

November 19, 2020

BY EMAIL: communications@az.gov

Open Records Officer
Office of Governor Doug Ducey
State Capitol
1700 West Washington
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Re: Request for Records Under Arizona Public Records Law (PRA), A.R.S. §§ 39-101 to -161

Dear Open Records Officer:

Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington (“CREW”) makes this request for records pursuant to Arizona Public Records Law (PRA), A.R.S. §§ 39-101 to -161.

Specifically, CREW requests:

1. All communications between the Office of Governor Doug Ducey and Senator Lindsey Graham from November 3, 2020 to the day this request is processed.
2. All Communications among the Office of Governor Doug Ducey’s staff mentioning Senator Lindsey Graham from November 3, 2020 to the day this request is processed, excluding communications that contain mere press clippings or news articles mentioning Senator Graham with no accompanying discussion by government officials.

CREW requests records of any kind as defined by the public records law, including paper records, electronic records, audiotapes, videotapes, photographs, data, and graphical material. If it is your position any portion of the requested records is exempt from disclosure, A.R.S. § 39-121.03(A) requires you to state the basis of the exemption you contend is applicable. Our request includes but is not limited to paper documents and electronic records, including emails and their attachments.

On Tuesday November 17 Senator Lindsey Graham told reporters that he spoke to election officials in Arizona over concerns regarding mail-in voting.¹ According to Graham he contacted Governor Doug Ducey to ask how the state will “verify mail-in ballots.”² One day earlier Georgia Secretary of State Brad Raffensperger accused Graham of suggesting he toss out legally cast ballots in Georgia. Sen. Graham’s

¹ Quint Forgey, [Graham says he also spoke to officials in Arizona, Nevada about election](https://www.politico.com/news/2020/11/17/lindsey-graham-arizona-nevada-mail-in-voting-437006), *Politico*, Nov. 17, 2020, available at

<https://www.politico.com/news/2020/11/17/lindsey-graham-arizona-nevada-mail-in-voting-437006>

² *Id.*

office told the Washington Post that his interest in the election in Georgia and Arizona stemmed from concern “about the integrity of the election process nationally.”³

Since Joe Biden was announced as the winner of the 2020 Presidential election Trump has continuously challenged the validity of the results in several battleground states, including Arizona.⁴ As a close ally of President Trump, Graham has interest in Trump winning the election. The public has a compelling interest in knowing if a United States Senator endangered the integrity of the 2020 election and undermined faith in democracy by pressuring a public official to tamper with the results of the Presidential election.

CREW is a non-profit corporation, organized under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. CREW is committed to protecting the public’s right to be aware of the activities of government officials, to ensuring the integrity of those officials, and to highlighting and reducing the influence of money on politics. CREW intends to analyze the information responsive to this request and to share its analysis with the public. The release of information obtained through this request is not in CREW’s financial interest.

If there are any fees for searching or copying these records, please inform CREW if the cost will exceed \$100. However, CREW also requests a waiver of all fees because the disclosure of the requested information is in the public interest. The public is entitled to information concerning Governor Doug Ducey’s conversation with Sen. Lindsey Graham. Further, this information is not being sought for commercial purposes. Please advise us if the costs associated with processing this request will exceed \$100.00.

If you have any questions about this request or foresee any problems in fully releasing the requested records, please contact me at rjacobs@citizensforethics.org. Where possible, please produce records in electronic format. Please send the requested records to me in electronic form at rjacobs@citizensforethics.org. If it’s not possible to produce them electronically, please contact me at that email, and I will provide a mailing address. Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,



Rebecca Jacobs
Research Associate

³ Stephanie Saul, [Lindsey Graham’s Long-Shot Mission to Unravel the Election Results](#), *New York Times*, Nov. 17, 2020, available at

<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/11/17/us/politics/lindsey-graham-georgia-trump-biden.html>

⁴ Donald Trump, (@RealDonaldTrump), *Twitter*, Nov. 12, 2020, available at

<https://twitter.com/realDonaldTrump/status/1326877480834240515>