



June 14, 2021

VIA EMAIL

Kathryn H. Gabhart
Executive Director
Executive Branch Ethics Commission
1025 Capital Center Drive, Suite 104
Frankfort KY 40601
Katie.Gabhart@ky.gov

Re: Open Records Act Request

Dear Executive Director Gabhart:

Pursuant to the Kentucky Open Records Act (KORA), codified at KRS §§ 61.870 et seq., American Oversight makes the following request for records.

Requested Records

American Oversight requests that the Kentucky Executive Branch Ethics Commission produce copies of the following records within three business days:

Copies of all statements of financial disclosure filed by or on behalf of Attorney General Daniel Cameron with the Kentucky Executive Branch Ethics Commission.

Please provide all responsive records from December 17, 2019, through the date of the search.

Pursuant to KRS § 61.880(1), American Oversight requests that you notify us within three workdays as to whether you will comply with this request.

Statement of Noncommercial Purpose

This request is for noncommercial purposes, and American Oversight respectfully requests a waiver of any fees associated with processing this request for records. To the extent any fees are charged, pursuant to KRS § 61.874(3), American Oversight asks that such fees be limited to the actual cost of reproduction and exclude the cost of agency staff time.

This request is primarily and fundamentally for non-commercial purposes. American Oversight seeks the records requested to inform the public regarding the financial disclosures of Attorney General Cameron. Records with the potential to shed light on this matter would contribute significantly to public understanding of operations of the



government, such as whether and to what extent Attorney General Cameron has accepted gifts from outside groups.

Furthermore, as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, American Oversight does not have a commercial purpose and the release of the information requested is not in American Oversight's financial interest. American 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.¹

American Oversight has also demonstrated its commitment to the public disclosure of documents and creation of editorial content through numerous substantive analyses posted to its website.² Examples reflecting this commitment to the public disclosure of documents and the creation of editorial content include the posting of records related to the organization's investigations into misconduct and corruption in state governments;³ the posting of records related to an ethics waiver received by a senior Department of Justice attorney and an analysis of what those records demonstrated regarding the Department's process for issuing such waivers;⁴ posting records received as part of American Oversight's "Audit the Wall" project to gather and analyze information related to the administration's proposed construction of a barrier along the U.S.-Mexico border, and analyses of what those records reveal;⁵ posting records regarding potential self-dealing at the Department of Housing & Urban Development and related analysis;⁶ posting records and analysis relating to the federal government's

¹ American Oversight currently has approximately 15,700 followers on Facebook and 106,200 followers on Twitter. American Oversight, Facebook, <https://www.facebook.com/weareoversight/> (last visited June 8, 2021); American Oversight (@weareoversight), Twitter, <https://twitter.com/weareoversight> (last visited June 8, 2021).

² *News*, American Oversight, <https://www.americanoversight.org/blog>.

³ *State Investigations*, American Oversight, <https://www.americanoversight.org/states>.

⁴ *DOJ Records Relating to Solicitor General Noel Francisco's Recusal*, American Oversight, <https://www.americanoversight.org/document/doj-civil-division-response-noel-francisco-compliance>; *Francisco & the Travel Ban: What We Learned from the DOJ Documents*, American Oversight, <https://www.americanoversight.org/francisco-the-travel-ban-what-we-learned-from-the-doj-documents>.

⁵ *See generally Audit the Wall*, American Oversight, <https://www.americanoversight.org/investigation/audit-the-wall>; *see, e.g., Border Wall Investigation Report: No Plans, No Funding, No Timeline, No Wall*, American Oversight, <https://www.americanoversight.org/border-wall-investigation-report-no-plans-no-funding-no-timeline-no-wall>.

⁶ *Documents Reveal Ben Carson Jr.'s Attempts to Use His Influence at HUD to Help His Business*, American Oversight, <https://www.americanoversight.org/documents-reveal-ben-carson-jr-s-attempts-to-use-his-influence-at-hud-to-help-his-business>.

efforts to sell nuclear technology to Saudi Arabia;⁷ and posting records and analysis regarding the Department of Justice's decision in response to demands from Congress to direct a U.S. Attorney to undertake a wide-ranging review and make recommendations regarding criminal investigations relating to the President's political opponents and allegations of misconduct by the Department of Justice itself and the Federal Bureau of Investigation.⁸

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.

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. Also, if American Oversight's

⁷ *Investigating the Trump Administration's Efforts to Sell Nuclear Technology to Saudi Arabia*, American Oversight, <https://www.americanoversight.org/investigating-the-trump-administrations-efforts-to-sell-nuclear-technology-to-saudi-arabia>.

⁸ *Sessions' Letter Shows DOJ Acted on Trump's Authoritarian Demand to Investigate Clinton*, American Oversight, <https://www.americanoversight.org/sessions-letter>.

request for a fee waiver is not granted in full, please contact us immediately upon making such a determination.

Sincerely,

/s/ Khahilia Shaw
Khahilia Shaw
on behalf of
American Oversight