CASE NUMBERS (REDACTED COPY) YET STILL CONFIDENTIAL:

The following are case numbers that are either specific to this case or that track data from other cases that is helpful to this case:

SAN FRANCISCO POLICE DEPARTMENT CASE NUMBERS:

OFFICE OF THE SPECIAL COUNSEL CASE NUMBERS:

DOJ CASE NUMBERS:

NSA CASE NUMBERS DISCLOSURE:

The NSA references that are most useful are they keyword search phrases for "XKEYSCORE", Palantir software and other database search engines internally: Helpful metatags and search phrases include: "Afghan Mining, #AngelGate, #BankruptSiliconValley, Big Government, Bribe, #CaliforniaGreenCorruption, Capitol Hill, CIA Abuse, Cleantech,#CleantechCrash, Clinton Deaths, *Cobalt Mining Child Labor, Congressional corruption, corruption, #CrashThePaloAltoMafia, Crony* Elon Musk, Crony Capitalism, #CronyCorruption, DACA, Dark Money, #DarkMoney, Department of *Energy Slush Fund, DNC Spy, Dept of Energy, DOE Corruption, #DOE_ATVM_CORRUPTION,* Domestic Spying, Draper Fisher Jurvetson, Election Hacking, Election Rigging, Elon Musk Cronyism,#ElonMuskCorruption, #ElonMuskStockScams, Energy Dept Slush Fund, #EnergyDeptCorruption, Eric Schmidt Corruption, Facebook Censorship, #FakeNewsMedia, #FeinsteinTesla, Feinstein Corruption, Feinstein Payola, #FeinsteinCorruption, Frat Boy Billionaire Sociopaths, Fusion GPS, Gawker Media is the DNC, #GawkerMediaHitJobs, George Soros, Gizmodo *Media is the DNC, #GizmodoMediaHitJobs, Google Election Rigging, Google Defamation Attacks,* Google Is The Stasi, Google Rigs Elections, Googles Election Manipulations, Google Sex Scandals, Google spies on you, #GoogleIsTheDNC, #GoogleStealsTechnology, Green Corruption, Homosexual Palo Alto Mafia, Green Payola, GreyLock Capital Corruption, immigration, In-Q-Tel, Kleiner Perkins Payola, Kleiner Perkins FlashBoy Algos, Lithium battery scandal, Lithium ion explosions, lithium ion danger, Lithium Ion Worker Poisoning, Mark Zuckerberg, mass immigration, #MeToo, Musk, NASDAQ TSLA, National Venture Capital Association Corruption, New America Foundation Corruption, *Obama*, *Obama* Campaign Finance, *Obama* FEC violations, *Open* Borders, *#PaloAltoMafia*, *Paypal* Mafia, #PayPalMafia, #Pelosi, Pelosi Corruption, Political bribes, Political Insider, Political

Poisoning, #SanFranciscoSucks, #SchmidtSexPenthouse, SEC Investigation, Self-Obsessed Elon Musk, Senator bribes, Silicon Valley Anti-Trust, Silicon Valley Blacklist, Silicon Valley Gay CEO Cartel, Silicon Valley Mafia, Silicon Valley Sex Trafficking, #SiliconValleyRICO, Smedley Butler, Solyndra, Solyndra Obama Payola, Spacex Failures, Steven Chu, Steven Chu Corruption, #StevenChu, Tesla, Tesla Cronyism, Tesla Has A Chinese Curse On Their Cars, Tesla Investigation, Tesla Stock Manipulation, Elon Musk & Larry Page, #TeslaMotorsCronyism, Tim Draper, TSLA,Jack Dorsey Lied to Congress, Uranium1, UraniumOne, Venture Capital Collusion, Vinod Khosla, Goldman Sachs Stock Market Rigging, #CrashFAANG, Gay Silicon Valley Finances Obama and Hillary, Google Cartel, The Silicon Valley No Poaching Lawsuit, The AngelGate Scandal, stock market rigging, google election rigging, frank guistra, Uranium mines, google and goldman sachs, Flash Boy Algorithms", larry page steals ideas, google misogyny, google racism..." and communications strings through the following email addresses:

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NOTE: "*WIKILEAKS*" DB SEARCH PHRASES AND "*ICIJ*" PANAMA PAPERS AND SWISS LEAKS SEARCH PHRASES ON THE SEARCH SYSTEMS OF THOSE ORGANIZATIONS WILL YIELD PRODUCTIVE RESULTS FROM THE SAME PHRASES USED BY THE NSA. MAXIMIZED RESULTS ARE YIELDED BY CROSS-MATRIX RETURNS FROM BLENDED RESULTS FROM ALL THREE.

