

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
FOI/PA  
DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET  
FOI/PA# 22-cv-1921

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# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

## Electronic Communication

Title: (U) [Redacted]

Date: 02/14/2022

From: WASHINGTON FIELD

[Redacted]

Contact: [Redacted]

b3 -5  
b6 -1  
b7C -1  
b7E -1,2,3,7  
b7F -1

Approved By: [Redacted]

Drafted By: [Redacted]

(U)

Case ID #: [Redacted]

~~(S//NF)~~ NARA Referral (Sensitive Investigative Matter)  
SENSITIVE INVESTIGATIVE MATTER

(U)

Synopsis: ~~(S//NF)~~ NARA Referral (Sensitive Investigative Matter)

~~Reason: 1.4 (b)  
Derived From: FBI NSICG  
Declassify On: 50X1-HUM~~

Details: (U//FOUO) On February 9, 2022, the United States (US) Department of Justice (DOJ) received a US National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) referral outlining a potential threat to national security. The matter will be treated as a SENSITIVE INVESTIGATIVE MATTER (SIM), no further information will be provided [Redacted] Matter will be treated as a SIM [Redacted] Assessment.

b7E -6,7

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~~SECRET//NOFORN~~

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# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

## Import Form

**Form Type:** EMAIL - Email

**Date:** 02/17/2022

**Title:** ~~(S)~~ RE: PLASMIC ECHO - [redacted] Assessment (SIM) Opening---Record  
Email --- ~~SECRET//NOFORN~~

**Approved By:** A/ADIC [redacted]

**Drafted By:** Riedlinger Anthony T

**Case ID #:** [redacted]

~~(S//NF)~~ PLASMIC ECHO; Mishandling of  
Classified or National Defense  
Information; UNKNOWN SUBJECT; SENSITIVE  
INVESTIGATIVE MATTER  
SENSITIVE INVESTIGATIVE MATTER

**Synopsis:** ~~(S)~~ RE: PLASMIC ECHO - [redacted] Assessment (SIM) Opening---  
Record Email --- ~~SECRET//NOFORN~~

~~Reason: 1.4 (b)  
Derived From: FBI NSICG  
Declassify On: 50X1-HUM~~

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~~SECRET//NOFORN~~

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# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

## Electronic Communication

**Title:** (U//~~FOUO~~) Summary of document information provided by NARA

**Date:** 02/24/2022

**From:** WASHINGTON FIELD

[Redacted]

**Contact:**

[Redacted]

b3 -5  
b6 -1  
b7C -1  
b7E -1,2,3  
b7F -1

**Approved By:** A/SSA

[Redacted]

(U)

**Drafted By:**

[Redacted]

**Case ID #:**

[Redacted]

~~(S//NF)~~ PLASMIC ECHO; Mishandling of Classified or National Defense Information; UNKNOWN SUBJECT; SENSITIVE INVESTIGATIVE MATTER  
SENSITIVE INVESTIGATIVE MATTER

### DOCUMENT RESTRICTED TO CASE PARTICIPANTS

This document contains information that is restricted to case participants.

**Synopsis:** (U//~~FOUO~~) Summary of document information provided by NARA by email on February 24, 2022

~~Reason: 1.4(c)  
Derived From: Multiple Sources  
Declassify On: 25X1, 20721231~~

**Reference:**

[Redacted]

b3 -5  
b7E -1

### Details:

(U//~~FOUO~~) The following summary is based on an initial review of documents by the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) provided to FBI on February 24, 2022 (serialized separately).

(U//~~FOUO~~) 106 classified documents were found totaling 767 pages.

~~SECRET//NOFORN~~



~~SECRET//NOFORN~~

Title: (U//~~FOUO~~) Summary of document information provided by NARA

Re:  02/24/2022

(U//~~FOUO~~) Classified documents were found in twelve of the fifteen boxes.

(U//~~FOUO~~) Dates provided ranged from 2/19/2019 to 11/13/2020.

(U//~~FOUO~~) Document descriptions included: Agenda, Backgrounder, Briefing, Card, Chart, Decision Memo, Graph, Map, Memo, Notes, NSC, NSC Note Card, Overview, Photo, Policy Paper, Presentation, Profile, Readahead, Report, Slide, Schedule.

(U//~~FOUO~~) Classification markings included: C, S, S/FRD, S/HCS, S/NATO, S/NF, S/SAR, S/SCI, TS, TS/HCS, TS/HCS/SCI, TS/SAP, TS/SCI.

