Subject: Your FOIA Request
Date: Thursday, March 5, 2026 at 4:00:14 PM Eastern Standard Time
From: PardonAttorneyFOIA@usdoj.gov
To: FOIA
Category: COUNSEL - CLARIFICATION

March 5, 2026

PARDON FOIA 2026-337129

Dear Loree Stark:

This responds to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request received in the Office of the Pardon Attorney (PARDON) on March 2, 2026, for the following records:

> All email communications (including emails, complete email chains, calendar invitations, and attachments thereto) sent by any of the officials listed below, or anyone communicating on their behalf, such as an assistant or scheduler, to any email address ending in .com, .co, .us, .net, .org, .mail, .edu, .law, .legal, .ch, .me, .group, .vc, or .io. Office of the Pardon Attorney Officials: a. Edward "Ed" Martin b. Jared Wise, Senior Advisor c. Anyone serving in the capacity of Chief of Staff d. Jonathan Gross . . . from September 1, 2025, through the date the search is conducted.

Your request has been assigned file number **PARDON FOIA 2026-337129**. Please refer to this number in any future correspondence with this Office.

As an initial matter, please be aware that PARDON does not maintain records for Jared Wise or Jonathan Gross as they are not PARDON employees. Accordingly, we are unable to process this portion of your request. The Department has a decentralized system for processing FOIA requests and each component maintains and handles FOIA requests for its own records. You will need to direct your letter to the Department component you believe have records pertaining to the subject of your request. Additional information regarding the Department's administration of the FOIA, including a listing of Department of Justice components, the types of records each maintains, and their FOIA contact information, is available at www.justice.gov/oip/foia-request.html. For records pertaining to Jared Wise, you may consider submitting a request to the Office of the Deputy Attorney General via the Office of Information Policy. For records pertaining to Jonathan Gross, you may consider submitting a request to the Civil Rights Division. We hope that this information will be of some assistance to you as you attempt to locate these records.

As it pertains to the remaining portions of your request, we have determined that it does not reasonably describe the records sought as required by the FOIA. See 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(3)(A). Therefore, we are unable to process your request at this time. However, we invite you to submit a new, clearer request that identifies, at a minimum, a topic of interest and/or search terms that can be used to locate responsive records. You can find a detailed description of the special information required in order to make a proper FOIA request to PARDON, as well as the kinds

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

of records PARDON maintains at https://www.justice.gov/oip/doj-reference-guide-attachment-b-listing-and-descriptions-department-justice-components-foia and https://www.justice.gov/pardon/foia. You may also wish to review the comprehensive FOIA website, FOIA.gov, to obtain more general information on the FOIA, including how the FOIA works, where to make a request, and what to expect in response. Please be aware, however, that internal PARDON memoranda, recommendations, or evaluations related to the clemency process are typically exempt from disclosure pursuant to 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(5). We hope this information will be of some assistance to you.

You may email this office at PardonAttorneyFOIA@usdoj.gov for further assistance or to provide the clarifying information needed to continue processing your request as described above. You may also 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, 8601 Adelphi Road-OGIS, 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.

If you are not satisfied with PARDON's 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.

Please note, 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). 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.

Sincerely,

Teresita Mutton
FOIA Public Liaison
Office of the Pardon Attorney



AMERICAN OVERSIGHT