



**U.S. Department of Justice**

*United States Attorney  
Southern District of New York*

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*86 Chambers Street  
New York, New York 10007*

February 18, 2021

**By ECF**

The Honorable Edgardo Ramos  
United States District Judge  
40 Foley Square  
New York, NY 10007

Re: *ACLU v. DOD*, 17 Civ. 9972 (ER)  
*New York Times Co. v. DOD*, 20 Civ. 43 (ER)

Dear Judge Ramos:

On behalf of the defendants in the above-captioned actions brought under the Freedom of Information Act (“FOIA”), and with plaintiffs’ consent, we write respectfully to request a further extension of sixty days of the government’s deadline to file its second motion for summary judgment from February 22, 2021, to April 23, 2021, and a corresponding extension of the remaining deadlines in the briefing schedule.

On December 4, 2020, the parties jointly proposed a schedule under which the government would file a second consolidated motion for summary judgment by January 19, 2021. The Court so-ordered the proposed schedule on December 7, 2020. On January 15, 2021, the government moved, with plaintiffs’ consent, for a thirty-day extension of this motion deadline to February 22, 2021, and the Court granted the government’s motion. This is the government’s second request for an extension of its deadline to file a second motion for summary judgment.

The additional time is requested to allow the new administration to continue to consider its position in these cases. The administration has been actively considering this matter, but additional time is need to complete inter-agency deliberations and consultations with relevant stakeholders. Plaintiffs have kindly consented to the requested extension.

If the Court grants the requested extension, the revised briefing schedule would be as follows:

Government’s consolidated motion due: April 23, 2021

Plaintiffs’ oppositions and cross-motions due: May 21, 2021

Government’s consolidated opposition and reply due: June 18, 2021

Plaintiffs’ replies due: July 9, 2021.

In accordance with the Court's individual rules, a proposed Revised Scheduling Order is enclosed.

We thank the Court for its consideration of this request.

Respectfully submitted,

BRIAN M. BOYNTON  
Acting Assistant Attorney General

AUDREY STRAUSS  
United States Attorney for the  
Southern District of New York

By: Elizabeth J. Shapiro  
ELIZABETH J. SHAPIRO  
U.S. Department of Justice  
Federal Programs Branch  
P.O. Box 883  
Washington, D.C. 20044  
Telephone: (202) 514-5302  
Facsimile: (202) 616-8470  
Elizabeth.Shapiro@usdoj.gov

By: Sarah S. Normand  
SARAH S. NORMAND  
STEVEN J. KOCHEVAR  
Assistant U.S. Attorneys  
86 Chambers Street, Third Floor  
New York, New York 10007  
Telephone: (212) 637-2709  
Facsimile: (212) 637-2730  
Sarah.Normand@usdoj.gov

Encl.