



March 31, 2020

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

Public Disclosure Officer
Office of the Governor
416 14th Ave SW
Olympia, WA 98504
publicdisclosure@gov.wa.gov

Re: Public Records Request

Dear Public Disclosure Officer:

Pursuant to the Public Records Act (PRA), Chapter 42.56 Revised Code of Washington (RCW), American Oversight makes the following request for records.

In the midst of the national emergency caused by the novel coronavirus outbreak, multiple reports have suggested that the president has left state governors without significant federal support.¹ American Oversight seeks public records with the potential to shed light on whether and to what extent the federal government has lagged in its response to states' pleas for federal aid.

Requested Records

American Oversight requests that the Washington Office of the Governor produce the following records within five business days:

All email communications (including emails, email attachments, complete email chains, calendar invitations, and attachments thereto) **sent** by A) the specified officials in the Office of the Governor **to** B) representatives of the federal government with **email addresses ending in cdc.gov, fema.dhs.gov, hhs.gov, fda.gov, eop.gov, or mail.mil**, containing any of the key terms listed below.

Specified Officials:

¹ Quint Forgey, 'We're Not a Shipping Clerk': Trump Tells Governors to Step Up Efforts to Get Medical Supplies, POLITICO (Mar. 19, 2020, 3:30 PM), <https://www.politico.com/news/2020/03/19/trump-governors-coronavirus-medical-supplies-137658>; Jonathan Martin, *Trump to Governors on Ventilators: 'Try Getting It Yourselves'*, N.Y. TIMES, Mar. 16, 2020, <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/03/16/us/politics/trump-coronavirus-respirators.html>; Eric Lipton et al., *Trump Slowly Enlisting More Agencies in 'Whole of Government' Response to Virus*, N.Y. TIMES, Mar. 17, 2020, <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/03/17/us/politics/coronavirus-government-army-corps.html>.



- a) Governor, Jay Inslee
- b) Chief of Staff, David Postman
- c) Deputy Chief of Staff, Kelly Wicker
- d) Policy Director, Keith Phillips
- e) Communications Director, Tara Lee
- f) Senior Policy Advisor for Public Health and Health Care, Molly Voris
- g) Director of Federal and Interstate Affairs, Casey Katims
- h) Deputy Director of Federal and Interstate Affairs, Morgan Wilson
- i) Executive Assistant to the Governor, Stacey Tichenor

Key Terms:

- 1) Test
- 2) Testing
- 3) Kit
- 4) Defect
- 5) coronavirus
- 6) COVID
- 7) "SARS-cov-2"
- 8) "2019-nCoV"
- 9) Wuhan
- 10) Hubei
- 11) EUA
- 12) "Emergency Use"
- 13) LDT
- 14) CLIA
- 15) 564
- 16) Epidemic
- 17) Pandemic
- 18) Contagion
- 19) Infect
- 20) R0
- 21) "Army Corps"
- 22) ACE
- 23) "face mask"
- 24) N95
- 25) Ventilator
- 26) ICU
- 27) "surge capacity"
- 28) hospital
- 29) Panic
- 30) Alarm

- 31) Desperate
- 32) Disaster
- 33) Relief
- 34) Primer
- 35) "Viral RNA"
- 36) Reagent
- 37) Swabs
- 38) "Drive-thru"
- 39) "drive thru"
- 40) PPE
- 41) Shortage
- 42) Shortages
- 43) "Defense Production Act"
- 44) DPA
- 45) Nationalize
- 46) Remdesivir
- 47) Gilead
- 48) Providence
- 49) PRMC
- 50) "UW Medicine"
- 51) "University of Washington"
- 52) "Life Care Center"
- 53) Kirkland
- 54) "flu study"

Please provide all responsive records from February 10, 2020, through March 20, 2020.

American Oversight has limited its request to sent messages to reduce the volume of potentially responsive records. American Oversight still requests complete email chains. So, for example, if a government official sent a response to an incoming message containing one of the key terms above, the email chain containing the initially received message and the response is responsive to this request.

We understand that your office's capacity may be impacted by the COVID-19 outbreak and response efforts. Should that be the case, we would be happy to discuss potential streamlining or narrowing of our request, reasonable delays in processing this request, or other accommodations. Please feel free to contact us at the telephone number listed in the final paragraph of this letter; we look forward to working with you.

Where possible, please provide responsive material in electronic format by email or in PDF format on a USB drive. Please send any responsive material being sent by mail to American Oversight, 1030 15th Street NW, Suite B255, Washington, DC 20005. If it will accelerate release of responsive records to American Oversight, please also provide responsive material on a rolling basis.

Conclusion

We share a common mission to promote transparency in government. American Oversight looks forward to working with your office on this request. If you do not understand any part of this request, have any questions, or foresee any problems in fully releasing the requested records, please contact Christine Monahan at foia@americanoversight.org or (202) 869-5244. Also, if American Oversight may be assessed fees in excess of \$100 please contact us immediately upon making such a determination.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Austin R. Evers". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the left.

Austin R. Evers
Executive Director
American Oversight