(U//~~FOUO~~) The following information is taken from ICD 710 and the Intelligence Community Markings System Register and Manual, 30 August 2019:

Abbreviation	Description	Note
C	Confidential	Unauthorized disclosure reasonably national security
S	Secret	Unauthorized disclosure reasonably to national security
TS	Top Secret	Unauthorized disclosure reasonably grave damage to national security
FRD	Formerly Restricted Data	Governed by the Atomic Energy Act
HCS	HUMINT Control System	HCS is an SCI control system that i
NATO	NATO Classification Markings	Contains NATO information
NF	NOFORN	Not Releasable to Foreign Nationals
SAR	Special Access Required	Marking indicates the specific SAP
SCI	Sensitive Compartmented Information	Handled within formal access contro
SAP	Special Access Program	SAP denotes classified information protection

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# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

## Electronic Communication

**Title:** (U//~~FOUO~~) LHM [redacted]-0098-22 emailed to NSCLB/OGC for passage to DOJ

**Date:** 03/04/2022

**CC:** [redacted]

**From:** COUNTERINTELLIGENCE

**Contact:** [redacted]

b3 -5  
b6 -1  
b7C -1  
b7E -1,2,3  
b7F -1

**Approved By:** [redacted]

**Drafted By:** [redacted]

(U)

**Case ID #:** [redacted]

~~(S//NF)~~ PLASMIC ECHO; Mishandling of Classified or National Defense Information; UNKNOWN SUBJECT; SENSITIVE INVESTIGATIVE MATTER  
SENSITIVE INVESTIGATIVE MATTER

**Synopsis:** (U//~~FOUO~~) To document LHM [redacted]-0098-22 emailed to NSCLB/OGC for passage to DOJ.

~~Reason: 1.4 (b)  
Derived From: FBI NSICG  
Declassify On: 20471231~~

**Enclosure(s):** Enclosed are the following items:

1. ~~(S//NF)~~ [redacted]-0098-22 Opening Assessment LHM to NSCLB/OGC for passage to DOJ.
2. ~~(S//NF)~~ [redacted]-0098-22 Opening Assessment LHM to NSCLB/OGC for passage to DOJ.

b7E -2

**Details:**

On 03/02/2022, FBIHQ [redacted] emailed LHM [redacted] 0098-22 to National Security Cyber and Law Branch(NSCLB)/OGC for

~~SECRET//NOFORN~~

[Redacted]

~~SECRET//NOFORN~~

Title: (U//FOUO) LHM [Redacted]-0098-22 emailed to NSCLB/OGC for passage to DOJ

Re: [Redacted] 03/04/2022

passage to DOJ.

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~~SECRET//NOFORN~~

**From:** [redacted] (CD) (FBI)  
**To:** [redacted] (OGCI) (FBI); [redacted] (OGCI) (FBI)  
**Cc:** [redacted] (CD) (FBI)  
**Subject:** Signed LHM to DOJ reference PLASMIC ECHO Opening Assessment --- ~~SECRET//NOFORN~~  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 2, 2022 2:08:00 PM  
**Attachments:** [redacted] 0098-22 Signed LHM to DOJ PLASMIC ECHO.pdf

=====  
Classification: ~~SECRET//NOFORN~~

~~Classified By: [redacted]  
Derived From: FBI NSICG  
Declassify On: 20471231~~

=====  
TRANSITORY RECORD

[redacted]

Please find the attached signed Opening Assessment LHM to pass to DOJ in the PE investigation.

v/r,

[redacted]

b6 -1  
b7C -1  
b7E -2,3  
b7F -1

**SSA** [redacted]  
FBIHQ – Counterintelligence Division  
Global Section – [redacted]  
[redacted] (Mobile)  
[redacted] (Desk)  
Unclass email [redacted]

=====  
Classification: ~~SECRET//NOFORN~~

~~SECRET//NOFORN~~

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

## Electronic Communication

**Title:** (U//~~FOUO~~) LHM [redacted] 0134-22 emailed to NSCLB/OGC for passage to DOJ

**Date:** 03/30/2022

**From:** COUNTERINTELLIGENCE

**Contact:** [redacted]

**Approved By:** [redacted]

**Drafted By:** [redacted]

**Case ID #:** [redacted]

~~(S//NF)~~ PLASMIC ECHO; Mishandling of Classified or National Defense Information; UNKNOWN SUBJECT; SENSITIVE INVESTIGATIVE MATTER  
SENSITIVE INVESTIGATIVE MATTER

b3 -5  
b6 -1  
b7C -1  
b7E -1,2  
b7F -1

**Synopsis:** (U//~~FOUO~~) To document LHM [redacted] 0134-22 emailed to NSCLB/OGC for passage to DOJ

~~Reason: 1.4 (b)  
Derived From: FBI NSICG  
Declassify On: 20471231~~

(U)

**Enclosure(s):** Enclosed are the following items:

- 1. ~~(S//NF)~~ LHM [redacted] 0134-22

b7E -2

### Details:

On 03/29/2022, FBIHQ [redacted] emailed an updated version of LHM [redacted] 0134-22 to National Security Cyber and Law Branch(NSCLB)/OGC for passage to DOJ. The updated version includes Section 2205(2)(b) of Title 44 of the U.S. Code which permits an incumbent President to seek access to Presidential records that are otherwise restricted from public access.

