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Public Record Media
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May 25, 2017

FOIA/PA Mail Referral Unit
Department of Justice
Room 115
LOC Building
Washington, DC 20530-0001

RE: Freedom of Information Act request

Dear FOIA staff,

This is a request for access to government records under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), 5 U.S.C. § 552. My request is in four parts:

1. In 2013, the Department of Justice (DOJ) produced a document entitled "Department of Justice Report on Review of News Media Policies," dated July 12, 2013. The document noted that the Attorney General had "initiated a comprehensive evaluation of the Department of Justice's policies and practices" used to obtain records from members of the news media in connection with criminal and civil investigations. The document also set out ten specific areas where the DOJ was seeking to make related policy adjustments and updates.

Through this FOIA request, I am seeking the following government records produced, transmitted, and/or maintained by your agency between July 12, 2013 and January 23, 2017:

Any and all DOJ policies and practices governing the use of law enforcement tools, including subpoenas, court orders, and search warrants, to obtain information or records from or concerning members of the news media in criminal and civil investigations.

2. I am also seeking the following government records produced, transmitted, received, and/or maintained by your agency between January 23, 2017 and May 25, 2017:

Any and all correspondence and/or memoranda (in written or electronic form) relating to modifications or proposed modifications to DOJ policies and practices governing the use of law enforcement tools, including subpoenas, court orders, and search warrants, to obtain information or records from or concerning members of the news media in criminal and civil investigations.

3. I am seeking the following government records produced, transmitted, received, and/or maintained by your agency between January 23, 2017 and May 25, 2017:

Any and all correspondence (in written or electronic form) between staff members of the White House, including, but not limited to, staff of the Executive Office of the President and/or the President of the United States, and staff members of your agency related to the prosecution and/or potential prosecution of journalists under the provisions of the Espionage Act (18 U.S.C. § 793).

4. I am also seeking the following government records produced, transmitted, received, and/or maintained by your agency between January 23, 2017 and May 25, 2017:

Any and all memoranda and/or legal opinions (including legal opinions constituting final determination of policy and/or final opinions that are post-decisional in nature) related to the prosecution and/or potential prosecution of journalists under the provisions of the Espionage Act (18 U.S.C. § 793).

In order to help you determine my status for the purpose of assessing fees, you should know that this request is made as part of news gathering, and is not for commercial use. Responsive files will be shared with researchers, journalists, and the public, and will not be licensed for profit.

I am seeking a waiver of fees for this request, since the public dissemination of the requested materials will aide the public's understanding of your agency's use (or potential use) of certain legal mechanisms as they relate to members of the news media.

If my fee waiver is denied, I am willing to pay fees of up to \$100.00 without prior notice. If fees are estimated to exceed this amount, please notify me first.

If this request is denied in whole or in part, please notify me of the legal basis for the denial, as well as all appeals procedures available under law.

I can be contacted at 651-556-1381 if you need to discuss any aspect of this request, including potentially narrowing the request to components of your agency most likely to maintain records responsive to parts 1-4, above.

Sincerely,

/s/ Matt Ehling
Public Record Media