



October 28, 2021

VIA EMAIL & FAX

Representative Bill Seitz
District 30
77 S. High Street, 14th Floor
Columbus, OH 43215
Fax: (614) 719-3584
Rep30@ohiohouse.gov

Re: Public Records Act Request

Dear Representative Seitz:

Pursuant to the Ohio Public Records Act (PRA), Ohio Rev. Code § 149.43, and other applicable Ohio law, American Oversight makes the following request for records.

Requested Records

American Oversight requests that your office promptly produce the following records:

1. Any handouts, agendas, presentation materials, summaries, or notes (electronic or handwritten) provided to or created by Representative Seitz as part of or in relation to the Honest Elections Project Academy event held between July 26 and July 28, 2021 in Salt Lake City, Utah.¹
2. Any model legislation in Representative Seitz's possession originating from or distributed by the Honest Elections Project.
3. All email communications (including emails, complete email chains, calendar invitations, and attachments thereto) between (a) Representative Seitz and (b) Jason Snead (including, but not limited to, at jason@jasonsnead.com), Gary Marx (including, but not limited to, at gary@madisonstrategiesllc.com), or anyone communicating on behalf of the Honest Elections Project (including, but not limited to, anyone communicating from an email address ending in @honestelections.org).

¹ David Armiak, *Dark Money Voter Suppression Group Holds "Academy" for Lawmakers Before ALEC Annual Meeting*, PR Watch (Aug. 2, 2021, 1:55PM), <https://www.prwatch.org/news/2021/08/13743/dark-money-voter-suppression-group-holds-%E2%80%9Cacademy%E2%80%9D-lawmakers-alec-annual-meeting>.



4. All email communications (including emails, complete email chains, calendar invitations, and attachments thereto) between (a) Representative Seitz, and (b) anyone communicating on behalf of the American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC) (including, but not limited to, anyone communicating from an email address ending in @alec.org).
5. All email communications (including emails, complete email chains, calendar invitations, and attachments thereto) sent or received by Representative Seitz containing the terms “Honest Elections Project,” “HEP,” “ALEC,” “Legislative Exchange,” or “Grand America.”

For all parts of this request, please provide all responsive records from May 1, 2021, through September 1, 2021.

Please notify American Oversight of any anticipated fees or costs in excess of \$100 prior to incurring such costs or fee.

Guidance Regarding the Search & Processing of Requested Records

In connection with its request for records, American Oversight provides the following guidance regarding the scope of the records sought and the search and processing of records:

- Please search all locations and systems likely to have responsive records, regardless of format, medium, or physical characteristics.
- In conducting your search, please understand the terms “record,” “document,” and “information” in their broadest sense, to include any written, typed, recorded, graphic, printed, or audio material of any kind. We seek records of any kind, including electronic records, audiotapes, videotapes, and photographs, as well as letters, emails, facsimiles, telephone messages, voice mail messages and transcripts, notes, or minutes of any meetings, telephone conversations or discussions.
- Our request for records includes any attachments to those records or other materials enclosed with those records when they were previously transmitted. To the extent that an email is responsive to our request, our request includes all prior messages sent or received in that email chain, as well as any attachments to the email.
- Please search all relevant records or systems containing records regarding agency business. Do not exclude records regarding agency business contained in files, email accounts, or devices in the personal custody of your officials, such as personal email accounts or text messages.
- In the event some portions of the requested records are properly exempt from disclosure, please disclose any reasonably segregable non-exempt portions of

the requested records.² If a request is denied in whole, please state specifically why it is not reasonable to segregate portions of the record for release.

- Please take appropriate steps to ensure that records responsive to this request are not deleted by the agency before the completion of processing for this request. If records potentially responsive to this request are likely to be located on systems where they are subject to potential deletion, including on a scheduled basis, please take steps to prevent that deletion, including, as appropriate, by instituting a litigation hold on those records.

If you have any questions regarding how to construe this request for records or believe that further discussions regarding search and processing would facilitate a more efficient production of records of interest to American Oversight, please do not hesitate to contact American Oversight to discuss this request. American Oversight welcomes an opportunity to discuss its request with you before you undertake your search or incur search or duplication costs. By working together at the outset, American Oversight and your agency can decrease the likelihood of costly and time-consuming litigation in the future.

Where possible, please provide responsive material in an electronic format by email. Alternatively, please provide responsive material in native format 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

American Oversight is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit with the mission to promote transparency in government, to educate the public about government activities, and to ensure the accountability of government officials. American Oversight uses the information gathered, and its analysis of it, to educate the public through reports, press releases, or other media. American Oversight also makes materials it gathers available on its public website and promotes their availability on social media platforms, such as Facebook and Twitter.³

We share a common mission to promote transparency in government. American Oversight looks forward to working with your agency on this request. If you do not

² Ohio Rev. Code § 149.43(B)(1).

³ American Oversight currently has approximately 15,635 page likes on Facebook and 108,400 followers on Twitter. American Oversight, Facebook, <https://www.facebook.com/weareoversight/> (last visited Oct. 6, 2021 American Oversight (@weareoversight), Twitter, <https://twitter.com/weareoversight> (last visited Oct. 6, 2021).

understand any part of this request, please contact Sarah Colombo at records@americanoversight.org or (202) 869-5244.

Sincerely,

/s/ Sarah Colombo
Sarah Colombo
on behalf of
American Oversight