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~~SECRET//NOFORN~~

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# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

## Import Form

Form Type: [redacted] Complaint Form

Date: 04/01/2022

Title: ~~S//NF~~ NARA Referral (Sensitive Investigative Matter)

Approved By: [redacted]

Drafted By: [redacted]

Case ID #: [redacted]

~~(S//NF)~~ PLASMIC ECHO; Mishandling of  
Classified or National Defense  
Information; UNKNOWN SUBJECT; SENSITIVE  
INVESTIGATIVE MATTER

~~(S//NF)~~ PLASMIC ECHO; Mishandling of  
Classified or National Defense  
Information; UNKNOWN SUBJECT; SENSITIVE  
INVESTIGATIVE MATTER; [redacted]

b3 -5  
b6 -1  
b7C -1  
b7E -1,7  
b7F -1

Synopsis: U//FOUO DOCUMENT SYNOPSIS CREATED ON 04-01-2022 04:38 PM--SEE  
[redacted] FOR CURRENT ASSESSMENT DATA.

b7E -6,7

(U//FOUO) On February 9, 2022, the United States (US) Department of  
Justice (DOJ) received a US National Archives and Records Administration  
(NARA) referral outlining a potential threat to national security. The  
matter will be treated as a SENSITIVE INVESTIGATIVE MATTER (SIM), no  
further information will be provided within [redacted] Matter will be  
treated as a SIM - [redacted] Assessment.

~~Reason: 1.4 (b)  
Derived From: FBI NSICG  
Declassify On: 50X1-HUM~~

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# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

## Import Form

Form Type: EMAIL - Email

Date: 08/17/2022

Title: (U//~~FOUO~~) Department of Justice motion to unseal

Approved By: SSA

[Redacted]

b3 -5  
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b7C -1  
b7E -1  
b7F -1

Drafted By:

[Redacted]

(U)

Case ID #:

[Redacted]

~~(S//NF)~~ PLASMIC ECHO; Mishandling of  
Classified or National Defense  
Information; UNKNOWN SUBJECT; SENSITIVE  
INVESTIGATIVE MATTER  
SENSITIVE INVESTIGATIVE MATTER

Synopsis: (U//~~FOUO~~) Department of Justice (DOJ) 11 August 2022 motion to unseal referenced signed search warrant, and redacted property receipts.

~~Reason: 1.4 (b)  
Derived From: FBI NSICG  
Declassify On: 20471231~~

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~~SECRET//NOFORN~~

ALL FBI INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12-19-2025 BY [REDACTED] NSICG

b6 -1  
b7C -1

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF FLORIDA**

**CASE NO. 22-MJ-8332-BER**

**IN RE SEALED SEARCH WARRANT**

\_\_\_\_\_ /

**UNITED STATES' MOTION TO UNSEAL LIMITED WARRANT MATERIALS**

On August 8, 2022, the Department of Justice executed a search warrant, issued by this Court upon the requisite finding of probable cause, *see* Fed. R. Crim. P. 41(c)(1)-(2), at the premises located at 1100 S. Ocean Blvd., Palm Beach, Florida 33480, a property of former President Donald J. Trump.

At the time the warrant was initially executed, the Department provided notice directly to former President Trump's counsel. The Department did not make any public statements about the search, and the search apparently attracted little or no public attention as it was taking place. Later that same day, former President Trump issued a public statement acknowledging the execution of the warrant. In the days since, the search warrant and related materials have been the subject of significant interest and attention from news media organizations and other entities.

In these circumstances involving a search of the residence of a former President, the government hereby requests that the Court unseal the Notice of Filing and its attachment (Docket Entry 17), absent objection by former President Trump. The attachment to that Notice consists of:

- The search warrant signed and approved by the Court on August 5, 2022, including Attachments A and B; and

- The redacted Property Receipt listing items seized pursuant to the search, filed with the Court on August 11, 2022.<sup>1</sup>

The government will respond to the direction of the Court to provide further briefing as to additional entries on the docket, pursuant to the schedule set by the Court.

Consistent with standard practice in this Court, the search warrant and attachments were each filed under seal in Case No. 22-mj-8332-BER prior to the search; the Property Receipt was filed under seal today. Former President Trump, through counsel, was provided copies of each of these documents on August 8, 2022, as part of the execution of the search.