FBI CASE NUMBERS:

Maybe you found an FBI file on the web, maybe you got it through a web site like <u>Get Grandpa's FBI</u> <u>File</u> or <u>Get My FBI File</u>, maybe you found it at the National Archives, or maybe it was up in the attic in great-aunt Mildred's possessions. If you're like most people, after you read it you probably had a bunch of questions. FBI files are filled with jargon, abbreviations, file numbers, codes, blacked out chunks of text, and odd little codes in the margin. Very puzzling! If you're serious about trying to understand the stuff in that file, this document is for you. Its goal is to help you understand the contents of your FBI file. (For convenience, let's say "your file" even though the file may be about someone else.)

This document is divided into two parts. The first covers the actual content of an FBI file -- what's in it, how to make sense of FBI abbreviations, etc. The second deals with the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), which is likely how the file you're looking at was obtained. That section will help you understand why some bits of text were blanked out, what the odd little codes in the margin mean, and give you some hints on where you can get more information.

Part I: The Contents of an FBI File

Let's talk geography for a second. (Trust me on this.)

The FBI's Headquarters (HQ, also called "The Bureau" in FBI files) is in Washington D.C. (HQ is also sometimes referred to as the Seat of Government or "SOG.") The FBI also has 56 Field Offices in major cities across the United States. Smaller offices called Resident Agencies (RAs) exist in smaller cities. Legal Attaches ("LEGATs") exist in some foreign countries.

Most of what you will see in an FBI file is messages going back and forth between Field Offices and HQ. It may help to think of an FBI file as a collection of what today would be e-mail messages. Just as e-mail messages today can range from trivial to vitally important, so too can the messages in FBI files.

Some of these messages will have been sent by teletype, others by airmail, and still others by normal surface mail. Some of the communications will be mundane or administrative while others will be more interesting. Documents in FBI files can be as serious as a "prosecutive summary" or non-prosecutive summary or something like 50+ page investigative report by a Field Office or by Headquarters which is then forwarded to military intelligence, the White House, the Attorney General or other government agencies -- and much of that data will be classified Confidential, Secret, or Top Secret. Other documents contained in FBI files include court documents, transcripts of testimony taken under oath at Congressional hearings, credit bureau reports, incorporation documents, military service records from the National Personnel Records Center, electronic surveillance transcripts, reports to and from the U.S. Secret Service, from Army, Navy or Air Force Intelligence, and security components of various agencies.

Note that most messages sent to HQ are addressed to the "Director." The Director of the FBI did not personally read every one of these messages. Rather, messages sent to HQ are processed by FBI agents assigned to the office of the Director. Similarly, messages from the Director were generally written by one of his staff members. (That said, one FBI file researcher commented that, "Anything of national significance or which might be of potential embarrassment to the Bureau or the Administration in power was routinely circulated among top Bureau officials -- including Hoover. Everything which alleged an FBI connection to some matter which might bring the FBI into disrepute or potentially involve the Bureau in some sort of political controversy was immediately sent up the food chain and seen by Hoover. It really is quite amazing how much seemingly mundane stuff Hoover initialed and often hand-wrote comments or instructions on -- including whether or not an inquiry from a correspondent should be answered and whether or not FBI publications should be sent to requesters.")

The FBI Filing System

You're going to see a lot of file numbers in FBI files, so we need to talk a little bit about how the FBI filing system works.

One of the most astonishing things about the FBI filing system is that FBI HQ and FBI Field Offices keep separate files with separate file numbers. This means that there might be a file number 87-1234 at Headquarters and it is likely *completely unrelated* to file 87-1234 in the San Francisco Field Office -- which in turn is probably completely unrelated to file 87-1234 in the New York Field Office! This might seem crazy today, but back before computers and the Internet when the FBI was started this was probably a pretty reasonable approach.

