

September 8, 2022

VIA ONLINE PORTAL

Nevada Department of Public Safety – Investigation Division Nevada Threat Analysis Center 555 Wright Way Carson City, NV 89711 Via Online Portal

Re: Public Records Act Request

Dear Public Information Officer:

Pursuant to the Nevada Public Records Act, N.R.S. Chapter 239, American Oversight makes the following request for records.

A survey from March 2022 showed that the majority of local election officials polled feel that threats against them and their colleagues have increased in recent years.¹

American Oversight seeks records with the potential to shed light on the extent of and potential increase in threats to elections officials.

Requested Records

American Oversight requests that your office produce the following records within five business days:

Records sufficient to identify the number and types of threats to elections officials currently or previously under investigation by the Nevada Threat Analysis Center (NTAC).

To be clear, American Oversight is not requesting the disclosure of names, other personally identifiable information, or privileged details about ongoing investigations, and it does not object to the redaction of such information from responsive documents. To the extent that NTAC maintains aggregated information, such as spreadsheets or databases, of threats to election officials, such documents would be responsive to this request.

https://www.politico.com/news/2022/03/10/election-officials-exhausted-underthreat-00015850.



¹ Zach Montellaro, Local Election Officials Are Exhausted, Under Threat and Thinking About Quitting, Politico (Mar. 30, 2022, 5:01 AM),

Please provide all responsive records from September 1, 2018, through the date the search is conducted.

Please consult with American Oversight on any fees the agency expects it may assess.

American Oversight is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit with the mission 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.²

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.
- In conducting your search, please understand the terms "record," "document," and "information" in their broadest sense, to include any written, typed, recorded, graphic, printed, or audio material of any kind. We seek records of any kind, including electronic records, audiotapes, videotapes, and photographs, as well as letters, emails, facsimiles, telephone messages, voice mail messages and transcripts, notes, or minutes of any meetings, telephone conversations or discussions.
- 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 files, email accounts, or devices in the personal custody of your officials, such as personal email accounts or text messages.

² American Oversight currently has approximately 16,000 followers on Facebook and 118,700 followers on Twitter. American Oversight, Facebook, https://www.facebook.com/weareoversight//last visited Aug. 8, 2022): American

<u>https://www.facebook.com/weareoversight/</u> (last visited Aug. 8, 2022); American Oversight (@weareoversight), Twitter, <u>https://twitter.com/weareoversight</u> (last visited Aug. 8, 2022).

- 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. N.R.S. § 239.010(3). 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 Taylor Stoneman at records@americanoversight.org or (202) 848-1319.

Sincerely,

<u>/s/ Taylor Stoneman</u> Taylor Stoneman on behalf of American Oversight