

# Verdict®



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A News Publication from Judicial Watch

## JW Sues For Records About Obama White House's Unmasking Of Trump Associates



Barack Obama

*Lawsuit seeks records sent to Obama White House official Susan Rice about Russia collusion, surveillance, hacking investigation, unmasking identities of Trump associates*

Judicial Watch filed a Freedom of Information (FOIA) lawsuit against the U.S. Department of Justice and the National Security Agency (NSA) for information about Obama National Security Advisor Susan Rice's communications with the two agencies concerning the alleged Russian involvement

in the 2016 presidential election, the hacking of DNC computers, the suspected communications between Russia and Trump campaign/transition officials and the unmasking of the identities of any U.S. citizens associated with the Trump presidential campaign or transition team who were identified pursuant to intelligence collection activities (*Judicial Watch v. U.S. Department of Justice and National Security Administration* (No. 1:17-cv-01002)).

The lawsuit was filed on May 25, 2017 in the U.S. District Court

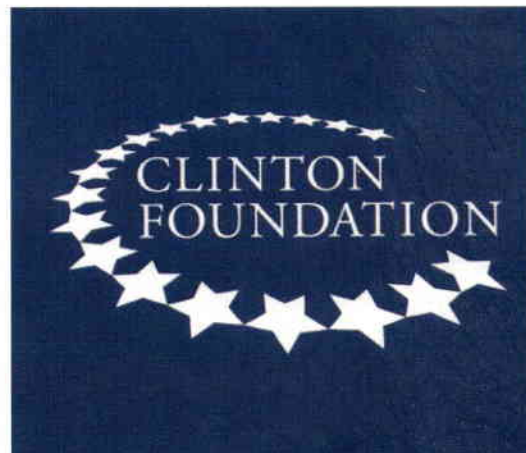
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## Classified Material Sent To Clinton Foundation

*Emails also show Huma Abedin providing government plane and hotel reservations to Chelsea Clinton for trip to Germany*

Judicial Watch released 2,078 pages of documents revealing more instances of former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton sending and receiving classified information via an unsecured email server. They also show Clinton's daughter Chelsea and others involved with the Clinton Foundation receiving special favors from Huma Abedin, the former secretary's deputy chief of staff.

In one email, Clinton deputy chief of staff, Huma Abedin, tells Clinton Foundation director Doug Band that she had "hooked up" people from the Russian American Foundation with "the right people" at the State Department.



The records were obtained in response to a court order from a May 5, 2015 Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) lawsuit

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# Unmasking

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for the District of Columbia after the Department of Justice and NSA failed to respond to identical FOIA requests submitted separately to each agency on April 4, 2017, seeking:

1. Any and all requests for information, analyses, summaries, assessments, transcripts, or similar records submitted to the Department of Justice (National Security Agency) or any official, employee, or representative thereof by former National Security Advisor Susan Rice regarding, concerning, or related to the following:

- Any actual or suspected effort by the Russian government or any individual acting on behalf of the Russian government to influence or otherwise interfere with the 2016 presidential election;
- The alleged hacking of computer systems utilized by the Democratic National Committee and/or the Clinton presidential campaign;
- Any actual or suspected communication between any member of the Trump presidential campaign or transition team and any official or employee of the Russian government or any individual acting on behalf of the Russian government; or
- The identities of U.S. citizens associated with the Trump presidential campaign or transition team who were identified pursuant to intelligence collection activities.

2. Any and all records created and/or produced in response to any request described in part 1 of this request; and

3. Any and all records of communication between any official, employee, or representative of

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**“We want to know about the Obama White House involvement in the unprecedented spying on Donald Trump and other political opponents. The Trump administration has an opportunity to expose what the Obama White House was up to.”**

*~ Judicial Watch President,  
Tom Fitton*

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the Department of Justice (National Security Agency) and any member, employee, staff member, or representative of the National Security Council regarding, concerning, or related to any request described in Part 1 of this request.

This is the fifth Judicial Watch FOIA lawsuit related to the surveillance, unmasking and illegal leaking targeting President Trump and his associates:

1. On May 16, 2017, Judicial Watch filed a FOIA lawsuit against the U.S. Department of Justice for records of communications and payments between the FBI and former British intelligence officer Christopher Steele and his private firm, Orbis Business Intelligence (*Judicial Watch v. U.S. Department of Justice* (No. 1:17-cv-00916)). (See *Court Report* article, “Judicial Watch Sues For FBI Records On UK ‘Trump Dossier,’” page 10.)

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**Judicial Watch**  
*Because no one is above the law!*

Judicial Watch is a conservative, non-partisan American educational foundation that promotes transparency, accountability and integrity in government, politics and the law. Judicial Watch advocates high standards of ethics and morality in America’s public life and seeks to ensure that public officials do not abuse the powers entrusted to them by the American people.

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# Unmasking

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2. On May 9, 2017, Judicial Watch filed a FOIA lawsuit against the U.S. Department of State for all records provided by the agency to Senator Benjamin Cardin's office related to alleged Russian interference with the 2016 presidential election (*Judicial Watch v. U.S. Department of State* (No. 1:17-cv-00852)).
3. On May 5, 2017, Judicial Watch filed a FOIA lawsuit against the U.S. Department of Justice for emails of former Acting Attorney General Sally Yates from her government account (*Judicial Watch v. U.S. Department of Justice* (No. 1:17-cv-00832)).
4. On March 16, 2017, Judicial Watch filed a FOIA lawsuit against the CIA, the United States Department of Justice and the Department of the Treasury regarding records related to the investigation of retired United States Army Lieutenant General Michael Flynn's communications with Russian Ambassador Sergey Kislyak (*Judicial Watch v. Central Intelligence Agency et al.* (No.1:17-cv-00397)). (The National Security Agency refused to confirm or deny the existence of intelligence records about communications between Gen. Flynn and Amb Kislyak.)

"We want to know about the Obama White House involvement in the unprecedented spying on Donald Trump and other political opponents," said Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton. "This intelligence operation may have led to the illegal 'unmasking' of Americans and the leaking of intelligence information to foment the story of Russian hacking of the DNC and sinister Russian influence on Trump and his associates. The Trump administration has an opportunity to expose what the Obama White House was up to." JW

## The Need for "Extreme Transparency" Chris Farrell explains in his weekly videocast On Watch, Episode 15



**CHRIS FARRELL**  
DIRECTOR OF INVESTIGATIONS

"Ironically, the Department of Justice under Attorney General Sessions is currently making the exact same legal arguments as the Obama administration — and using all the double-talk and excuses from the Obama era, too. The Justice Department remains in full cover-up mode for anything that would be embarrassing or illegal for the Obama administration. That's frustrating and disappointing, but you need to remember that the rank-and-file staff attorneys at Justice Department headquarters are largely Leftists that continue to support the Obama agenda. President Trump appears to have a tough road ahead. But, it doesn't have to be that way.

"Discretionary disclosures! Extreme transparency! With the stroke of a pen, President Trump and his cabinet secretaries can order the release of all government records concerning any number of important issues and lingering questions."

View *On Watch* episode 15 on <http://jwatch.us/Onwatch15> JW

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[www.judicialwatch.org/donate](http://www.judicialwatch.org/donate).

The cover of the *Verdict* magazine shows a photo of Barack Obama. The headline reads "JW Sues For Records About Obama White House's Unmasking Of Trump Associates". Below the headline is a sub-headline: "Classified Material Sent To Clinton Foundation". The cover also features the Judicial Watch logo and the text "The Judicial Watch Verdict".