



U.S. Department of Justice

United States Marshals Service

Office of General Counsel

*CG-3, 15th Floor
Washington, DC 20530-0001*

August 22, 2025

Mr. Matthew Oliver Reardon
Journalist
We The People News
PO Box 160144
Clearfield, UT 84016
mreardon@wtpnews.org

Re: Freedom of Information Act Request/Privacy Act No. 2025-USMS-FOIA/PA-000412
Subject: All communications, BOLOs, notices, etc. pertaining to Matthew Oliver Reardon (AKA Don Matthews)

Dear Requester:

The United States Marshals Service (USMS) is responding to your request received by USMS on June 27, 2025 for the following:

- "1. All communications (emails, letters, faxes, memoranda, reports, notes, text messages, bulletins, BOLOs, or any other correspondence) sent to or received from Lafayette County or Oxford, Mississippi, and/or any law enforcement or government entity or official therein, including but not limited to the Lafayette County Sheriff's Department, Oxford Police Department, Lafayette County Circuit Clerk's Office, and any other government official or agency, referencing or relating to myself, Matthew Oliver Reardon (also known as Don Matthews), from January 1, 2025, to the present.*
- 2. All internal bulletins, BOLO (Be On Lookout) notices, advisories, alerts, or any other information or communication distributed internally or externally to any law enforcement agencies or federal offices referencing or pertaining to me, Matthew Oliver Reardon (Don Matthews), following incidents occurring on June 23, 2025, and June 26, 2025, at the U.S. District Court, Lafayette, Louisiana.*
- 3. Any and all communications or transmissions, internal or external, referencing my prior interactions with any law enforcement agencies or court entities in Lafayette County, Mississippi; Galveston, Texas; or Layton, Utah, specifically concerning or referencing alleged criminal history, prior litigation, civil rights activism, journalism activities, or any other investigative information gathered or transmitted.*

Date range for record search: From 1/1/2025 to 6/27/2025."

Pursuant to your request, the USMS conducted a search for records responsive to your request and located 14 pages of responsive documentation within the following offices/divisions:

Judicial Security Division (JSD)
Western District of Louisiana (W/LA)
Northern District of Mississippi (N/MS)
Southern District of Texas (S/TX)
District of Utah (D/UT)

To provide you with the greatest degree of access authorized by the Freedom of Information Act ("FOIA") and the Privacy Act, we have considered your request in light of the provisions of both statutes. The records you seek are located in a Privacy Act system of records that, in accordance with regulations promulgated by the Department of Justice, is exempt from the access provisions of the Privacy Act. See 28 C.F.R. § 16.101. Accordingly, to permit access to the records, your request was processed under the provisions of the FOIA.

To withhold a responsive record in whole or part, an agency must show both that the record falls within a FOIA exemption, 5 U.S.C. § 552(b), and that the agency "reasonably foresees that disclosure would harm an interest protected by exemption." See § 552(a)(8)(A)(i)(I); *Machado Amadis v. U.S. Dep't of State*, 971 F.3d 364 (D.C. Cir. 2020). As described in this correspondence, the USMS reviewed responsive records to your request and asserted FOIA exemptions as appropriate. Further, the USMS has determined it is reasonably foreseeable that disclosure of the withheld information would harm an agency interest protected by the exemption. These pages are released to you with portions of 10 page(s) in part pursuant to the following Exemptions of the FOIA, 5 U.S.C. § 552(b):

(b)(6), FOIA Exemption (b)(6) allows an agency to withhold personnel, medical, and similar files, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy. Records that apply to or describe a particular individual, including investigative records, qualify as "personnel," "medical," or "similar files" under Exemption 6. A discretionary release of such records is not appropriate. See *United States Department of Justice (DOJ) v. Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press*, 489 U.S. 749 (1989).