### Argument

#### **In These Circumstances, the Court Should Unseal the Search Warrant, Including Attachments A and B, and the Property Receipt, Absent Objection from the Former President.**

The press and the public enjoy a qualified right of access to criminal and judicial proceedings and the judicial records filed therein. *See, e.g., Romero v. Drummond Co., Inc.*, 480 F.3d 1234, 1245 (11th Cir. 2007); *Chicago Tribune Co. v. Bridgestone/Firestone, Inc.*, 263 F.3d 1304, 1311 (11th Cir. 2001). The unsealing of judicial materials pursuant to the common-law right of access “requires a balancing of competing interests.” *Chicago Tribune Co.*, 263 F.3d at 1311. “In balancing the public interest in accessing court documents against a party’s interest in keeping the information confidential, courts consider, among other factors, whether allowing access would impair court functions or harm legitimate privacy interests, the degree of and likelihood of injury if made public, the reliability of the information, whether there will

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<sup>1</sup> The redactions in Docket Entry 17 remove the names of law enforcement personnel who executed the search from the unsealed materials. For ease of reference, the documents the government seeks to unseal, in the form to be made available to the public, have been filed under seal as Docket Entry Number 17.

be an opportunity to respond to the information, whether the information concerns public officials or public concerns, and the availability of a less onerous alternative to sealing the documents.” *Romero*, 480 F.3d at 1246.<sup>2</sup> Given the intense public interest presented by a search of a residence of a former President, the government believes these factors favor unsealing the search warrant, its accompanying Attachments A and B, and the Property Receipt, absent objection from the former President.

Although the government initially asked, and this Court agreed, to file the warrant and Attachments A and B under seal, releasing those documents at this time would not “impair court functions,” including the government’s ability to execute the warrant, given that the warrant has already been executed. *See Romero*, 480 F.3d at 1246. Furthermore, on the day that the search was executed, former President Trump issued a public statement that provided the first public confirmation that the search had occurred. Subsequently, the former President’s representatives have given additional statements to the press concerning the search, including public characterizations of the materials sought. *See, e.g., F.B.I Search of Trump’s Home Pushes Long Conflict Into Public View*, N.Y. Times (Aug. 9, 2022), available at <https://www.nytimes.com/2022/08/09/us/politics/fbi-search-trump.html> (“Christina Bobb, a lawyer and aide to Mr. Trump who said she received a copy of the search warrant, told one interviewer that the agents were looking for ‘presidential records or any possibly classified material.’”). As such, the occurrence of the search and indications of the subject matter involved are already public.

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<sup>2</sup> In addition, the First Amendment provides a basis for the press and the public’s “right of access to criminal trial proceedings.” *Chicago Tribune Co.*, 263 F.3d at 1310. However, this Circuit has not addressed whether the First Amendment right of access applies to sealed search warrant materials. *See, e.g., Bennett v. United States*, No. 12-61499-CIV, 2013 WL 3821625, at \*3 (S.D. Fla. July 23, 2023) (“this Court has found no Eleventh Circuit decisions addressing whether a First Amendment right of access extends to sealed search-warrant affidavits, particularly at the preindictment stage”).

This matter plainly “concerns public officials or public concerns,” *Romero*, 480 F.3d at 1246, as it involves a law enforcement action taken at the property of the 45th President of the United States. The public’s clear and powerful interest in understanding what occurred under these circumstances weighs heavily in favor of unsealing. That said, the former President should have an opportunity to respond to this Motion and lodge objections, including with regards to any “legitimate privacy interests” or the potential for other “injury” if these materials are made public. *Romero*, 480 F.3d at 1246. To that end, the government will furnish counsel for the former President with a copy of this Motion.

**Conclusion**

This Court should unseal Docket Entry 17, subject to the presentation of countervailing interests by former President Trump. A proposed Order is attached herein.

Respectfully submitted,

*/s/ Juan Antonio Gonzalez*

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**Certificate of Service**

**I HEREBY CERTIFY** that I caused the attached document to be electronically transmitted to the Clerk's Office using the CM/ECF system for filing.

*/s Juan Antonio Gonzalez*  
Juan Antonio Gonzalez  
United States Attorney

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DATE 12-19-2025 BY [redacted] NSICG

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**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF FLORIDA**

**CASE NO. 22-MJ-8332-BER**

**IN RE SEALED SEARCH WARRANT**

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**PROPOSED ORDER**

The United States of America, having applied to this Court for an Order to Unseal Limited Warrant Materials, filed on August 11, 2022, and the Court, having reviewed the motion [and the responses filed to the motion] and being fully advised in the premises, it is hereby

**ORDERED** that:

1. The Motion to Unseal Limited Warrant Materials is **GRANTED**.
2. Docket Entry 17 and its attachment are hereby **UNSEALED**.

Any other warrant-related materials shall remain SEALED pending any further order of the Court.

DONE AND ORDERED in chambers in \_\_\_\_\_, Florida, this \_\_\_ day of August 2022.

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UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE

cc: U.S. Attorney Juan Antonio Gonzalez