



**United States Department of State**

***Washington, D.C. 20520***

November 29, 2022

Case No. FL-2020-00134

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 October 28, 2022, 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 two responsive records subject to the FOIA. We have determined that both records may be released in part.

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 record. 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](mailto: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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Diamonece Hickson", written in a cursive style.

Diamonece Hickson  
Chief, Litigation and Appeals Branch  
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:

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

(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

<b>From:</b>	"Lawler, Sean P" (b)(6)
<b>To:</b>	(b)(6)
<b>CC:</b>	(b)(6)
<b>Subject:</b>	RE: NOV. 8TH MADISON DINNER DOCUMENTS/RUN OF SHOW, SEATING, MENU, FACEBOOK, FINAL GUEST LIST/CURRENT MASTER LIST
<b>Date:</b>	Fri, 2 Nov 2018 20:06:44 +0000

Thanks!

**Official**  
UNCLASSIFIED

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**From:** (b)(6)  
**Sent:** Friday, November 2, 2018 4:02 PM  
**To:** Lawler, Sean P (b)(6)  
**Cc:** (b)(6)  
**Subject:** RE: NOV. 8TH MADISON DINNER DOCUMENTS/RUN OF SHOW, SEATING, MENU, FACEBOOK, FINAL GUEST LIST/CURRENT MASTER LIST

**I know, I know. But we WILL get there. Sorry for such a hassle but the card's original complexity has NOT made this task easy. But (b)(6) and I will ensure we stay on TOP of the timelines. If need be, we have to work extra hours.**

**Thank you.**

(b)(6)

**Official**  
UNCLASSIFIED

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**From:** Lawler, Sean P  
**Sent:** Friday, November 2, 2018 4:00 PM  
**To:** (b)(6)  
**Cc:** (b)(6)  
**Subject:** RE: NOV. 8TH MADISON DINNER DOCUMENTS/RUN OF SHOW, SEATING, MENU, FACEBOOK, FINAL GUEST LIST/CURRENT MASTER LIST

We are in great shape with Madison... the dang card is the only thing giving me grief.

Have a great weekend!

**Official**  
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**From:** (b)(6)  
**Sent:** Friday, November 2, 2018 3:58 PM  
**To:** Lawler, Sean P (b)(6)  
**Cc:** (b)(6)  
**Subject:** RE: NOV. 8TH MADISON DINNER DOCUMENTS/RUN OF SHOW,SEATING, MENU, FACEBOOK, FINAL GUEST LIST/CURRENT MASTER LIST  
**Importance:** High

**My pleasure Chief. As** (b)(6) **knows,** (b)(6)  
 (b)(6) **I think we are in good shape and we can make any Madison edits this week after Mrs. P. has a chance to review. BUT, I am in the car for the next hour so please do not hesitate to call.**

**Have a good weekend!**

(b)(6)

**Official**  
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**From:** Lawler, Sean P  
**Sent:** Friday, November 2, 2018 3:55 PM  
**To:** (b)(6)  
**Subject:** RE: NOV. 8TH MADISON DINNER DOCUMENTS/RUN OF SHOW,SEATING, MENU, FACEBOOK, FINAL GUEST LIST/CURRENT MASTER LIST

Thanks!!!

**Official**  
 UNCLASSIFIED

**From:** (b)(6)  
**Sent:** Friday, November 2, 2018 3:47 PM  
**To:** Susan Pompeo <(b)(6)>; (b)(6)  
**Cc:** Lawler, Sean P (b)(6); Henderson, Cam (b)(6) (b)(6)  
 (b)(6)  
**Subject:** NOV. 8TH MADISON DINNER DOCUMENTS/RUN OF SHOW,SEATING, MENU, FACEBOOK, FINAL GUEST LIST/CURRENT MASTER LIST  
**Importance:** High

**Mrs. Pompeo, attached are the documents for next Thursday's Nov. 8<sup>th</sup> Madison dinner. Good news is that the FCC Chairman Ajit Pai and his wife Dr. Janine Van Lancker CAN attend. SO, we are at a confirmed total of 17.**

**Guest list is as follows for Nov. 8**

**The Secretary and Mrs. Pompeo  
HE, The Foreign Minister of Cyprus, Nikos Christodoulides  
HHS Secretary Alex Azar and Mrs. Jennifer Azar  
Dr. Larry Beamer and Dr. Deborah Haynes  
Dean Steve Coll and Ms. Eliza Griswold  
Ms. Catherine Herridge and Colonel JD Hayes  
Mr. and Mrs. Andrew and Bethany Kim  
Mr. Robert Kraft and Ms. Ricki Lander  
FCC Chairman Ajit Pai and Dr. Janine Van Lancker**