(b)(7)(C), FOIA Exemption (b)(7)(C) protects records or information compiled for law enforcement purposes to the extent that the production of such records or information could reasonably be expected to constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy. A discretionary release of such records is not appropriate. See *United States Department of Justice (DOJ) v. Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press*, 489 U.S. 749 (1989). Accordingly, the personally identifiable information of law enforcement officers and government employees was withheld from the responsive documentation. The disclosure of such sensitive information contained in records compiled for law enforcement purposes to the public could subject law enforcement officers and other government personnel to harassment and unwelcome contact. This could disrupt and impede official agency activity, as well as endanger the safety of law enforcement officials. Additionally, the personally identifiable information of third parties named in the records was withheld. The disclosure of third-party information could constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy and subject the individuals to embarrassment, harassment, and undue public attention. Individuals have a recognized privacy interest in not being publicly associated with law enforcement investigations, not being

associated unwarrantedly with alleged criminal activity, and controlling how communications about them are disseminated.

(b)(7)(E), FOIA Exemption (b)(7)(E) exempts from release information that would disclose law enforcement techniques or procedures, the disclosure of which could reasonably be expected to risk circumvention of the law. Public disclosure of law enforcement techniques and procedures could allow people seeking to violate the law to take preemptive steps to counter actions taken by USMS during investigatory operations. Information pertaining to case selection, case development, and investigatory methods are law enforcement techniques and procedures that are not commonly known. The disclosure of this information serves no public benefit and would have an adverse impact on agency operations. Furthermore, public disclosure of information such as internal URLs, codes, and internal identifying numbers could assist unauthorized parties in deciphering the meaning of the codes and numbers, aid in gaining improper access to law enforcement databases, and assist in the unauthorized party's navigation of these databases. This disclosure of techniques for navigating the databases could permit people seeking to violate the law to gain sensitive knowledge and take preemptive steps to counter actions taken by USMS during investigatory operations. The disclosure of this information serves no public benefit and would not assist the public in understanding how the agency is carrying out its statutory responsibilities.

(b)(7)(F), FOIA Exemption (b)(7)(F) protects law enforcement information that "could reasonably be expected to endanger the life or physical safety of any individual." 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(7)(F). Courts have routinely upheld the use of Exemption (b)(7)(F) to protect the identities of law enforcement agents, as well as protect the names and identifying information of non-law enforcement federal employees, local law enforcement personnel, and other third persons in connection with particular law enforcement matters. See *Garza v. U.S. Marshals Serv., et al.*, Civ. A. No. 16-0976, 2018 WL 4680205, * 17 (D.D.C. Sept. 28, 2018); *Hammouda v. Dep't of Justice*, 920 F. Supp. 2d 16, 26 (D.D.C. 2013); *Fischer v. Dep't of Justice*, 723 F. Supp. 2d 104, 111 (D.D.C. 2010); *Blanton v. Dep't of Justice*, 182 F. Supp. 2d 81, 87 (D.D.C. 2002).

For your information, Congress excluded three discrete categories of law enforcement and national security records from the requirements of the FOIA. See 5 U.S.C. 552(c) (2006 & Supp. IV (2010)). This response is limited to those records that are subject to the requirements of the FOIA. This is a standard notification that is given to all our requesters and should not be taken as an indication that excluded records do, or do not, exist.

If you are not satisfied with the USMS determination in response to this request, you may administratively appeal by writing to the Director, Office of Information Policy (OIP), United States Department of Justice, 441 G Street, NW, 6th Floor, Washington, D.C. 20530, or you may submit an appeal through OIP's FOIA STAR portal by creating an account following the instructions on OIP's website: <https://www.justice.gov/oip/submit-and-track-request-or-appeal>. Your appeal must be postmarked or electronically transmitted within 90 days of the date of my response to your request. If you submit your appeal by mail, both the letter and the envelope should

be clearly marked "Freedom of Information Act Appeal." If possible, please provide a copy of your original request and this response letter with your appeal.

You may also contact Charlotte Luckstone or our FOIA Public Liaison at (703) 740-3943 for any further assistance and to discuss any aspect of your request. Additionally, you may contact the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) at the National Archives and Records Administration to inquire about the FOIA mediation services they offer. The contact information for OGIS is as follows: Office of Government Information Services, National Archives and Records Administration, Room 2510, 8601 Adelphi Road, College Park, Maryland 20740-6001; e-mail at ogis@nara.gov; telephone at 202-741-5770; toll free at 1-877-684-6448; or facsimile at 202-741-5769.

Sincerely,

/s/ TW for

Charlotte Luckstone
Assistant Deputy General Counsel
FOIA/PA Officer
Office of General Counsel

Enclosure