy Giuliani
  - Director Richard Pilger
  - Deputy Chief Robert Heberle
  - Assistant United States Attorney Will Keyes
  - Assistant United States Attorney Todd Swanson
  - Assistant United States Attorney Brent Gray
  - Assistant United States Attorney Jennifer Kirkland
  - Assistant United States Attorney Joshua S. Bearden
  - Assistant United States Attorney Channell Singh
  - Assistant United States Attorney Jason Blanchard
  - U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of Georgia Bobby L. Christine
  
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

---

<sup>1</sup> 40 C.F.R. § 1515 et seq

# ACCOUNTABLE<sup>.US</sup>

below) associated with U.S. Senator Lindsey Graham from October 15, 2020, to November 17, 2020.

- President Donald Trump
- Chief of Staff Mark Meadows
- Attorney General Bill Barr
- Rudy Giuliani
- Director Richard Pilger
- Deputy Chief Robert Heberle
- Assistant United States Attorney Will Keyes
- Assistant United States Attorney Todd Swanson
- Assistant United States Attorney Brent Gray
- Assistant United States Attorney Jennifer Kirkland
- Assistant United States Attorney Joshua S. Bearden
- Assistant United States Attorney Channell Singh
- Assistant United States Attorney Jason Blanchard
- U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of Georgia Bobby L. Christine

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) associated with U.S. Senator Lindsey Graham from October 15, 2020, to November 17, 2020.

- President Donald Trump
- Chief of Staff Mark Meadows
- Attorney General Bill Barr
- Rudy Giuliani
- Director Richard Pilger
- Deputy Chief Robert Heberle
- Assistant United States Attorney Will Keyes
- Assistant United States Attorney Todd Swanson
- Assistant United States Attorney Brent Gray
- Assistant United States Attorney Jennifer Kirkland
- Assistant United States Attorney Joshua S. Bearden
- Assistant United States Attorney Channell Singh
- Assistant United States Attorney Jason Blanchard
- U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of Georgia Bobby L. Christine

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) associated with U.S. Senator Lindsey Graham from October 15, 2020, to November 17, 2020.

- President Donald Trump

# ACCOUNTABLE<sup>US</sup>

- Chief of Staff Mark Meadows
- Attorney General Bill Barr
- Rudy Giuliani
- Director Richard Pilger
- Deputy Chief Robert Heberle
- Assistant United States Attorney Will Keyes
- Assistant United States Attorney Todd Swanson
- Assistant United States Attorney Brent Gray
- Assistant United States Attorney Jennifer Kirkland
- Assistant United States Attorney Joshua S. Bearden
- Assistant United States Attorney Channell Singh
- Assistant United States Attorney Jason Blanchard
- U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of Georgia Bobby L. Christine

## EMAILS WITH THE WHITE HOUSE AND U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

5. I am requesting releasable copies of incoming-and-outgoing emails (including attachments) between Secretary of State Brad Raffensperger and the following email accounts (listed below) from October 15, 2020, to November 17, 2020.
  - Emails that end with the domain address “@whitehouse.gov”
  - Emails that end with the domain address “@who.eop.gov”
  - Emails that end with the domain address “@usdoj.gov”
  - Emails that end with the domain address “@usa.doj.gov”
6. I am requesting releasable copies of incoming-and-outgoing emails (including attachments) between Deputy Secretary of State Jordan Fuch and the following email accounts (listed below) from October 15, 2020, to November 17, 2020.
  - Emails that end with the domain address “@whitehouse.gov”
  - Emails that end with the domain address “@who.eop.gov”
  - Emails that end with the domain address “@usdoj.gov”
  - Emails that end with the domain address “@usa.doj.gov”
7. I am requesting releasable copies of incoming-and-outgoing emails (including attachments) between Press Secretary Ari Schaffer and the following email accounts (listed below) from October 15, 2020, to November 17, 2020.
  - Emails that end with the domain address “@whitehouse.gov”
  - Emails that end with the domain address “@who.eop.gov”
  - Emails that end with the domain address “@usdoj.gov”
  - Emails that end with the domain address “@usa.doj.gov”

# ACCOUNTABLE<sup>.US</sup>

I am requesting releasable copies of incoming-and-outgoing emails (including attachments) between External Affairs Director Sam Teasley and the following email accounts (listed below) from October 15, 2020, to November 17, 2020.

- Emails that end with the domain address “@whitehouse.gov”
- Emails that end with the domain address “@who.eop.gov”
- Emails that end with the domain address “@usdoj.gov”
- Emails that end with the domain address “@usa.doj.gov”

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 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.<sup>2</sup>

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.<sup>3</sup>

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.<sup>4</sup>

This request is primarily and fundamentally for non-commercial purposes.<sup>5</sup> **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

---

<sup>2</sup> 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(4)(A)(iii).

<sup>3</sup> 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](http://AlliedProgress.org/research); [AlliedProgress.org/campaigns](http://AlliedProgress.org/campaigns); [RestorePublicTrust.org/news](http://RestorePublicTrust.org/news); [RestorePublicTrust.org/BigPharmasBestFriends](http://RestorePublicTrust.org/BigPharmasBestFriends); [WesternValuesProject.org/DepartmentofInfluence](http://WesternValuesProject.org/DepartmentofInfluence)

<sup>5</sup> 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(4)(A)(iii).

# ACCOUNTABLE<sup>.US</sup>

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.

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Kayla Hancock

c/o Abraham Payton