

From: "[REDACTED] (USANYS)" <[REDACTED]>
To: "[REDACTED], [REDACTED] (USANYS)" <[REDACTED]>, "[REDACTED] (USANYS)" <[REDACTED]>, "[REDACTED] (USANYS)" <[REDACTED]>
Cc: "[REDACTED]" <[REDACTED]>, "[REDACTED]" <[REDACTED]>, "[REDACTED]" <[REDACTED]>

Subject: RE: Jeffrey Epstein-Related Touhy Requests

Date: Thu, 16 Apr 2020 23:06:52 +0000

Attachments: Touhy_Letter_and_Ex._A,_Doe_v._Indyke_et_al.,_No._19-cv-8673_(S.D.N.Y.).pdf; 041620_Letter_to_Robert_Kaplan_re_Request_for_Information_Relating_to_Jeffrey_Epstein.docx; DOJ_001-091,_Doe_Touhy_Request_to_DOJ.pdf

All,

Please find attached a letter responding to the Touhy request for documents related to Jeffrey Epstein submitted by a victim who is a plaintiff in a civil suit against Epstein's estate. I am also attaching the documents to be produced in response to the request. Please let me know if you have any edits or concerns. If not, I plan to contact requester's counsel next week, let them know about the production, and send them the letter and the documents. I'm also attaching their request letter here. ([REDACTED], [REDACTED], and [REDACTED] are signed off on the letter and gathered the documents.)

Thanks,

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, January 3, 2020 8:49 PM
To: [REDACTED] (USANYS) <[REDACTED]>
Cc: [REDACTED], [REDACTED] (USANYS) <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED] (USANYS) <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED] (USANYS) <[REDACTED]>
Subject: RE: Jeffrey Epstein-Related Touhy Requests

[REDACTED],

Thanks very much for drafting this, and I think generally it looks great. My only small thought would near the end, in the penultimate paragraph, where I'd suggest replacing the first two sentences with (something like): "My understanding is that you may intend to make a formal written request pursuant to the above-described regulations. [If you choose to submit . . .]" I say that only because the current language makes it sound like they were supposed to submit something in writing, or that they otherwise erred, when in fact what they actually asked for was just an explanation of the appropriate form in which to make a formal request—which they can do consistent with the regulations set forth in the letter. Does that sound alright? And of course on any of these I also entirely defer to [REDACTED].

thanks again,

From: [REDACTED] (USANYS) <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, January 03, 2020 12:55
To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Cc: [REDACTED], [REDACTED] (USANYS) <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED] (USANYS) <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED] (USANYS) <[REDACTED]>

<[REDACTED]>

Subject: RE: Jeffrey Epstein-Related Touhy Requests

All,

Please find attached an initial letter to Kaplan Hecker re: the request for information related to Epstein. Please let me know if you have any edits or concerns. Once I have sign-off, I'll send to Robbie Kaplan (by mail and at [REDACTED], or let me know if I should use a different address).

[REDACTED], assuming there are not huge changes to be made here, I think the letter/email could just go out as the next contact with Robbie on this, but I leave it up to you if/how you want to separately give her notice that it's on the way.

Thanks,

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] (USANYS)

Sent: Thursday, January 2, 2020 7:16 PM

To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>

Cc: [REDACTED], [REDACTED] (USANYS) <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED] (USANYS) <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED] (USANYS) <[REDACTED]>

Subject: RE: Jeffrey Epstein-Related Touhy Requests

[REDACTED],

All sounds good to me—thanks for the call and note. I'll circulate a draft of the initial letter.

Thanks,

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Thursday, January 2, 2020 7:10 PM

To: [REDACTED] (USANYS) <[REDACTED]>

Cc: [REDACTED], [REDACTED] (USANYS) <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED] (USANYS) <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED] (USANYS) <[REDACTED]>

Subject: RE: Jeffrey Epstein-Related Touhy Requests

[REDACTED],

Thanks for talking with me this evening about this, we appreciate it. To briefly memorialize our discussion, and to loop in everybody on the case on the criminal side, you'll be the point person for requests from civil plaintiffs / victims in connection with Epstein lawsuits, and we'll work with you on those requests given our knowledge of the relevant facts and materials.

In terms of this first question from the plaintiff, which was essentially presented as a question of how they should go about making a request for certain materials possibly in the possession of the Government, we'll plan to take a look at the letter you draft that will essentially set forth the requirements for making a Touhy request (e.g., similar to, or including, the kind of information in [REDACTED] example below), and separately sometime early next week I'll let plaintiff's counsel (Robbie Kaplan at Kaplan & Hecker) know that they can expect to hear from someone in our Civil Division, within approximately a week or so (of when that conversation occurs), and that we anticipate that communication will include the relevant requirements of making such a request.

Please let me know if I'm forgetting anything, thanks again, and talk soon.

█████

From: █████, █████ (USANYS) <█████>
Sent: Thursday, January 02, 2020 10:01
To: █████) <█████>; █████ (USANYS) <█████>
Subject: Jeffrey Epstein-Related Touhy Requests

█████, █████,

I spoke to █████ about continuing to use █████ as the POC to outsiders for Touhy requests for information relating to Jeffrey Epstein. (Thank you █████!) █████, please give █████ a call. █████, FWIW, following is a markup of a “please give us a Touhy statement” email that I have used in the past. █████ anticipates that we will be getting additional requests stemming from civil litigation by alleged victims, so it would be useful to have some consistency here. █████ knows that the criminal AUSAs will have to do all the work digging for any pertinent information, but it will be useful to have another AUSA handle the actual communications, particularly since the criminal AUSAs may be dealing with the alleged victims as victim-witnesses in ongoing criminal matters. Thanks again,

█████

Here’s some draft language you may or may not find useful:

Dear XXX:

I am the Assistant U.S. Attorney who will be handling the request that you made to AUSA █████ for certain information relating to Jeffrey Epstein. To assist us in evaluating your request, we ask that you provide us with a detailed written statement of the litigation for which you seek this information; the pertinence of the information sought to your litigation; and the availability (or absence) of means in that litigation, including discovery, to obtain the information in question. This statement should be relatively thorough—*i.e.*, it should not assume that the persons reviewing your request will have any particular familiarity with the litigation in question.

