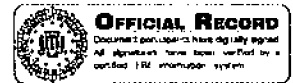


FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOI/PA
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**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION****Electronic Communication**

Title: (U) To document interactions with family members Katie Rifford, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Date: 05/07/2019

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CC: [REDACTED]

From: BUFFALO

BF-WC-1

Contact: [REDACTED]

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b7E

Approved By: SSA [REDACTED]

Drafted By: [REDACTED]

Case ID #: 62-BF-0

(U) ADMINISTRATIVE INQUIRY:FEDERAL
JUDICIARY INVESTIGATION -ZERO FILE

Synopsis: (U) To document interactions with family members Katie Rifford, [REDACTED] original complainant 12/14/2018.

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Enclosure(s): Enclosed are the following items:

1. (U) Interview notes 12/14/2018 to 3/26/2019 concerning Katie Rifford, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

2. (U) Interview notes 12/14/2018 to 3/26/2019 concerning Katie Rifford, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

3. (U) Interview notes 12/14/2018 to 3/26/2019 concerning Katie Rifford, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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4. (U) Interview notes 12/14/2018 to 3/26/2019 concerning Katie Rifford, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

5. (U) Interview notes 12/14/2018 to 3/26/2019 concerning Katie Rifford, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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Title: (U) To document interactions with family members Katie Rifford,

Re: 62-BF-0, 05/07/2019

6. (U) Interview notes 12/14/2018 to 3/26/2019 concerning Katie

Riford,

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7. (U) Interview notes 12/14/2018 to 3/26/2019 concerning Katie

Riford,

8. (U) Interview notes 12/14/2018 to 3/26/2019 concerning Katie

Riford,

9. (U) Interview notes 12/14/2018 to 3/26/2019 concerning Katie

Riford,

10. (U) Interview notes 12/14/2018 to 3/26/2019 concerning Katie

Riford,

11. (U) Interview notes 12/14/2018 to 3/26/2019 concerning Katie

Riford,

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12. (U) Interview notes 12/14/2018 to 3/26/2019 concerning Katie

Riford,

13. (U) Interview notes 12/14/2018 to 3/26/2019 concerning Katie

Riford,

14. (U) Interview notes 12/14/2018 to 3/26/2019 concerning Katie

Riford,

15. (U) Interview notes 12/14/2018 to 3/26/2019 concerning Katie

Riford,

16. (U) Interview notes 12/14/2018 to 3/26/2019 concerning Katie

Riford,

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17. (U) Interview notes 12/14/2018 to 3/26/2019 concerning Katie

Riford,

18. (U) Interview notes 12/14/2018 to 3/26/2019 concerning Katie

Riford,

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Title: (U) To document interactions with family members Katie Rifford,
[REDACTED]

Re: 62-BF-0, 05/07/2019

19. (U) Interview notes 12/14/2018 to 3/26/2019 concerning Katie Rifford, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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20. (U) Interview notes 12/14/2018 to 3/26/2019 concerning Katie Rifford, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

21. (U) Interview notes 12/14/2018 to 3/26/2019 concerning Katie Rifford, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

22. (U) Interview notes 12/14/2018 to 3/26/2019 concerning Katie Rifford, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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23. (U) Interview notes 12/14/2018 to 3/26/2019 concerning Katie Rifford, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

24. (U) Interview notes 12/14/2018 to 3/26/2019 concerning Katie Rifford, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

25. (U) Interview notes 12/14/2018 to 3/26/2019 concerning Katie Rifford, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

26. (U) Interview notes 12/14/2018 to 3/26/2019 concerning Katie Rifford, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

27. (U) Interview notes 12/14/2018 to 3/26/2019 concerning Katie Rifford, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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28. (U) Interview notes 12/14/2018 to 3/26/2019 concerning Katie Rifford, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

29. (U) Interview notes 12/14/2018 to 3/26/2019 concerning Katie Rifford, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

30. (U) Website posting "memo-to-fbi" viewed 5-7-19

Details:

On December 14, 2018, Special Agent [REDACTED] while assigned as the Complaint Duty Agent, interviewed walk in complainants Katie Rifford, born November 15, 1984, residing at 3038 Michael Drive, North

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Tonawanda, New York 14120, telephone number (716) 264-3399 and [redacted]
[redacted] born [redacted] residing
[redacted] telephone number
[redacted]

Riford and [redacted] explained that Riford was currently in a bitter
[redacted] with [redacted]
[redacted] and [redacted]
[redacted] born [redacted] resides in [redacted] and would
travel to the Western New York area approximately once a year to see
[redacted] before [redacted] and his family
are originally from [redacted] and have successful business
interests in the [redacted] area. Upon the birth of [redacted]
[redacted] began using the financial resources of his family to begin
extensive litigation in [redacted]
[redacted] Riford was represented by [redacted] a
[redacted] and [redacted] was represented by [redacted]
[redacted] The court has assigned [redacted] attorney as Niagara
Falls Attorney [redacted]

