Nikhel Sus  
Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics of Washington  
1101 K St., NW Suite 201  
Washington, DC 20005  

Dear Mr. Sus:

As we noted in our letter dated August 30, 2021, we are processing your request for material under the Freedom of Information Act (“FOIA”), 5 U.S.C. § 552. Thus far, the Department of State has identified an additional six responsive records subject to the FOIA. We have determined that all six records may be released in part. The processing of your request is ongoing.

An enclosure explains the FOIA exemptions and other grounds for withholding material. Where we have made redactions, the applicable FOIA exemptions are marked on each document. All non-exempt material that is reasonably segregable from the exempt material has been released and is enclosed.

We will keep you informed as your case progresses. If you have any questions, your attorney may contact Assistant United States Attorney Benton Peterson at Benton.Peterson@usdoj.gov or (202) 252-2534. Please refer to the case number, FL-2020-00134, and the civil action number, 20-cv-02076, in all correspondence about this case.

Sincerely,

Jeanne Miller  
Chief, Programs and Policies Division  
Office of Information Programs and Services

Enclosures: As stated.
The Freedom of Information Act (5 USC 552)

FOIA Exemptions

(b)(1) Information specifically authorized by an executive order to be kept secret in the interest of national defense or foreign policy. Executive Order 13526 includes the following classification categories:

1.4(a) Military plans, systems, or operations
1.4(b) Foreign government information
1.4(c) Intelligence activities, sources or methods, or cryptology
1.4(d) Foreign relations or foreign activities of the US, including confidential sources
1.4(e) Scientific, technological, or economic matters relating to national security, including defense against transnational terrorism
1.4(f) U.S. Government programs for safeguarding nuclear materials or facilities
1.4(g) Vulnerabilities or capabilities of systems, installations, infrastructures, projects, plans, or protection services relating to US national security, including defense against transnational terrorism
1.4(h) Weapons of mass destruction

(b)(2) Related solely to the internal personnel rules and practices of an agency

(b)(3) Specifically exempted from disclosure by statute (other than 5 USC 552), for example:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ARMSEXP</th>
<th>Arms Export Control Act, 50a USC 2411(c)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CIA PERS/ORG</td>
<td>Central Intelligence Agency Act of 1949, 50 USC 403(g)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EXPORT CONTROL</td>
<td>Export Administration Act of 1979, 50 USC App. Sec. 2411(c)</td>
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<tr>
<td>FS ACT</td>
<td>Foreign Service Act of 1980, 22 USC 4004</td>
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<tr>
<td>INA</td>
<td>Immigration and Nationality Act, 8 USC 1202(f), Sec. 222(f)</td>
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<tr>
<td>IRAN</td>
<td>Iran Claims Settlement Act, Public Law 99-99, Sec. 505</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(b)(4) Trade secrets and confidential commercial or financial information

(b)(5) Interagency or intra-agency communications forming part of the deliberative process, attorney-client privilege, or attorney work product

(b)(6) Personal privacy information

(b)(7) Law enforcement information whose disclosure would:
   (A) interfere with enforcement proceedings
   (B) deprive a person of a fair trial
   (C) constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy
   (D) disclose confidential sources
   (E) disclose investigation techniques
   (F) endanger life or physical safety of an individual

(b)(8) Prepared by or for a government agency regulating or supervising financial institutions

(b)(9) Geological and geophysical information and data, including maps, concerning wells

Other Grounds for Withholding

NR Material not responsive to a FOIA request excised with the agreement of the requester
Michael Steele headed up with [REDACTED] Get Outlook for iOS

From: [REDACTED] (b)(6)
Sent: Thursday, February 27, 2020 6:10:38 PM

Subject: Re: 2.27 Madison Dinner Chain

Scalia and wife going up with [REDACTED] Get Outlook for iOS

From: [REDACTED] (b)(6)
Sent: Thursday, February 27, 2020 6:10:11 PM

Subject: Re: 2.27 Madison Dinner Chain

Carlson and guest on their way up with [REDACTED] Get Outlook for iOS

From: [REDACTED] (b)(6)
Sent: Thursday, February 27, 2020 6:04:46 PM

Subject: Re: 2.27 Madison Dinner Chain

Clarence Thomas and wife on their way up Get Outlook for iOS

From: [REDACTED] (b)(6)
Sent: Thursday, February 27, 2020 5:57:27 PM

Subject: Re: 2.27 Madison Dinner Chain

Copy

---

Sent from Workspace ONE Boxer
On February 27, 2020 at 5:57:05 PM wrote:

Korea is going up with (b)(6)
Get Outlook for iOS

From (b)(6) (b)(6)
Sent: Thursday, February 27, 2020 5:35:17 PM
To (b)(6)

Subject: 2.27 Madison Dinner Chain

Please use this chain for any Madison dinner updates tonight.

