



June 22, 2018

Administration for Children and Families
FOIA Office
330 C Street, SW, 4th Floor
Washington, DC 20201

To Whom It May Concern,

The following request is being made in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. § 552).

For weeks, the Trump administration has only released photos and video of migrant boys in detention ages 10 and up. DHS and DHHS have repeatedly ignored questions and withheld information on the migrant girls and infants separated from their families. Finally today, HHS released select images of two shelters, but they still have not allowed media or elected officials to enter the detention facilities.

We know that more than 3,000 women and girls are currently being detained — and an undisclosed number of babies and pregnant women. We also know that Scott Lloyd, who heads the Office of Refugee Resettlement, has a history of attempting to bar women in his custody from accessing attorneys or abortion care.

Meanwhile there are reports of children in detention being forcibly injected with drugs, and children being sent to shelters with documented histories of physical and sexual abuse — and children's deaths.

American Bridge is working to uncover the locations and conditions of infants and women and girls, including pregnant women, currently being detained by the US government.

I: Requested Records

I am requesting copies of the weekly spreadsheet sent to Director E. Scott Lloyd detailing the pregnancies of unaccompanied minors under the care of the Office of Refugee Resettlement, the existence of which were first reported by the *New York Times* on April 5, 2018.¹

According to the *Times*:

“Scott Lloyd’s unadorned job title betrays little hint of the power he has over the pregnant teenagers in his custody. As director of the Office of Refugee Resettlement, he oversees the assistance program for the tens of thousands of refugees who still seek shelter in the United States, even with the Trump

¹ “Under Trump, an Office Meant to Help refugees Enters the Abortion Wars,” *New York Times*, [4/5/18](#)



administration's crackdown. But as the government official who is also responsible for the care of young, undocumented immigrants who enter the United States without their parents, he spends much of his time trying to stop those who want an abortion. He has instructed his staff to give him a spreadsheet each week that tells him about any unaccompanied minors who have asked for one and how far along they are in their pregnancy."

I am requesting copies of every such spreadsheet received by Director Lloyd between March 1, 2017 and June 21, 2018.

II: Application to be a media requester

To help assess my status for copying and mailing fees, please note that I am filing this request as a media entity requestor on the behalf of American Bridge 21st Century. American Bridge 21st Century is an organization that is, "primarily engaged in disseminating information, urgency to inform the public concerning actual or alleged Federal Government activity." See 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(6)(E)(v)(II). Further, our organization will utilize our staffs, "editorial skills to turn the raw materials into a distinct work, and distributes that work to an audience." See U.S. Code 5 U.S.C. 552a (4) (A) (iii)².

American Bridge maintains a highly trafficked website that frequently publishes briefings and memos that reports and analyzes the current activities in the White House, U.S. Congress and various Congressional Campaigns. The briefs and our website is reliant on obtaining and utilizing the public records to inform the public about the un-reported activities of our government³ and its public officials⁴. See U.S. Code 5 U.S.C. 552a (4) (A) (iii).

We are an organization that various media entities have credited with providing research that they based articles and publications on. Thus we can, "demonstrate a solid basis for expecting publication through that entity."⁵ See U.S. Code 5 U.S.C. 552a (4) (A) (iii). In March 2017, the New York Times published a front-page story that stated, "The Walden Group attracted little attention until his nomination to the Supreme Court, when American Bridge, a liberal research group, identified public records about it that linked Judge Gorsuch to Mr. Harvey."⁶ In addition, in January 2017, USA Today published our organization's work without credit in their article on ExxonMobil, in the section that stated, "The sales were conducted in 2003, 2004 and 2005 by Infineum, in which ExxonMobil owned a 50% share, according to SEC documents unearthed by American Bridge, a Democratic research group."⁷

² See also ACLU, 321 F. Supp. 2d at 30 n.5

³ "Josh Mandel Refusing to Comply with Ohio Open Records Law," American Bridge 21st Century, [8/23/2012](#)

⁴ "Bridge Briefing," American Bridge 21st Century, [10/2/2012](#)

⁵ See also ACLU v. U.S. Dep't of Justice, 321 F. Supp. 2d 24, 29 n.5

⁶ New York Times, [3/14/17](#)

⁷ USA Today, [1/10/17](#)



Given the preceding and the fact that American Bridge does not plan to use the information gained from these records for commercial use, yet instead will analyze, publish and then circulate the information that is gained from these records on our website, social media platform, through briefs, we meet all the requirements to be classified as a media requester.

III: Request Expense Cap, Denial Protocol And Requester Contact Information

I realize that certain costs may be applicable to this request. Please contact me when you can provide a payment amount for my requests. In the meantime, I authorize an initial expense cap of \$150 to be accrued.

I also request that you state the specific legal and factual grounds for withholding any documents or portions of documents, should you withhold any. Please identify each document that falls within the scope of this request but is withheld from release.

If requested documents are located in, or originated in, another installation or bureau, I would request that you please refer this request, or any relevant portion of this request, to the appropriated installation or bureau.

To the extent that the information is available in electronic format, I would prefer to receive that information via email or CD, particularly if providing the information reduces the time or expense involved. Otherwise, I request to receive the information in paper form.

You may fax your response to [REDACTED] or email it to [REDACTED]. If you wish to call [REDACTED], please do so between 9AM and 6PM (EST).

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Liz Charboneau, Pat Dennis, & Dawn Huckelbridge

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