

November 19, 2020

#### **VIA EMAIL**

Deputy Public Information Officer Attorney General's Office 2005 N Central Ave. publicrecords@azag.gov

**Re: Public Records Request** 

Dear Public Records Officer:

Pursuant to the Arizona Public Records Law, A.R.S. §§ 39-121 et seq., American Oversight makes the following request for records.

## Requested Records

American Oversight requests that your office promptly produce the following records:

- 1. All email communications (including emails, calendar invitations, and attachments thereto) <u>between</u> (a) any of the Office of the Attorney General officials listed in Column A, below, and (b) any of the external parties listed in Column B, below.
- 2. All records reflecting the content of any meetings or calls <u>between</u> (a) any of the Office of the Attorney General officials listed in Column A, below, and (b) any of the external parties listed in Column B, below, including any written communications about the meetings/calls, agendas, lists of attendees, minutes, summaries, handwritten notes, materials exchanged during the meetings/calls, and any preparatory or background materials prepared for any of the attendees/participants.
- 3. All text message chains/conversations, or message chains/conversations on messaging applications similar in form to text messages (such as Signal, WhatsApp, Facebook Messenger, Twitter DMs, etc.), <a href="between">between</a> (a) any of the Office of the Attorney General officials listed in Column A, below, and (b) any of the external individuals listed in Column B, below.

Column A: Office of the Attorney		Column B: External Parties	
General Officials			
i.	Mark Brnovich, Attorney	Office of Senator Lindsey Graham:	
	General, or anyone	i. Senator Lindsey Graham, or	
	communicating on his behalf	anyone communicating on his	
	(such as an assistant or	behalf (such as an assistant or	
	scheduler)	scheduler)	



ii.	Joseph Kanefield, Chief	ii.	Richard Straus Perry, Chief of
	Deputy and Chief of Staff		Staff
		iii.	Matt Rimkunas, Deputy Chief
			of Staff
		iv.	Nick Myers, Senior Counsel
		v.	Scott Graber, Counsel
		vi.	Kevin Bishop, Communications
			Director
		vii.	Alice James, Scheduler
		viii.	Anyone communicating from
			an email address ending in
			@lgraham.senate.gov
		ix.	Anyone serving on the Senate
			Judiciary Committee or any of
			its subcommittees, including
			anyone with an email address
			ending in judiciary-
			rep.senate.gov
		Team	n Graham, Inc.:
		i.	Scott Farmer, Campaign
		1.	Manager
		ii.	Thomas W. Arrighi,
		11.	Communications Director
		iii.	Mary Hollis McGreevy,
		111.	Scheduler
		iv.	Anyone communicating from
		1 V .	an email address ending in
			@lindseygraham.com
			winiuseygi anam.com

Please provide all responsive records from November 3, 2020, through the date your office receives this request.

# **Statement of Noncommercial Purpose**

This request is made for noncommercial purposes. American Oversight seeks the records requested to inform the public of your office's communications with individuals outside the Arizona government who have vested interests in Arizona's official ballot count and the outcome of challenges to the state's election administration policies and practices. Voting rights and related litigation are of significant public interest both in Arizona and nationwide.¹ Records with the potential to shed light on this matter would contribute significantly to the public understanding of government operations.

Because American Oversight is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, this request is not in American Oversight's financial interest and is not made for a commercial purpose. American

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> See, e.g., Arizona Election Updates: Trump Team Suing County Over Voting Asks to Seal Evidence, Ariz. Republic (updated Nov. 10, 2020, 5:06 PM MT),

Oversight's mission is to promote transparency in government, to educate the public about government activities, and to ensure the accountability of government officials. American Oversight uses the information gathered, and its analysis of it, to educate the public through reports, press releases, or other media. American Oversight also makes materials it gathers available on its public website and promotes their availability on social media platforms, such as Facebook and Twitter.<sup>2</sup>

Because this request is made for noncommercial purposes, American Oversight requests that any fees charged in connection with processing this request be limited to copying and postage charges, if applicable.<sup>3</sup> Please notify American Oversight of any anticipated fees or costs in excess of \$100 prior to incurring such costs or fees.

