



**U.S. Department of Justice**

United States Marshals Service

*Office of General Counsel*

---

CG-3, 15<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Washington, DC 20530-0001

March 27, 2026

Mr. Gabe Roth  
Executive Director  
Fix the Court  
348 4th Ave., 1007  
Brooklyn, NY 11215  
gabe@fixthecourt.com

**Re: Freedom of Information Act Request 2023-USMS-000178**  
**Subject: Judge Information**

Dear Requestor,

The United States Marshals Service (USMS) is responding to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request received by USMS on January 30, 2023, for the following:

- " 1. A list of every request the U.S. Marshals Service received from a U.S. judge or justice or their designee(s) between March 15, 2022, and January 29, 2023, to pursue and carry out take-down requests of covered information or personally identifiable information from the Internet that includes the date the request was submitted and employing court of the judge or justice for whom the request was made;*
- 2. A list of every request the U.S. Marshals Service received from the Director of the Administrative Office of the United States Courts (AO), or from any judiciary employee who reports to the AO Director, between March 15, 2022, and January 29, 2023, to pursue and carry out take-down requests of covered information or personally identifiable information from the Internet that includes the date the request was submitted and employing court of the judge or justice for whom the request was made;*
- 3. A list of every request the U.S. Marshals Service received from chief judges of U.S. courts between March 15, 2022, and January 29, 2023, to pursue and carry out take-down requests of covered information or personally identifiable information from the Internet that includes the date the request was submitted and employing court of the judge or justice for whom the request was made;*
- 4. For each take-down request, whether it was complied with within 72 hours and, if complied with, the URL on which the covered information or personally identifiable information had appeared;*
- 5. A copy of any request for injunctive or declaratory relief that the AO Director, anyone who reports to the AO Director or any chief judge filed with the Department of Justice between December 29, 2022, and January 29, 2023, for*

*noncompliance with the removal provisions of Section 5934 of Public Law 117-263;*

*6. An itemized USMS budget for FY22, FY23 and FY24 that includes a line item for the amount of money USMS has spent or expects to spend to (a) monitor the Internet for U.S. judges' and justices' covered information; (b) work with the judiciary and its personnel on pursuing take-down requests; and (c) hire private contractors to assist in carrying out (a) and (b);*

*7. The identity of any private contractor, and the terms of the contract, that the USMS has hired in the last 36 months to assist with the redaction and reduction of judges' and justices' covered information or personally identifiable information from the Internet; and*

*8. Copies of any emails between USMS Director Ron Davis (ronald.davis@usdoj.gov), former USMS Director Don Washington (donald.washington@usdoj.gov), USMS Deputy Director (and former Associate Director) Roberto Robinson (roberto.robinson@usdoj.gov), former USMS Deputy Director Jeff Tyler (jeffrey.tyler@usdojb.gov), USMS Assistant Director Jennifer Armstrong (jennifer.armstrong@usdoj.gov), or USMS Chief of Congressional Affairs Bill Delaney (william.delaney@usdoj.gov) and any sender or recipient, including in the CC or BCC line, with an email address ending in "uscourts.gov" between Sept. 1, 2021, and Jan. 29, 2023, that includes the term(s) "redact," "redaction," "reduce," "reduction," "identifiable," "judge," "judges" or "DeleteMe."*

Pursuant to your request, the USMS conducted a search for records responsive to your request and located 2 pages of responsive documentation within the following offices/divisions:

Judicial Security Division  
Information Technology Division  
Financial Services Division

To withhold a responsive record in whole or part, an agency must show both that the record falls within a FOIA exemption, 5 U.S.C. § 552(b), and that the agency "reasonably foresees that disclosure would harm an interest protected by exemption." See § 552(a)(8)(A)(i)(I); *Machado Amadis v. U.S. Dep't of State*, 971 F.3d 364 (D.C. Cir. 2020). As described in this correspondence, the USMS reviewed responsive records to your request and asserted FOIA exemptions as appropriate. Further, the USMS has determined it is reasonably foreseeable that disclosure of the withheld information would harm an agency interest protected by the exemption. These pages are released to you with portions of 2 page(s) withheld in part pursuant to the following Exemptions of the FOIA, 5 U.S.C. § 552(b):

FOIA Exemption (b)(6) allows an agency to withhold personnel, medical, and similar files, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy. Records that apply to or describe a particular individual, including investigative records, qualify as "personnel," "medical," or "similar files" under Exemption 6. A discretionary release of such records is not appropriate. See *United States Department of Justice (DOJ) v. Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press*, 489 U.S. 749 (1989).

