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DATE: 3/10/17

FROM: KATE DOYLE, NATIONAL SECURITY ARCHIVE

TO: SECRET SERVICE, FOIA OFFICE

Fax Number: (202) 406 - 5586

Number of pages **Following** cover sheet :.....6

The National Security Archive

New York Office 120 Wall Street 31st Floor New York, NY 10005 nsarchive.org



Kate Doyle Senior Analyst Tel: (646) 792-7254

March 10, 2017

FOIA Officer Secret Service Communications Center (FOIA/PA) 245 Murray Lane Building T-5 Washington, D.C. 20223

Re: Expedited Request under the FOIA

Dear FOIA Officer:

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), Kate Doyle, on behalf of herself and the National Security Archive, the Knight First Amendment Institute at Columbia University, and Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington hereby request the following:

- (1) The Worker and Visitor Entrance System (WAVES) records and Access Control Records System (ACR) records dating from January 20, 2017 until March 8, 2017.
- (2) Records of presidential visitors at Mar-a-Lago and Trump Tower from January 20, 2017 to March 8, 2017.

This request specifically seeks the same 28 fields of data that previously were posted on the White House Visitor Records Requests website.

Pursuant to the FOIA and Department of Homeland Security regulations, we request expedition of this request because it involves an urgency to inform the public about an actual or alleged federal government activity and is made by entities primarily engaged in disseminating information. Further, the subject of this request concerns a matter of widespread and exceptional media interest in which there exist possible questions about the government's integrity which affect public confidence.

White House visitor logs, first made available by the Obama administration, have proven to be an invaluable resource in determining the outside influences to which the president is subject. Countless articles have been written by a wide variety of publications based in part on information gleaned from the visitor logs. Moreover, significant concerns have been raised about how the president is using his private properties at Mar-a-Lago and Trump Tower. The requested records will shed light on this equally important issue. Underlining the exceptional interest in accessing these logs, eight Senators sent letters to the president and Secret Service on March 6, 2017, urging the release of the WAVES data. The issue has been covered by media publications including *The Daily Beast* and *Politico*. Under these circumstances this request

qualifies for expedition.

If you regard any of these documents as potentially exempt from the FOIA's disclosure requirements, we request that you nonetheless exercise your discretion to disclose them. As the FOIA requires, please release all reasonably segregable non-exempt portions of documents. To permit us to reach an intelligent and informed decision whether or not to file an administrative appeal of any denied material, please describe any withheld records (or portions thereof) and explain the basis for your exemption claims.

Ms. Doyle is the National Security Archive's senior analyst of U.S. policy in Latin America. Based at the Archive's office in New York, she works with other scholars, journalists, human rights groups, truth commissions, prosecutors and judges to open and analyze government files from secret archives that shed light on state violence. She is the author of several dozen book chapters and articles that have appeared in scholarly publications such as the *World Policy Journal* and in media ranging from *Harper's Magazine* to Mexico's *Proceso*.

The Knight First Amendment Institute is a newly established organization at Columbia University dedicated to defending and strengthening the freedoms of speech and the press in the digital age. Research and public education are essential to the Institute's mission. Obtaining information about government activity, analyzing that information, and publishing and disseminating it to the press and public are among the core activities the Institute was established to perform.

Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington (CREW) is a non-profit corporation organized under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. CREW is committed to protecting the public's right to be aware of the activities of government officials, to ensuring the integrity of those officials, and to highlighting and working to reduce the influence of money on politics. CREW uses a combination of research, litigation, and advocacy to advance its mission. CREW brought the original Freedom of Information case that persuaded the Obama administration to set up the automatic system of publishing White House visitor logs.

As a representative of the news media, the National Security Archive qualifies for "representative of the news media" status under 5 U.S.C. Sec. 552(a)(4)(A)(ii)(II) and, therefore, may not be charged search and review fees. (See *National Security Archive v. U.S. Department of Defense*, 880 F.2d 1381 (D.C. Cir. 1989), *cert denied*, 110 S Ct. 1478 (1990)). This request is made as part of a scholarly and news research project that is intended for publication and is not for commercial use. For details on the Archive's research and extensive publication activities please see our website at www.nsarchive.org.

The Knight Institute also qualifies for a waiver of search and review fees on the grounds that it qualifies both as a "representative of the news media" and as an "educational . . . institution" whose purposes include "scholarly . . . research" and the records are not sought for commercial use. 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(4)(A)(ii)(II). Situated within a prominent academic research university, the Institute will perform scholarly research on the application of the First Amendment in the digital era. The Institute is in the midst of inaugurating a research program that will bring together academics and practitioners of different disciplines to study contemporary First Amendment issues and offer informed, non-partisan commentary and solutions. It will publish that commentary in many forms—in scholarly publications, in long-form reports, and in short-form essays.

Please notify me before incurring any photocopying costs over \$100.