## Guidance Regarding the Search & Processing of Requested Records

In connection with its request for records, American Oversight provides the following guidance regarding the scope of the records sought and the search and processing of records:

- Please search all locations and systems likely to have responsive records, regardless of format, medium, or physical characteristics. For instance, if the request seeks "communications," please search all locations likely to contain communications, including relevant hard-copy files, correspondence files, appropriate locations on hard drives and shared drives, emails, text messages or other direct messaging systems (such as iMessage, WhatsApp, Signal, or Twitter direct messages), voicemail messages, instant messaging systems such as Lync or ICQ, and shared messages systems such as Slack.
- Our request for records includes any attachments to those records or other materials enclosed with those records when they were previously transmitted.
  To the extent that an email is responsive to our request, our request includes all prior messages sent or received in that email chain, as well as any attachments to the email.
- Please search all relevant records or systems containing records regarding agency business. Do not exclude records regarding agency business contained in

https://www.azcentral.com/story/news/politics/elections/2020/11/10/arizona-election-live-updates-2020-presidential-election/6229930002/.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> American Oversight currently has approximately 15,630 page likes on Facebook and 106,100 followers on Twitter. American Oversight, Facebook, <a href="https://www.facebook.com/weareoversight/">https://www.facebook.com/weareoversight/</a> (last visited Nov. 16, 2020); American Oversight (@weareoversight), Twitter, <a href="https://twitter.com/weareoversight">https://twitter.com/weareoversight</a> (last visited Nov. 16, 2020).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> A.R.S. § 39-121.01(D)(1); see also Hanania v. City of Tucson, 128 Ariz. 135, 624 P.2d 332 (Ct. App. 1980). Furthermore, because this request is for noncommercial purposes, additional fees provided for under A.R.S. § 39-121.03(A) are not applicable and should not be assessed.

files, email accounts, or devices in the personal custody of your officials, such as personal email accounts or text messages.

- If any records are withheld in full or in part, pursuant to A.R.S. § 39-121.01(D)(2), please provide an index of records or categories of records that have been withheld and the reasons the records or categories of records have been withheld.
- In the event some portions of the requested records are properly exempt from disclosure, please disclose any reasonably segregable non-exempt portions of the requested records. If a request is denied in whole, please state specifically why it is not reasonable to segregate portions of the record for release.
- Please take appropriate steps to ensure that records responsive to this request are not deleted by the agency before the completion of processing for this request. If records potentially responsive to this request are likely to be located on systems where they are subject to potential deletion, including on a scheduled basis, please take steps to prevent that deletion, including, as appropriate, by instituting a litigation hold on those records.

### **Conclusion**

If you have any questions regarding how to construe this request for records or believe that further discussions regarding search and processing would facilitate a more efficient production of records of interest to American Oversight, please do not hesitate to contact American Oversight to discuss this request. American Oversight welcomes an opportunity to discuss its request with you before you undertake your search or incur search or duplication costs. By working together at the outset, American Oversight and your agency can decrease the likelihood of costly and time-consuming litigation in the future.

Where possible, please provide responsive material in an electronic format by email. Alternatively, please provide responsive material in native format or in PDF format on a USB drive. Please send any responsive material being sent by mail to American Oversight, 1030 15th Street NW, Suite B255, Washington, DC 20005. If it will accelerate release of responsive records to American Oversight, please also provide responsive material on a rolling basis.

We share a common mission to promote transparency in government. American Oversight looks forward to working with your agency on this request. If you do not understand any part of this request, please contact Khahilia Shaw at records@americanoversight.org or (202) 539-6507.

Sincerely,

Austin R. Evers

Executive Director American Oversight