---

Office of the Chief of Protocol
U.S. Department of State
Hi [b](6)

Can you give [b](6) a heads up on the new time for the dinner on Monday?

Thanks much!

[b](6)
Deputy Assistant Chief for Ceremonials
Office of the Chief of Protocol

[b](6)

From: [b](6)  [b](6)
Sent: Thursday, June 6, 2019 3:12 PM
To: Susan Pompeo [b](6) Lawler, Sean
P. Fisher, Mary-Kate [b](6) [b](6)
[b](6)
Subject: RE: Upcoming Madison Dinners

Susan,

I’ll make sure the revised schedule for June 10 is updated on your and Mike’s calendars.

Thank you.

[b](6)
[b](6)
Office of the Secretary
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
[b](6)

[ ]

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From: Susan Pompeo [b](6)
Sent: Thursday, June 6, 2019 3:07 PM
I’ve been working with Mike on the upcoming Madison Dinners and here are updates from our end:

**Madison Dinner on Monday, June 10**

*Let’s change the evening schedule to accommodate Senate votes, this way:

6:45pm, Cocktails
7:15pm, Group photo, comments and proceed to dinner
7:20pm, Dinner begins
9:00pm, Dinner concludes

Will you please be sure this new evening schedule is communicated to all our guests ASAP?

* Dinner seating as follows:

Secretary Pompeo (moving to his right)
Cardinal Timothy Dolan
Bishop William Murphy
Ms. Pamela Gross
Mr. Jimmy Finkelstein (end chair by window)
Sarah Sanders
Bryan Sandes
Bonnie Perdue
Sen. David Perdue
Susan Pompeo
Amb. Al Otaiba
Abeer Al Otaiba
Ingrid DePinto
Joe DePinto (end chair by hallway)
Katie Glendon Lev
Amb. Mary Ann Glendon
Sheldon Bream
Shannon Bream.

**Madison Dinner on Wednesday, June 12**
*Hoping you do get a confirmed green light on Leader Kevin McCarthy and his wife, Judy.

*Dinner seating as follows:

Secretary Pompeo (moving to his right)
Steve Cannon
Ann Cannon
Kevin McCarthy (end chair by window)
Judy McCarthy
Jennifer Davidson
Michael Davidson
Susan Pompeo
Amb. Armando Varricchio
Michaela Varricchio
Jonathan Steinberg (end chair by hallway)
Maria Bartiromo
Justice Alito
Martha Ann Alito.

**Madison Dinner on Wednesday, July 3**

*These invites need to be issued ASAP—and we may be too late (not your fault). Because of our lack of advance notice to them (with most having to travel in—this may not work, but Mike wants to try). Mike also wants to go ahead and offer them an invite to join us the next day for our Independence Day event. This is a Madison Dinner focused on the “NextGen”, but we don’t intend to advertise that…we’ve just made an effort to bring a younger generation together here!

*Please issue invitations ASAP to:

1. M/M Evan Speigel. Founder of Snapchat. They attended a White House dinner in May 2017, I believe, so should have contact information.

2. Adam and Jennifer LaRoche. Former professional baseball player; co owner of Buck Commander TV show; co owner of E3 Chophouse (in Colorado and Nashville) with Jason Aldean and Luke Bryan (uses beef from his Kansas E3 Ranch).

3. Katie Pavlich. Commentator for FOX News and other media outlets. Traveled on Mike’s recent trip that re-directed to Baghdad.