**Attached documents are—**

- \*Run of Show**
- \*Facebook**
- \*Nov. 8 Final Excel Spread Sheet**
- \*Draft SEATING Diagram and Room Diagrams**
- \*MASTER Madison Guest Lists as of today**
- \*MENU for Nov. 8**

**Once you and the Secretary review the seating, we can always edit next week.**

**JANUARY 7—One Question—**

**The Chief advised we may want to consider inviting the (b)(6) to  
January 7<sup>th</sup> since the December 10 dinner is cancelled. Please advise if you and  
the Secretary want us to proceed with that invitation. Nice news is that Mr.  
Craig Wallace, the actor from the Ford's Theatre production of "A Christmas  
Carol" HAS accepted with his partner Kimberly Schraf.  
Still waiting on John Isner for January 7<sup>th</sup>.**

**Many thanks and have a good weekend.**

**Best,**

(b)(6)

**Official  
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<b>Sender:</b>	"Lawler, Sean P" [redacted] (b)(6)
<b>Recipient:</b>	[redacted] (b)(6)
	[redacted] (b)(6)

<b>From:</b>	(b)(6)
<b>To:</b>	Susan Pompeo (b)(6) (b)(6)
<b>CC:</b>	Lawler, Sean P (b)(6) Fisher, Mary-Kate (b)(6) (b)(6)
<b>Subject:</b>	Re: UPDATE FOR MADISON DINNERS JUNE 10 AND JUNE 12
<b>Date:</b>	Wed, 29 May 2019 23:11:49 +0000

Mrs. Pompeo I wanted to share two more updates from last night from the two pending couples for June 10 (GORSUCH) and June 11 (CROW).

Both now REGRETS and very sorry due (b)(6). Mr. Crow in particular very sorry to have to regret a second time.

But as I indicate below for June 10, that leaves us with a comfortable but full 18 and BACK in the Madison dining room.

If you should want to add a Cabinet member or Member of Congress or local private sector for the June 12 dinner I will stand by to hear from you. But we also have a nice count there with 12 total with you and the Secretary. And have all segments with media, Diplomatic, USG and private sector.

Many thanks,

(b)(6)

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**From:** (b)(6)  
**Date:** May 28, 2019 at 11:46:00 PM EDT  
**To:** Susan Pompeo (b)(6) (b)(6)  
(b)(6)  
**Cc:** Lawler, Sean P (b)(6) MARY KATE FISHER (b)(6)  
(b)(6) (b)(6)  
**Subject:** UPDATE FOR MADISON DINNERS JUNE 10 AND JUNE 12  
**Importance:** High

**Mrs. Pompeo, we made good progress with the June 10 and June 12 dinners and I wanted to get this update to you as I know the Secretary will be traveling again.**

**MONDAY, JUNE 10—Good news, is we have had enough regrets to move back into the Madison dining room. Just received word today that unfortunately**

Justice and Mrs. Gorsuch must regret due to (b)(6) Very sorry. So that is a firm 18 and no problem remaining in the Madison dining room.

#### ACCEPTS—18

**--The Secretary and Mrs. Pompeo**

--H.E. Yousif Mana Saeed Ahmed Alotaiba, the Ambassador of the UAE & Mrs. Abeer Mohamed Moustafa Shokry

--Ms. Shannon Bream, Host, FoxNews@Night and Mr. Sheldon Bream, honored to accept.

--Mr. & Mrs. Joe and Ingrid DePinto , CEO & President 7 Eleven/Very pleased they can make it.

--His Eminence, Cardinal Timothy M. Dolan, Archbishop of New York/AND GUEST, Bishop William Murphy, Bishop Emeritus of Rockville Centre, NY

--Mr. James Finkelstein, CEO, Pres. News Communications, Inc. and spouse Ms. Pamela Gross/Accept with great pleasure.

--The Honorable Mary Ann Glendon & Daughter Ms. Katherine (Katie) Glendon Lev/Former American Amb. to the Holy See and Law Professor, Harvard Law/Daughter is a management-side labor attorney. Also law professor.

--Senator David & Bonnie Perdue, R/GA/Very pleased to be included.

--The Honorable Sarah & Bryan Sanders, She is White House Press Secretary/accepted with great pleasure this week.

**\*\*\* PENDING—NONE**

#### REGRETS



--Mr. & Mrs. George H. & Leslie Brett, Retired Baseball Pro, Kansas City Royals/  
REALLY SORRY AND FEEL "TERRIBLE". I had circled back with details and they  
feel so badly but (b)(6)

(b)(6) Would love to attend again. She is a big Kansas person.

--Mr. and Mrs. Anthony "Tony" & Lauren Dungy, NFL Retired Player and Super  
Bowl Coach/HEARD FROM AGENT 5/20/SO SORRY BUT (b)(6)  
Hope to be included again.