Because of this, a complete FBI file designator is made up of three parts:

- The FBI classification number in the FBI's Central Records System that the investigation or file was opened under. This is a two- or three-digit number which specifies broadly the type of offense was being investigated. For example, 87 is fraud, 139 is interception of communications. A <u>complete list of FBI offense codes</u> is provided on the <u>Thunder and Lightning News Service</u> web site. This code is also sometimes called an "offense code." We'll use that terminology in this document to avoid confusion with security classifications (e.g., secret, top secret, etc.), which are also called "classifications."
- A code indicating where the file originated, either FBI Headquarters or a Field Office. These tend to be two-letter codes but are sometimes three letters. For example, Headquarters is HQ, Los Angeles is LA, San Francisco is SF, etc. A <u>complete list of these abbreviations</u> is given on a separate page.
- The file number, which is typically a 3-6 digit number that is unique (for that offense code) to Headquarters or the Field Office.

So for example, file number 139-HQ-4992 is a file from FBI headquarters dealing with interception of communications (e.g., wiretapping) and is file number 4992 in that offense code at Headquarters. File 87-NY-6837 is fraud case number 6837 in the New York field office. Note that 87 is the offense code, *not* the year of the file.

HQ files are sometimes called "Bureau" files so you might see reference to "Bufile 139-4992." This is the same as 139-HQ-4992. Similarly, Field Office files are often written as something like "SF 87-1234" instead of "87-SF-1234."



A few pages marked up to indicate file numbers. (Click for 3-page pdf.)

You may sometimes see an offense code followed by the word "new." For example, "100-new." This indicates that the office has opened a new investigation in the 100 series (subversive matters) but that a file number wasn't yet assigned as of the time of writing.

A hypothetical Headquarters file 139-HQ-4992 might have several corresponding Field Office files, depending on where the investigation took place. If this was a wiretapping case in New York, there might be a New York file 139-NY-399 that is the Field Office file on the matter. However, sometimes the offense code in the Field Office may not match that at headquarters. As a result you sometimes wind up with funny situations like a HQ file number 139-HQ-4992 corresponding to Kansas City file 87-KC-1240.

As you go through your file you will see references to other file numbers. If you have a HQ file, these other files will frequently be Field Office files; if you have a Field Office file, you will see reference to the Headquarters file. If you are interested in learning more about the subject of your file, you will likely want to file a Freedom of Information Act request to obtain these corresponding files if you don't have them already.

A key point: Field Office files often contain significantly *more* information than HQ files. Consequently, the field office file should not be considered as a useless "duplicate" of HQ files. While it is true that much of the material in a Field Office file may be in a HQ file, it may have a lot that isn't there, too.

The upper left corner of reports and the lower left corner of cover pages are good places to look for file numbers. Also, most letters, telegrams, and teletype messages will have file numbers after the "From" and "To" lines. (If you click on the tiny page to the right you'll be rewarded with three pages of an FBI file that has been annotated to identify all the file numbers mentioned in it.)

It is important to keep in mind that these other file numbers do not necessarily pertain to the same subject. For example, a HQ file on Joseph Smith (100-123456) might indicate the following additional files: Los Angeles 100-2347, New York 157-2345 and Chicago 65-65192. These other files may not be specifically on Joseph Smith. Instead, they may be files which contain data about organizations or

publications or some other matters deemed important for cross-referencing purposes. Perhaps the Los Angeles file pertains to an organization which Joseph Smith was involved with for some period of time, the New York file might be a file on Communist Party infiltration of that organization, and the Chicago file might be on Congressional testimony by an informant who mentioned his/her connection to Joseph Smith.)

Because file numbers mentioned in an FBI file don't always have the two-letter code showing which office the file is from, it can sometimes be tough to tell whether a file number is a HQ or Field Office file. In these cases some thought may be required to puzzle this out.

TIP: Make a list all the file numbers mentioned as you read through your file.

By the way, the offense code gives insight into the FBI's thought process during the investigation. The Field Office might have thought your file was a low-level administrative inquiry (file class 62) but the FBI Headquarters file might be something more ominous, like espionage (file class 65).

Serials

TIP: Check your serials. If you don't have all of them, try to match the missing serials up with pages listed on the deleted page sheet that followed the cover letter from the FBI.

