

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

November 21, 2025

FOIA and Privacy Office
Civil Division
Department of Justice
1100 L Street, NW, Room 8400
Washington, DC 20035

Dear FOIA Officer:

Implicit in Article I of the Constitution is Congress's power of inquiry, which is an essential component of Congress's legislative and oversight functions. Concurrent with inquiries we have made to the Department of Justice pursuant to our Article I oversight authority, which have not yet received a response, we are submitting a parallel expedited request under the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. § 552, and 28 C.F.R. Part 16, for the following records.

Requested Records

In August 2025, the Department of Justice confirmed to media outlets that Jared Lane Wise was employed at the Department.

Please produce within twenty business days the following records:

1. The résumé provided by Jared Wise in connection with his hiring or determination of his appropriate salary, or any other recent résumé provided by Jared Wise.
2. Any ethics, conflicts of interest, or recusal waivers, determinations, or authorizations issued by the Department of Justice related to Jared Wise, including waivers or determinations issued pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 208 or 5 C.F.R. 2635.502.
3. The SF-50 form and suitability determination associated with Jared Wise's employment.
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5. All communications sent or received by the following custodians regarding Jared Wise:
 - i. Pam Bondi, Attorney General
 - ii. Todd Blanche, Deputy Attorney General
 - iii. Emil Bove, Former Principal Associate Deputy Attorney General
 - iv. Ed Martin, Director of Weaponization Working Group

For all parts of this request, please provide all responsive records from January 20, 2025, through the date the search is conducted.

Fee Waiver Request

In accordance with 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(4)(A)(iii) and 28 C.F.R. § 16.10(k), a waiver of fees associated with processing this request is appropriate. Disclosure of the requested information is in the public interest because it (i) would shed light on the operations or activities of the government; (ii) would contribute

significantly to the general public's understanding of government operations and activities; and (iii) is necessary to carry out Congress's Article I oversight functions, as opposed to for a commercial purpose.

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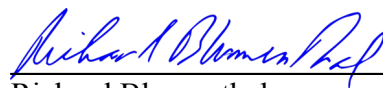
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United States Senator
Ranking Member,
Subcommittee on Federal
Courts, Oversight, Agency
Action, and Federal Rights



Richard Blumenthal
United States Senator



Adam B. Schiff
United States Senator

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Chief, FOIA/PA Unit
Criminal Division
Department of Justice
950 Constitution Ave, NW
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Executive Office for United States Attorneys
175 N Street, NE, Suite 5.400
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Guidance Regarding the Search & Processing of Requested Records

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FOIA requires agencies to disclose records to Congress that may otherwise be withheld from the public. 5 U.S.C. § 552(d). If it is your position that any of the requested documents are nonetheless exempted from disclosure requirements, please provide a *Vaughn* index as required by *Vaughn v. Rosen*, 484 F. 2d 820 (D.C. Cir. 1973); *see also Roth v. U.S. Dept. of Justice*, 642 F. 3d 1161, 1185 (D.C. Cir. 2011) (“Under our case law, agencies invoking a FOIA exemption must provide a specific, detailed explanation of why the exemption applies to the withheld materials.”). FOIA also requires agencies to release “any reasonably segregable portions” of documents that may be partially exempt and to prepare “an index relating any withheld portions to specific FOIA exemptions.” *Lykins v. U.S. Dept. of Justice*, 725 F.2d 1455, 1466 (D.C. Cir. 1984).

Where possible, please provide responsive material in an electronic format by email. Please send any responsive material being sent by email to Annie_Owens@judiciary-dem.senate.gov. Please send any material being mailed to Sheldon Whitehouse, 530 Hart Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510. If it will accelerate release of responsive records, please provide responsive material on a rolling basis.

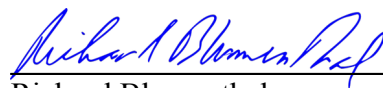
Conclusion

We look forward to working with the Department of Justice to ensure the timely and exhaustive disclosure of all non-exempt records responsive to this request. If you have any questions regarding how to construe this request or believe that further discussions regarding search and processing would facilitate a more efficient production, please do not hesitate to contact us. If the request for a fee waiver is denied in part or in full, please contact our offices immediately. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Sheldon Whitehouse
United States Senator
Ranking Member,
Subcommittee on Federal
Courts, Oversight, Agency
Action, and Federal Rights



Richard Blumenthal
United States Senator



Adam B. Schiff
United States Senator

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

November 21, 2025

Andrew Fiorillo
Chief, Initial Request Staff
Office of Information Policy
Office of the Attorney General
Office of the Deputy Attorney General
Office of the Associate Attorney General
Department of Justice
441 G St. NW
Washington, DC 20530

Dear FOIA Officer:

Implicit in Article I of the Constitution is Congress's power of inquiry, which is an essential component of Congress's legislative and oversight functions. Concurrent with inquiries we have made to the Department of Justice pursuant to our Article I oversight authority, which have not yet received a response, we are submitting a parallel expedited request under the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. § 552, and 28 C.F.R. Part 16, for the following records.