--Mr. Clint Eastwood, Actor, Filmmaker (ALSO OFFERED MAY 23 and June  
12) (b)(6)  
Please consider him for the Fall/Winter dinner dates.)

--Supreme Court Associate Justice Neil and Mary Louise. Gorsuch/again very  
sorry but (b)(6)

--Mr. John Isner & Spouse Ms. Madison McKinley/Tennis Pro/ (b)(6)  
(b)(6) and again very sorry. Can't commit to either June 10 or 12  
but still remains hopeful they can attend at some point.

--Ms. Reba McEntire and Guest/Very sorry but (b)(6)  
(b)(6). (NOTE--HAVE NEVER HEARD BACK  
FROM MARTINA MCBRIDE AFTER MULTIPLE OUTREACH. SHE MAY BE  
TOURING.)

--Ms. Kimberly Strassel, Wall Street Journal & Nicholas Van Dyke. Very Sorry  
and really hope to make another dinner. (b)(6)

(b)(6)

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WEDNESDAY, JUNE 12/(New Date from postponed May 15.)

ACCEPTS—12

**ADDITIONS FROM MAY 20 PER YOUR GUIDANCE---**

-- Harlan Crow, Crow Holdings/ HEARD FROM HIM TODAY IN A PERSONAL

**NOTE-** very sorry and embarrassed to have to REGRET again but (b)(6)

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

Same reason Senator Tim Scott had to regret.

--Dr. Carla Hayden, Librarian of Congress/SEE BELOW, SO SORRY TO REGRET

**---Senator Timothy Scott/R/SC, Had to REGRET again and very sorry.  
SEE BELOW/SORRY** (b)(6)

--Would you like to consider another Cabinet Member?? OR LOCAL PRIVATE SECTOR??/JUST LET ME KNOW AND WE WILL REACH OUT. ALTHOUGH 12 IS A GOOD NUMBER AND WE DO HAVE ALL CATEGORIES OF BUSINESS, MEDIA, DIPLOMATIC,GOVT. Officials

-- ACCEPTS--12

--The Secretary and Mrs. Pompeo

--HE, Armando Varricchio, Amb. of the Italian Republic & Mrs. Micaela Varricchio

--Associate Justice & and Mrs. Samuel Alito (Martha Ann)

--Ms. Maria Bartiromo and spouse, Mr. Jonathan Steinberg. She is Fox Business News and he is CEO Wisdom Tree Investments. Very pleased to be included again and can attend new date.

--Mr. and Mrs. Stephen & Ann Cannon, CEO, AMB Group. Very pleased can attend new date.

--Mr. and Mrs. Michael P. and Jennifer Davidson, CEO GenNext, Pleased they can make the new date.

**PENDING-2/Probable Regret**

--Ms. Martina McBride and Mr. John McBride/Country Singer, Cookbook author/ASSUME THEY ARE TOURING. HAVE NOT HEARD BACK THIS TIME AND DID PREVIOUSLY FOR OTHER INVITES. SUSPECT THEY ARE A REGRET.

**REGRETS**

--Mr. and Mrs. H. Lawrence Culp/GE CEO/VERY sorry but must now REGRET new date due (b)(6) Hope to be re-invited.

--Mr. Clint Eastwood & Guest/Very sorry but (b)(6)

(b)(6) Please keep him in mind for Fall/Winter dinner dates.

---Dr. Carla Hayden & Guest, Librarian of Congress/Again, VERY sorry but (b)(6)

(b)(6) They seem to have those often.

--H.E. The Australian Ambassador and Mrs. Joe & Melissa Hockey/SO VERY SORRY. (b)(6)

--Mr. John Isner & spouse Ms. Madison McKinley/Had to regret BOTH June 10 and the 12 (b)(6). Really hopes to make this work eventually.

--The Honorable and Mrs. Kevin & Judy McCarthy, Minority GOP Leader, R/CA/SORRY (b)(6)

--Ms. Reba McEntire and Guest/Very sorry but (b)(6)

(b)(6)

--Senator Tim Scott R/SC & Guest. Again, so sorry but (b)(6)

(b)(6)

**NOTE—SPECIAL CATEGORY FOR SENATOR AND MRS. RUBIO.** As you know I did NOT follow up when we realized he was on the June 18 Senate Foreign

Relations Committee dinner list. Had left a voice mail on their office phone and they are so busy they never called back. **HOWEVER—While we thought he was an initial Accept, HE IS STILL PENDING JUNE 18.**

Many thanks Mrs. Pompeo.

All the best,

(b)(6)

Official

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<b>Sender:</b>	(b)(6)
	Susan Pompeo (b)(6)
	(b)(6)
<b>Recipient:</b>	Lawler, Sean P (b)(6)
	Fisher, Mary-Kate (b)(6)
	(b)(6)