Each document in an FBI file is called a "serial." A serial could be something as simple as a one-page teletype message or something more complex, like a 45-page report with a 3-page cover memo. Most serials are given a serial number, although a few are "unrecorded" (i.e., not given a serial number). Serial numbers typically start at 1 in each file and increase sequentially from there, though occasionally serial numbers may start with "X" and then proceed to "X-2" and then "X-3" and so on, eventually followed by serial #1. Serial numbers are frequently handwritten in the lower right-hand corner of the front of the document in large letters. They consist of the file number (without the HQ or Field Office identifier) followed by a dash and the serial number. For example, if the file number is 139-4991, serial number 3 of that file will be written as 139-4991-3.

Alas, sometimes serial numbers are illegible, or are redacted.

Serials in a file are not always in chronological order. That is, serial #1 isn't always the earliest document in the file. If this is the case for your file it may help to rearrange serials chronologically. (Also, sometimes public source materials (e.g., newspaper and magazine articles or copies of flyers or newsletters) may be put at the front of the file and given a serial number such as "1A" or "1B"; you can think of these as "sub files" of the main file.)

TIP: Account for missing pages. If you don't you can get *way* confused. See left for details.

It is sometimes difficult to tell if you have all the pages in a given serial, especially since the FBI FOIA team may have withheld some pages in their entirety. One trick is that usually the FBI is pretty good about putting an asterisk after the last page number of a document. So if you look at the bottom of the page and see "3*" in the center it tells you that this is page 3 of a 3 page document.

Captions

Most documents in an FBI file are titled or "captioned" with information on the file subject. A caption generally consists of three lines: the name of the subject, the character or nature of the case being investigated (often a cryptic abbreviation), and the office of origin ("OO"). So a caption might look like:

Joe Blow, a.k.a. ITWI; ITSP OO: San Francisco

This tells you that the case concerns somebody named Joe Blow who is also known by other names ("a.k.a."; sometimes the abbreviation "was" for "with aliases" is also used) and that Mr. Blow is being investigated for interstate transportation of wagering information (ITWI) and interstate transportation of stolen property (ITSP). The office of origin (OO) is San Francisco. Sometimes there can be more than one office of origin, e.g., if a suspect moves. A <u>secret decoder ring</u> for some of these abbreviations is available at <u>abbreviations.com</u>.

Forms

One thing you will quickly notice is that the FBI was, and is, crazy about forms. Are you interviewing an informant? Fill out an FD-209. Visiting a foreign country? Fill out an FD-473. The good people at <u>The MemoryHole</u> have obtained a comprehensive <u>list of FBI forms</u> under FOIA, but some of the most common you're likely to run into are:

- FD-204: Investigative report
- FD-263: Cover page accompanying investigative report
- FD-302: Form for reporting information that may become testimony

Another document you may run into is a "letterhead memorandum", abbreviated LHM. This is an official FBI memorandum that was expected to be shown to someone outside the FBI.

Abbreviations and Jargon

FBI files are rife with abbreviations and FBI jargon. A pretty good <u>list of FBI abbreviations</u> is available at <u>abbreviations.com</u>. A shorter list of some of the more common abbreviations is at the end of this document.

One abbreviation which you may find puzzling when you first encounter it is "RUC." Literally this stands for "referred upon completion" but that doesn't quite explain what it means. It typically is used when HQ or a Field Office requests another Field Office to investigate something: when the Field Office is finished it will respond with something like "We are placing this matter in RUC status" which is FBI-speak for "Okay, here's the stuff you asked for. We're done with this unless you tell us differently."

Symbol Sources

Depending on the nature of your file, you may run into the phrases "symbol source" or "non-symbol source." The FBI sometimes uses informants or technical sources of information (such as microphones or wiretaps) when conducting an investigation. To protect the identity of these sources in some cases the FBI will replace the sources names with an abbreviation called a symbol, e.g., T-1, T-2, etc. Big surprise: these are called symbol sources.

"June Mail"

If you're lucky :-) you may run into mention of "June Mail" in your file. According to <u>Unlocking the Files of the FBI</u>, "June Mail was information received from or relating to the FBI's 'most sensitive sources,' including governors, secretaries to high officials, extremely confidential information, and 'highly confidential or unusual investigative techniques'" (e.g., <u>black bag jobs</u>).

Mail Covers

A mail cover is a investigatory technique in which the names and addresses of a subject's mail correspondence are recorded. Mail covers don't actually open someone's mail but they do make a record of all the subject's incoming and outgoing mail.

