

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

November 21, 2025

Christina Butler
Chief, FOIA/PA Unit
Criminal Division
Department of Justice
950 Constitution Ave, 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

Under federal law, the U.S. Marshals Service (USMS) is responsible for providing for the security of U.S. District Courts, the U.S. Courts of Appeals, the Court of International Trade, and the U.S. Tax Court. Threats against federal judges have surged in 2025, particularly following online attacks against judges and their families.

Please produce within twenty business days the following records:

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For all parts of this request, please produce 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, disclosure of the requested documents would shed light on whether the U.S. Marshals Service has been vigorously investigating the possible coordination of threats against federal judges or has declined to comply with appropriate statutes regarding the security of federal judges for political reasons. Federal law charges USMS with protecting federal judges, and multiple media outlets have reported surges in threats against federal judges in 2025. *See, e.g.,* Mattathias Schwartz, *Marshals’ Data Shows Spike in Threats Against Federal Judges*, N.Y. Times (May 27, 2025), <https://www.nytimes.com/2025/05/27/us/politics/federal-judges-threats.html>. Many judges who have

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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.

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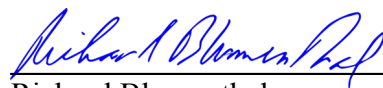
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Courts, Oversight, Agency
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Section Chief
Record/Information Dissemination Section
Federal Bureau of Investigation
200 Constitution Drive
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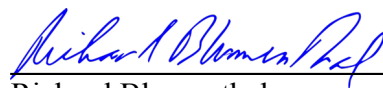
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Andrew Fiorillo
Chief, Initial Request Staff
Office of Information Policy
Office of the Attorney General
Office of the Deputy Attorney General
Office of the Associate Attorney General
Department of Justice
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Please search all relevant records or systems containing records regarding agency business. Do not exclude records regarding agency business contained in files, email accounts, or devices in the personal custody of your officials, such as personal email accounts or text messages. Records of official business conducted using unofficial systems or stored outside of official files are subject to the Federal Records Act and FOIA.

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.

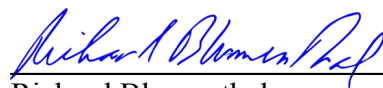
Conclusion

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

Charlotte Luckstone
FOIA Officer
Office of General Counsel
United States Marshals Service
CG-3 15th Floor
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

Under federal law, the U.S. Marshals Service (USMS) is responsible for providing for the security of U.S. District Courts, the U.S. Courts of Appeals, the Court of International Trade, and the U.S. Tax Court. Threats against federal judges have surged in 2025, particularly following online attacks against judges and their families.

Please produce within twenty business days the following records:

1. All communications sent or received by the following custodians related to the USMS's ability or responsibility to investigate possible orchestration of threats against federal judges, including any potential violations of 18 U.S.C. §§ 371, 372, 373, 1503, or 1962:
 - a. Pam Bondi, Attorney General
 - b. Todd Blanche, Deputy Attorney General
 - c. Emil Bove, Former Principal Associate Deputy Attorney General
 - d. Matthew Galeotti, Acting Assistant Attorney General
 - e. Hope Olds, Acting Deputy Assistant Attorney General
 - f. Gadyaces Serralta, Director, U.S. Marshals Service
 - g. Peter Marketos, Acting Associate Director for Investigations, U.S. Marshals Service
 - h. Stephanie Creasy, Acting Deputy Director, U.S. Marshals Service
 - i. Aaron Sawyer, Acting Associate Director, U.S. Marshals Service
 - j. Geoffrey Deas, Assistant Director, U.S. Marshals Service
 - k. Kash Patel, Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation
 - l. Dan Bongino, Deputy Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation
 - m. Andrew Bailey, Co-Deputy Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation
2. All memoranda, reports, or threat assessments relating to threats against federal judges that mention, refer to, or include the name of "Elon Musk" or other variations of his name, or any code name, code word, pseudonym, or other cryptonym that is used to refer to Elon Musk. Your office is in the best position to identify where responsive records are likely to reside, but at a minimum, a reasonable search for responsive records would include:

- a. Office of the Attorney General;
 - b. Office of the Deputy Attorney General;
 - c. Office of the Associate Attorney General;
 - d. Office of the Assistant Attorney General for the Criminal Division;
 - e. Department of Justice, Office of Legislative Affairs;
 - f. Federal Bureau of Investigation, Office of the Director, Deputy Director, and Associate Deputy Director;
 - g. Federal Bureau of Investigation, Office of Congressional Affairs;
 - h. U.S. Marshals Service, Office of the Director
 - i. U.S. Marshals Service, Office of the Deputy Director;
 - j. U.S. Marshals Service, Office of the General Counsel; and
 - k. U.S. Marshals Service, Judicial Security Division.
3. All memoranda, reports, or threat assessments relating to threats against federal judges that mention, refer to, or include the name of “Laura Loomer” or other variations of his name, or any code name, code word, pseudonym, or other cryptonym that is used to refer to Laura Loomer. Your office is in the best position to identify where responsive records are likely to reside, but at a minimum, a reasonable search for responsive records would include:
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 - b. Office of the Deputy Attorney General;
 - c. Office of the Associate Attorney General;
 - d. Office of the Assistant Attorney General for the Criminal Division;
 - e. Department of Justice, Office of Legislative Affairs;
 - f. Federal Bureau of Investigation, Office of the Director, Deputy Director, and Associate Deputy Director;
 - g. Federal Bureau of Investigation, Office of Congressional Affairs;
 - h. U.S. Marshals Service, Office of the Director
 - i. U.S. Marshals Service, Office of the Deputy Director;
 - j. U.S. Marshals Service, Office of the General Counsel; and
 - k. U.S. Marshals Service, Judicial Security Division.

For all parts of this request, please produce 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, disclosure of the requested documents would shed light on whether the U.S. Marshals Service has been vigorously investigating the possible coordination of threats against federal judges or has declined to comply with appropriate statutes regarding the security of federal judges for political reasons. Federal law charges USMS with protecting federal judges, and multiple media outlets have reported surges in threats against federal judges in 2025. *See, e.g.,* Mattathias Schwartz, *Marshals’ Data Shows Spike in Threats Against Federal Judges*, N.Y. Times (May 27, 2025), <https://www.nytimes.com/2025/05/27/us/politics/federal-judges-threats.html>. Many judges who have

ruled against the Trump Administration have been targeted by online campaigns involving intimidation, publication of personal information about the judges and their families, and unwanted pizza deliveries sent in the name of the murdered son of a federal judge. Multiple media outlets have reported on Elon Musk and Laura Loomer's influential involvement in the surge of intimidation aimed at these judges. See Ned Parker et al., *These judges ruled against Trump. Then their families came under attack.*, Reuters (May 2, 2025), <https://www.reuters.com/investigations/these-judges-ruled-against-trump-then-their-families-came-under-attack-2025-05-02/>. Congress and the public have a strong interest in learning more about USMS's response to these threats, including whether USMS has declined or been directed not to investigate orchestration of these threats by individuals politically aligned with the Administration.

Second, disclosure of the requested records would contribute significantly to the general public's understanding of whether USMS is fulfilling its obligation to protect federal judges and to investigate possible coordination of threats. This information is not already in the public domain, despite multiple congressional oversight requests and requests for a briefing. 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

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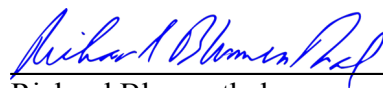
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