5. Guy Benson. Commentator for FOX News and has a radio show.


8. Alex Kurland. V/C

9. Associate Justice Brett and Ashley Kavanaugh.


11. Jimmie Allen. Jimmie is a popular, black country western singer.

Big thanks. Let me know how it’s all going! Susan
(b)(5)

As for the law –

(b)(5)

SBU - LEGAL

From: (b)(6) (b)(6)
Sent: Friday, May 22, 2020 9:38 AM
To: (b)(6) (b)(6) (b)(6)
Subject: Madison Dinners - Action requested today

SBU - Legal

(b)(6)

(b)(5)
Could you please send me by this afternoon, if possible, anything relevant you might have so I could package it for Marik? I'll be doing a search through my emails as well for any relevant guidance.

Thanks

Sender: [redacted]
Recipient: [redacted]
Perfect Mrs. Pompeo. We are all set.
Thank you.
Best,

From: Susan Pompeo
To: Lawler, Sean P
CC: Henderson, Cam

Subject: Re: SEATING CHART OPTIONS FOR TUESDAY JULY 17TH MADISON DINNER
Date: Tue, 17 Jul 2018 03:53:33 +0000

From: Susan Pompeo
Date: July 16, 2018 at 11:14:54 PM EDT
To: Lawler, Sean P, Henderson, Cam
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: Re: SEATING CHART OPTIONS FOR TUESDAY JULY 17TH MADISON DINNER

Mike wants to go with Option #1 for seating.
Thank you,
Susan

On Jul 16, 2018, at 10:06 PM, [redacted] wrote:

Thank you Chief. You are right on that there is really NO wrong way to seat such a social dinner. Absolutely your choice Mrs. Pompeo. We just wanted to ensure you had the more formal protocol options. (We always feel obligated to provide those options.) And those two
options, #2 and #3 DO focus on the 4 government couples being seated CLOSER to you and the Secretary.

But again, that route is NOT necessary. Yes, traditionally preferred protocol splits couples up—but MANY larger dinners today WILL keep couples together. No law against that. I would go with your instincts and obviously whatever you and the Secretary prefer. And yes, when we visited the dining room today with the chefs, it really is TIGHT to have 2 people at each end—in particular for the men. The table is actually NOT that wide with all the place settings etc.

No need to change your original plan. BUT, obviously, we can alter it any way you desire. We can revisit again tomorrow if you like.

Thank you and best,

(b)(6)

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From: Lawler, Sean P
Sent: Monday, July 16, 2018 9:50 PM
To: Susan Pompeo
Cc: Henderson, Cam
Subject: Re: SEATING CHART OPTIONS FOR TUESDAY JULY 17TH MADISON DINNER

Evening ma’am -

Cam and I are passing each other over the Atlantic right now... she is going to The Netherlands and I’m headed home.

In regards to the Ambassador, “Your Excellency” or “Mr. Ambassador” are the formal conversational ways to address him but I expect he will want to be called “Fernando”. His wife is simply Mrs. Mercedes de Campos.

In regards to the seating - I’m positive you had reasons to arrange option 1, it’s just that seating couples together is no traditional so we wanted to offer other options. It’s a social dinner so no wrong answers.

See you tomorrow!
v/r
Sean

From: Susan Pompeo
Date: July 17, 2018 at 4:12:36 AM GMT+3
To: 
Cc: Lawler, Sean P; Henderson, Cam 
Subject: Re: SEATING CHART OPTIONS FOR TUESDAY JULY 17TH MADISON DINNER

OK. Maybe it’s just been a long day. I’m completely confused. I couldn’t explain this to Mike, if I wanted to.

Using our requested seating chart as a starting point:

#1, You didn’t mention it, but I’m assuming since none of these options have two people at the ends of the table—that means that is not possible, correct?

#2, Mike is pretty adamant that he does NOT want two government people sitting next to each other. So, for instance, there is one diagram that has Linda McMahon sitting next to Mike—two Cabinet members that see each other all the time. Precisely what Mike would not want to do.

#3, How about this? Could you provide the preferred “Protocol” seating? Your note indicates there are two “protocol” seating options? Does preferred protocol seating split all the couples?

HELP!

Thank you, Susan

P.S. Cam, know you’re swamped. Will you be sure to forward formal and informal ways to address the Ambassador AND his spouse? I will share with Mike before the dinner tomorrow night.