FOIA Exemption (b)(7)(C) protects records or information compiled for law enforcement purposes to the extent that the production of such records or information could reasonably be expected to constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy. A discretionary release of such records is not appropriate. See *United States Department of Justice (DOJ) v. Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press*, 489 U.S. 749

(1989). Accordingly, the personally identifiable information of law enforcement officers and government employees was withheld from the responsive documentation. The disclosure of such sensitive information contained in records compiled for law enforcement purposes to the public could subject law enforcement officers and other government personnel to harassment and unwelcome contact. This could disrupt and impede official agency activity, as well as endanger the safety of law enforcement officials. Additionally, the personally identifiable information of third parties named in the records was withheld. The disclosure of third-party information could constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy and subject the individuals to embarrassment, harassment, and undue public attention. Individuals have a recognized privacy interest in not being publicly associated with law enforcement investigations, not being associated unwarrantedly with alleged criminal activity, and controlling how communications about them are disseminated.

FOIA Exemption (b)(7)(E) exempts from release information that would disclose law enforcement techniques or procedures, the disclosure of which could reasonably be expected to risk circumvention of the law. Public disclosure of law enforcement techniques and procedures could allow people seeking to violate the law to take preemptive steps to counter actions taken by USMS during investigatory operations. Information pertaining to case selection, case development, and investigatory methods are law enforcement techniques and procedures that are not commonly known. The disclosure of this information serves no public benefit and would have an adverse impact on agency operations. Furthermore, public disclosure of information such as internal URLs, codes, and internal identifying numbers could assist unauthorized parties in deciphering the meaning of the codes and numbers, aid in gaining improper access to law enforcement databases, and assist in the unauthorized party's navigation of these databases. This disclosure of techniques for navigating databases could permit people seeking to violate the law to gain sensitive knowledge and take preemptive steps to counter actions taken by USMS during investigatory operations. The disclosure of this information serves no public benefit and would not assist the public in understanding how the agency is carrying out its statutory responsibilities.

FOIA Exemption (b)(7)(F) protects law enforcement information that "could reasonably be expected to endanger the life or physical safety of any individual." Courts have routinely upheld the use of Exemption (b)(7)(F) to protect the identities of law enforcement agents, as well as protect the names and identifying information of non-law enforcement federal employees, local law enforcement personnel, and other third persons in connection with particular law enforcement matters. See *Garza v. U.S. Marshals Serv., et al.*, Civ. A. No. 16-0976, 2018 WL 4680205, \* 17 (D.D.C. Sept. 28, 2018); *Hammouda v. Dep't of Justice*, 920 F. Supp. 2d 16, 26 (D.D.C. 2013); *Fischer v. Dep't of Justice*, 723 F. Supp. 2d 104, 111 (D.D.C. 2010); *Blanton v. Dep't of Justice*, 182 F. Supp. 2d 81, 87 (D.D.C. 2002).

Please note the USMS does not maintain any information pertaining to items 1-7 of your request. The program for removal of personally identifiable information of U.S. Judges or Justices is not a USMS program; it is program specific to the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts.

For your information, Congress excluded three discrete categories of law enforcement and national security records from the requirements of the FOIA. See 5 U.S.C. 552(c) (2006 & Supp. IV (2010)). This response is limited to those records that are subject to the requirements of the FOIA. This is a standard notification that is given to all our requesters and should not be taken as an indication that excluded records do, or do not, exist.

If you are not satisfied with the USMS determination in response to this request, you may administratively appeal by writing to the Director, Office of Information Policy (OIP), United States Department of Justice, 441 G Street, NW, 6th Floor, Washington, D.C. 20530, or you may submit an appeal through OIP's FOIA STAR portal by creating an account following the instructions on OIP's website: <https://www.justice.gov/oip/submit-and-track-request-or-appeal>. Your appeal must be postmarked or electronically transmitted within 90 days of the date of my response to your request. If you submit your appeal by mail, both the letter and the envelope should be clearly marked "Freedom of Information Act Appeal." If possible, please provide a copy of your original request and this response letter with your appeal.

You may also contact Charlotte Luckstone or our FOIA Public Liaison at (703) 740-3943 for any further assistance and to discuss any aspect of your request. Additionally, you may contact the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) at the National Archives and Records Administration to inquire about the FOIA mediation services they offer. The contact information for OGIS is as follows: Office of Government Information Services, National Archives and Records Administration, Room 2510, 8601 Adelphi Road, College Park, Maryland 20740-6001; e-mail at [ogis@nara.gov](mailto:ogis@nara.gov); telephone at 202-741-5770; toll free at 1-877-684-6448; or facsimile at 202-741-5769.

Sincerely,

*/s/ AA for*

Charlotte Luckstone  
Acting General Counsel  
Freedom of Information/Privacy Act Officer  
Office of General Counsel  
Freedom of Information Act Unit  
United States Marshals Service  
U.S. Department of Justice

Enclosure