If you have any questions regarding the identity of these records, their location, the scope of the request or any other matters, please call me by phone at (646) 792-7254 or via e-mail at foiamail@gwu.edu.

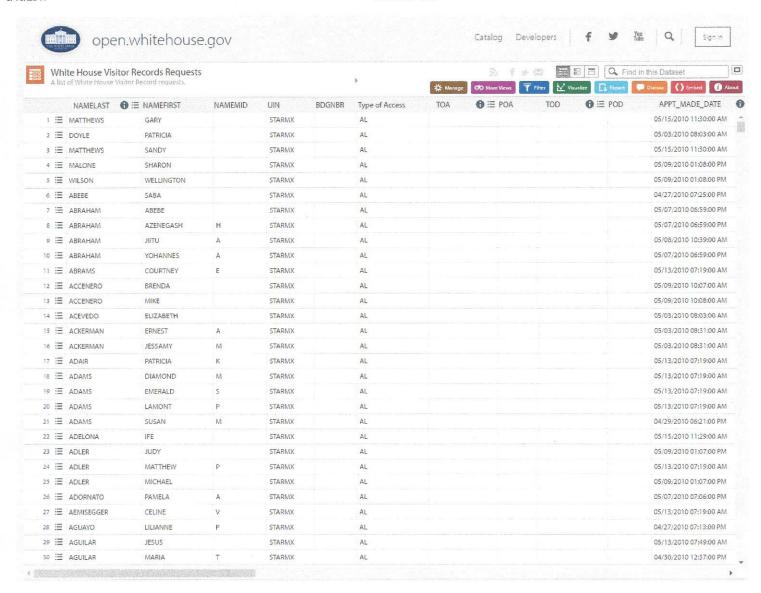
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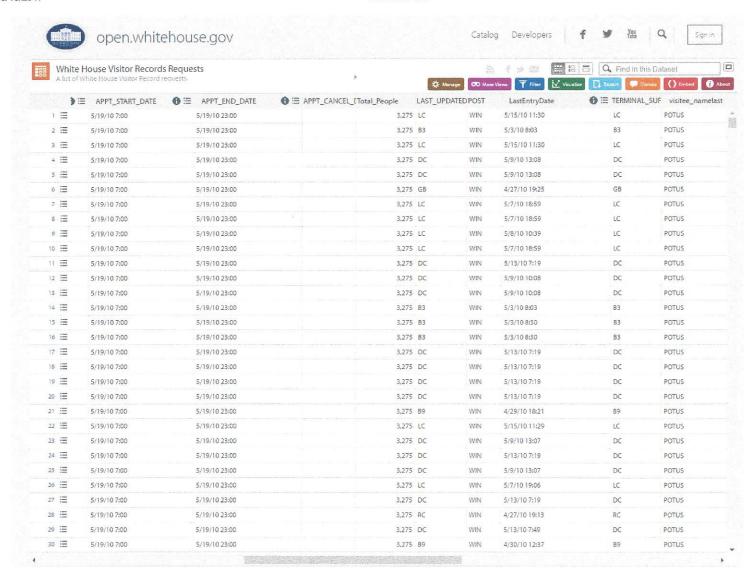
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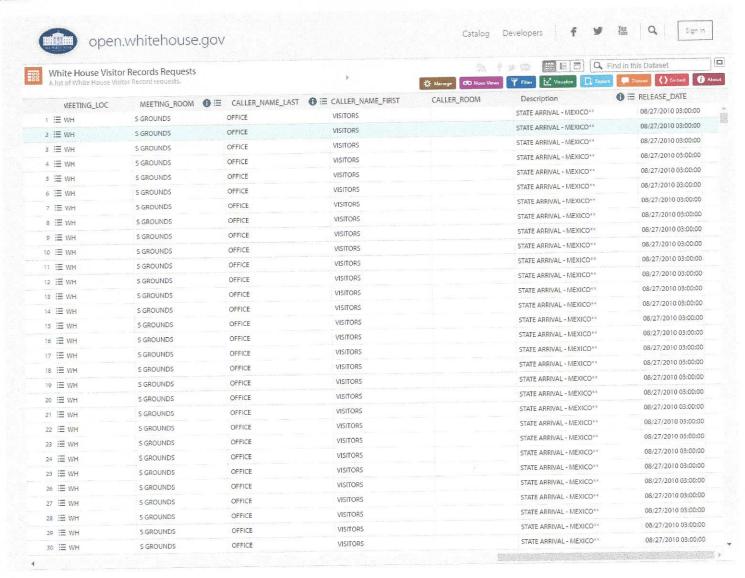
Cc: Jameel Jaffer, Founding Director, Knight First Amendment Institute, Columbia University

Tom Blanton, Executive Director, National Security Archive

Anne Weismann, Chief FOIA Counsel, Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington









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