On Jul 16, 2018, at 8:38 PM, wrote:
Mrs. Pompeo-- The Chief has seen the attached 3 seating options we put together for the first Madison dinner tomorrow evening. The 3 options are as follows and we added the second two as reference to more formal protocol. (The 4 couples with official government rank being the Ambassador and his spouse, SBA Administrator McMahon, Senator and Mrs. Cornyn, and the JCS Chairman, General Dunford—in that order.)

#1.) Your original seating with one guest at either end and the couples are seated together. The hosts are in the middle of either side of the table. You and the Secretary.

#2.) Traditional protocol seating with the hosts in the center of the sides BUT the couples are separated.

#3.) Another traditional protocol option with the Hosts at either END of the table and the couples are separated.

Many thanks.

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<Seating Chart.pdf>
Susan,

Thank you for this update.

-----Original Message-----
From: Susan Pompeo
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2020 11:34 AM
To: Henderson, Katherine C.; Fisher, Mary-Kate
Cc: Kenna, Lisa D.
Subject: Madison Dinners

Cam and Mary Kate,

Mike wants to be sure we DO NOT extend invitations to anyone for any future Madison Dinners (including the two in April). We will tread water and see how this develops, staying in close touch—as we approach the 4-6 week advance invitation timeline in front of each dinner date.

Thanks friends,

Susan

PS. This event calendar draw down represents great opportunities for us to think and plan our very best business ideas for future launch. Yippee!! In Kansas, the aviation industry cycle is constant over decades and, often, predictable. In every downturn, with major layoffs, we would always see some number of laid off workers spend days in their garages at home, tinkering and experimenting—and always we’d see new businesses applying for start up loans at banks and many survive and succeed. I loved it. American resourcefulness and entrepreneurial spirit st its
best!!

Sent from my iPhone

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sender:</th>
<th><a href="6">b</a></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Susan Pompeo</td>
<td><a href="6">b</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Henderson, Katherine</td>
<td><a href="6">b</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fisher, Mary-Kate</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kenna, Lisa D</td>
<td><a href="6">b</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
From: "Susan Pompeo"

To: Lawler, Sean P

CC: Kenna, Lisa D

Subject: Re: July 17 Madison Dinner

Date: Sat, 30 Jun 2018 15:42:30 -0400

Great. Assume that you could gin up the Argentina Ambassador’s mailing address. So hope that Joe and Ellyn are able to join us. They are terrific. Thanks to all, Susan

P.S. Would someone send home with Mike on Monday several hard copies of the invitations that were mailed, so we can see them? Thanks!

On Jun 29, 2018, at 6:34 PM, [REDACTED] wrote:

Good evening everyone -

This is to confirm that the hard invitations have been mailed. [REDACTED] will follow up with the electronic invitation on Monday.

We contacted General Dunford’s office and received a tentative yes from his assistant. She also confirmed his home address for the hard invitation, as well as his email address for the electronic invite. We can circle back with his office on Monday.

Best,

[REDACTED]

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From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Friday, June 29, 2018 9:23 AM

To: Lawler, Sean P; Susan Pompeo

Cc: Kenna, Lisa D

Subject: RE: July 17 Madison Dinner

[REDACTED]

Thank you sir. Wonderful news.
From: Lawler, Sean P
Date: June 29, 2018 at 9:21:41 AM EDT
To: Susan Pompeo
Cc: Kenna, Lisa D
Subject: RE: July 17 Madison Dinner

Morning Ma'am -

I spoke to Ambassador Fernando Oris de Roa (OH-Rees day ROW-uh) of the Argentine Republic and he and his wife are honored to accept the invitation. He is currently in Argentina but will be back in DC next week. As directed, we will follow-up with the formal invitation.

v/r
Sean

v/r
Ambassador Sean P. Lawler
Chief of Protocol of the United States

-----Original Message-----
From: Susan Pompeo
Sent: Thursday, June 28, 2018 10:52 PM
To: Lawler, Sean P. Kenna, Lisa D
Cc: 
Subject: July 17 Madison Dinner

All,

for the July 17 dinner, Mike would like to invite:

Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff General Joseph and Ellyn Dunford
Amb. Lawler is confirming our foreign Ambassador guests for July 17.

Thank you,

Susan

Sent from my iPhone

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