Correlation Summaries

On files of major significance, the Bureau often prepared a "correlation summary" which essentially is a chronological history of data contained in the file. This is extremely important because often the correlation summary identifies cross-references and related files that contain information about the subject which is not always released when the main file was processed.

Part II: FBI Files and the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA)

This section deals with things you'll see in your file that are not part of the FBI file itself but are rather artifacts of your file having been processed by the FBI under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA).

Why Does My File Look Like Swiss Cheese Sprinkled with Gibberish?

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Swiss cheese sprinkled with gibberish. (Click for larger image.)

If your FBI file was obtained under FOIA the FBI almost certainly withheld -- "redacted" -- some information. (The image to the right gives an example of this; click to get a larger version.) The way the FOIA law works is that you are entitled to a complete copy of any Government file or document

except for portions of the document that are exempt from disclosure. These "exemptions" are spelled out in the FOIA law; the FBI isn't supposed to redact information just because it feels like it.

(That said, several FBI FOIA researchers I spoke to gave low marks to the FBI for "routinely excising" materials, such as data already in the public domain or things that might be embarrassing to the Bureau, "just because they feel like it." See <u>*Gimme Some Truth: The John Lennon FBI Files*</u> by Jon Wiener for one man's quest to get the FBI to reveal information withheld from a famous file.)

The withheld parts are generally easy to spot: they're the big white boxes where something should have been in the file! In some cases entire pages, or dozens or hundreds of pages, may be withheld.

Whenever the FBI withholds information, it has to tell you which exemption -- that is, whichb2part of the FOIA law -- it relied upon to withhold the material. It does so by noting theb6specific exemption code, which it typically puts in the right margin of the page -- just like tob7cthe right of this paragraph. These look like little letter-number abbreviations like b2 or b7c....These refer to the specific section of the Freedom of Information Act that allows the FBI to...withhold this information. For example, b2 refers to 5 USC 552(b)(2). The EEOC (of all places!) has a nice summary of FOIA exemptions.

You care about the exemption codes for a couple of reasons. First, they give you an indication of the sort of information that was redacted. Second, you can infer from them what your chances are of obtaining the redacted information if you wanted to appeal the FBI's decision to withhold it. For example, national security redactions are sometimes reversed on appeal, but redactions dealing with protecting the identity of an informant or confidential source are reversed much less frequently. Third, should you choose to appeal the redaction, the exemption will strongly influence how you write your appeal request.

Security Classifications

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ALL INFORMATION
CONTAINED\nHEREIN IS
UNCLASSIFIED\nDATE 06-02-2006
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Does your document have an interesting message like that to the right? "All information contained herein is unclassified"? That tells you that at one time the page you're looking at was classified and has been through a security declassification review.

Some Reference Material

The following materials may help you as you read through your file:

- List of <u>FBI offense codes</u>
- List of <u>FBI office codes</u>
- List of <u>FBI abbreviations</u>
- And, if you want to become a serious student of FBI files, the book: <u>Unlocking the Files of the</u> <u>FBI: A Guide to Its Records and Classification System</u> by Gerald K. Haines and David A. Langbart, Scholarly Resources Inc., 1993.

Finally, let's not forget:

Handy Table of Commonly Used FBI Abbreviations

ADIC	Assistant Director in Charge
AM	Air mail
AR	Anti-racketeering
AUSA	Assistant U.S. Attorney
ELSUR	Electronic surveillance
FBW	Fraud By Wire
FNU	First name unknown
FISUR	Physical surveillance
IGA	Interstate gambling activities
IOC	Interception of communications
ITAR	Interstate transportation in aid of racketeering
ITSP	Interstate transportation of stolen property
ITWI	Interstate transmission of wagering information
LCN	La Cosa Nostra
LNU	Last name unknown
MNU	Middle name unknown
RExxTEL	Regarding telegram from the XX office (where XX will be an office code, see Table 2)
RExxLET	Regarding letter from the XX office (where XX will be an office code, see Table 2)
RM	Registered mail
RUC	Referred upon completion
SA	Special Agent
SAC	Special Agent in Charge
SUREP	Submit report
SUTEL	Submit teletype summary
UACB	Unless advised contrary by Bureau
UNSUB	Unknown subject

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