Requested Records

In August 2025, the Department of Justice confirmed to media outlets that Jared Lane Wise was employed at the Department.

Please produce within twenty business days the following records:

1. The résumé provided by Jared Wise in connection with his hiring or determination of his appropriate salary, or any other recent résumé provided by Jared Wise.
2. Any ethics, conflicts of interest, or recusal waivers, determinations, or authorizations issued by the Department of Justice related to Jared Wise, including waivers or determinations issued pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 208 or 5 C.F.R. 2635.502.
3. The SF-50 form and suitability determination associated with Jared Wise's employment.
4. All records describing the scope of Jared Wise's responsibilities as a DOJ employee.
5. All communications sent or received by the following custodians regarding Jared Wise:
 - i. Pam Bondi, Attorney General
 - ii. Todd Blanche, Deputy Attorney General
 - iii. Emil Bove, Former Principal Associate Deputy Attorney General
 - iv. Ed Martin, Director of Weaponization Working Group

For all parts of this request, please provide all responsive records from January 20, 2025, through the date the search is conducted.

Fee Waiver Request

In accordance with 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(4)(A)(iii) and 28 C.F.R. § 16.10(k), a waiver of fees associated with processing this request is appropriate. Disclosure of the requested information is in the public interest because it (i) would shed light on the operations or activities of the government; (ii) would contribute significantly to the general public's understanding of government operations and activities; and (iii) is necessary to carry out Congress's Article I oversight functions, as opposed to for a commercial purpose.

First, the requested records would shed light on Jared Wise's role and responsibilities at the Department of Justice given his past conduct contributing to violations of federal law and assaults on federal law enforcement. In August 2025, a Justice Department spokesperson confirmed to NPR that Jared Lane Wise was employed at the Department, with NPR reporting that Wise was serving in the Office of the Deputy Attorney General. Wise was recorded calling law enforcement officers who protected the U.S. Capitol on January 6, 2021, "the Nazi" and "the Gestapo" and encouraging rioters to "kill" those law enforcement officers. The Justice Department prosecuted Wise for his conduct on January 6, which contributed to attempts to impede the lawful certification of the 2020 election. *See Tom Dreisbach, Video shows Department of Justice official urging Jan. 6 rioters to 'kill' cops*, NPR (Aug. 7, 2025), <https://www.npr.org/2025/08/07/nx-s1-5493197/doj-trump-jan-6-defendant-jared-wise-capitol-riot>. Congress and the public have a strong interest in knowing whether Justice Department officials were aware of Wise's past conduct when they hired him and the nature of Wise's responsibilities at the Department.

Second, disclosure of the requested records would contribute significantly to the general public's understanding of the circumstances surrounding Wise's hiring. This information is not already in the public domain, despite several congressional oversight requests. Upon receipt of these records, we intend to disseminate pertinent information along with our analysis through publication on our offices' various platforms, which will enhance the public's understanding of the government's activities.

Third, the request is wholly for non-commercial purposes. Our Senate offices operate as part of the federal government. We seek the requested information not for commercial use, but to aid in congressional oversight, good government, and transparency for the American people.

Expedited Processing Request

Pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552(a)(6)(E) and 28 C.F.R. § 16.5(e)(1)(ii) and (iv), expedited processing is warranted. Expedition is required when there is a compelling need for the requested information, including where requests involve urgency to inform the public concerning actual or alleged federal government activity or a matter of widespread and exceptional media interest in which there exist possible questions about the government's integrity that affect public confidence. We certify to be true and correct to the best of our knowledge that circumstances warranting expedited processing exist here.

First, Congress has the constitutional authority to legislate and conduct oversight and is entitled to the expeditious disclosure of information to facilitate those processes. The requested employment information relates to the decision to hire as a senior Justice Department official an individual previously charged with violating federal law as part of an attack on the U.S. Capitol, as well as that individual's qualifications to serve. Timely provision of this information is vital for Congress to perform its constitutionally mandated legislative and oversight functions.

Second, it is urgent that the public know whether the Justice Department hired Wise with a full understanding of his past conduct, as well as what federal law enforcement role Wise has been entrusted

with, notwithstanding that conduct. Upon receipt of these records, we intend to disseminate pertinent information along with our analysis through publication on our offices' various platforms.

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facilitate a more efficient production, please do not hesitate to contact us. If the request for a fee waiver is denied in part or in full, please contact our offices immediately. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

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Sheldon Whitehouse
United States Senator
Ranking Member,
Subcommittee on Federal
Courts, Oversight, Agency
Action, and Federal Rights

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Richard Blumenthal
United States Senator

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United States Senator