For your information, following are the general principles that govern disclosure, in unrelated litigation, of information obtained during the course of our official duties. Specifically, the response of federal agencies to subpoenas and other third-party discovery demands is largely governed by Department of Justice regulations, commonly referred to as *Touhy* regulations. *See generally* 5 U.S.C.A. § 301; *United States ex rel. Touhy v. Ragen*, 340 U.S. 462 (1951) (authorizing such regulations). These regulations dictate the procedure for obtaining a government employee’s testimony or government records in state or federal proceedings. The Department of Justice has its own *Touhy* regulations that set out the procedure it follows in responding to demands for “production or disclosure” of information from the Department and its employees for use in state or federal court proceedings. *See* 28 C.F.R. §§ 16.21-16.29. These *Touhy* regulations channel review of such demands to the responsible United States Attorney, and then provide a set of procedures for the United States Attorney to follow when considering such demands. *See id.* §§ 16.22(b), 16.24. These regulations apply to both current and former Government employees. *See id.* §§ 16.21(a), 16.22(a), 16.28. The Department’s *Touhy* regulations *prohibit* any Department employee from testifying or producing documents in a case in which the Government is not a party, even in response to a subpoena, “without prior approval of the proper Department official in accordance with §§ 16.24 and 16.25 of this part.” *Id.* § 16.22(a). For matters concerning our Office, the proper official is the United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York. *Id.* § 16.22(b). To facilitate the process of determining whether such approval will be given, a party seeking such information must provide this Office with an affidavit or written statement setting forth the testimony sought and its relevance to the proceeding for which it is sought. *See id.* § 16.22(c), (d). We will then evaluate the request in light of governing rules of procedure in the case for which the information is sought, substantive law, and privilege; specific statutory prohibitions such as may apply to federal tax information, grand jury matters, or classified information; and the requirement of Deputy or Associate Attorney General approval where the disclosure would identify a confidential source over the objection of the agency or source, would interfere with enforcement proceedings or reveal sensitive investigative

techniques, or would reveal trade secrets without the owner's consent. See 28 C.F.R. § 16.26. To the extent information sought derives from a criminal investigation, such information may be subject to, *inter alia*, the law enforcement privilege. The law enforcement privilege protects against the disclosure of information that would "reveal a confidential source or informant, . . . reveal investigatory records compiled for law enforcement purposes . . . interfere with enforcement proceedings[,] or disclose investigative techniques and procedures" *Id.* § 16.26(b)(4)-(5); see also *In re City of New York*, 607 F.3d 923 (2d Cir. 2010); *In re Dep't of Investigation of the City of New York*, 856 F.2d 481, 484 (2d Cir. 1988); *Tuite v. Henry*, 181 F.R.D. 175, 176 (D.D.C. 1998) ("The federal law enforcement privilege is a qualified privilege designed to prevent disclosure of information that would be contrary to the public interest in the effective functioning of law enforcement"), *aff'd*, 203 F.3d 53 (D.C. Cir. 1999). The Government's privilege not to disclose material contained in the files of criminal investigations is well-recognized. See *In re Department of Investigation of the City of New York*, 856 F.2d at 483; *Friedman v. Bache Halsey Stuart Shields, Inc.*, 738 F.2d 1336, 1341 (D.C. Cir. 1984); *Kinoy v. Mitchell*, 67 F.R.D. 1, 11 (S.D.N.Y. 1975) (discussing privilege for files compiled in connection with a criminal investigation). To the extent documents are sought for use in state court proceedings, note that the Department's decision whether to authorize testimony or produce documents is not reviewable in state court. Review of the agency's decision may only be had pursuant to the federal Administrative Procedure Act in federal court. See *US. EPA v. Gen. Elec. Co.*, 197 F.3d 592, 598-99 (2d Cir. 1999) (review pursuant to Administrative Procedure Act), modified in part, 212 F.3d 689 (2d Cir. 2000); 5 U.S.C. § 702 (sovereign immunity waived to permit Administrative Procedure Act only in "a court of the United States"). Federal sovereign immunity bars any proceeding in state court to enforce a subpoena or otherwise compel testimony or production of documents. See *Louisiana v. Sparks*, 978 F.2d 226, 234-36 (5th Cir. 1992); *Boron Oil Co.*, 873 F.2d at 69-71; see also, e.g., *People v. Rodriguez*, 546 N.Y.S.2d 861, 862-63 (1st Dep't 1989) (holding that "state courts are without authority to compel production of such files without the federal government's consent"); *People v. Carbonaro*, 427 N.Y.S.2d 701, 702-03 (Kings Co. Sup. Ct. 1980) (quashing subpoena served on federal employee where Department of Justice ordered him not to comply); *Jacoby v. Delfiner*, 51 N.Y.S.2d 478, 479 (N.Y. Co. Sup. Ct. 1944), *aff'd*, 63 N.Y.S.2d 833 (1st Dep't 1946).