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[redacted] beginning in the summer of
2018 and the [redacted] were often contentious. As a
result, on November 3, 2018, the exchange had been scheduled to occur
in the parking lot of the Cheektowaga Police Department parking lot.
After Riford made the exchange she drove off with her and [redacted]
in the car. Riford observed a black pickup truck following her and
driving aggressively so she became concerned. At this point Riford
contacted [redacted] who was in the area and caught up
with a black pickup truck. [redacted] began following the black
pickup truck until Riford turned off quickly and was able to lose the
black pickup truck. [redacted] continued following the black pickup
but another vehicle came in and began following [redacted] Riford
advised that [redacted] and the two vehicles continued in this manner
for an extended period of time driving on and off different exit ramps
around the city and at one point even pulled into a Customs and Border
Patrol parking lot and slowed down before driving off.

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Ultimately the black pickup truck, along with [redacted] and the driver of the other vehicle, ended up in the Cheektowaga Police Department parking lot. Riford had called 911 during the time he was driving with the other cars. The Cheektowaga Police Department determined that the individuals in the two vehicles were Private Investigators that had been hired to conduct surveillance of Riford. Both sides claimed to the Cheektowaga Police Department that the other was at fault for the pursuit. Cheektowaga Police Department did not file any charges but completed a police report of the incident.

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[redacted] obtained the Cheektowaga Police Department police report and determined that the Private Investigators worked for [redacted] [redacted] Riford determined that [redacted] was also named in the report as the [redacted]

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[redacted] began doing internet research on the two Private investigators who had been conducting the surveillance and who were named in the report. The individuals were [redacted] [redacted] whom [redacted] believed were officers with the U.S. Customs and Border Protection Agency (CBP).

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Riford and [redacted] displayed internet Facebook print outs from the Facebook pages of [redacted] The Facebook pages displayed anti-Muslim messages as well as derogatory comments and images of former President Barack Obama and NBA Players who don't stand for the Pledge of Allegiance. There were numerous images both Riford and [redacted] expressed their concern that the images were obviously racist and offensive especially coming from Federal law enforcement officers. They also felt intimidated because some images consisted of firearms.

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SA [redacted] informed Riford and [redacted] that the although the images were offensive it did not constitute a Federal criminal violation but that if the individuals were in fact Customs and Border Patrol Officers this information could possibly be used as impeachment material if they were to testify in Federal court. SA [redacted] informed

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them the information should be provided to CBP Management in order to determine if these are in fact CBP employees and if they testify in Federal court. Riford and [] requested a contact from CBP Internal Affairs and SA [] advised he would contact them with a contact from CBP that handled internal affairs type matters if they wanted to provide the information they uncovered. Riford and [] indicated they appreciated SA [] offer and a future telephone call was arranged.



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On December 28, 2018, [] Riford and [] appeared at the FBI Buffalo offices to meet with SA []. They wanted to discuss a related matter and had appreciated SA [] assistance previously. At this meeting they provided extensive evidence involving what they perceived as corrupt relationships involving Judge Erin Delabio the Niagara County Family Court judge []. [] The allegations included alleged corrupt relationships involving [] and the [] and Delabio. The family presented Facebook postings as well as media articles of political affiliations indicating what they felt were indicative of

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Delabio's relationships which made her unable to be unbiased in her rulings.

It was further represented that [redacted] had no relationship with [redacted] and would visit only once a year for very brief period of time since her birth. They claimed that after Riford became [redacted] was afraid to tell [redacted] about the situation and sent her threatening text messages. A text message was displayed to SA [redacted] which allegedly came from [redacted] in 2017 that stated [redacted] was going to fucking kill her referring to Riford. Additional text messages, allegedly from [redacted] were displayed which stated that he [redacted] does not want to tell his [redacted] about the [redacted]. In addition, a photograph was displayed of a large cut on an arm which they claimed was an image of self-harm [redacted] sent to Riford approximate to the time Riford was [redacted]

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In addition, [redacted] with the Delabio's permission allowed a Licensed Social Worker (LSW) [redacted] whom the [redacted] [redacted] to be present for supervised visitation. [redacted] routinely praised [redacted] while criticizing Riford. The Riford family determined [redacted] is part of a rowing club with [redacted] which again would be indicative of a bias against Riford. Riford's [redacted] felt it was unusual for Dilabio to allow the family to pay for a LSW of their own choosing. Riford's family has not been able to even determine if [redacted] has a valid LSW because a review of publicly available information from the New York State Educational Department found no license number for [redacted]

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The Riford family was also concerned because the attorney assigned to represent [redacted] was a Niagara County Legislator who was employed as [redacted] and seemed to have no experience as a [redacted]. In addition Dilabio appeared to be to be politically aligned with [redacted] and had social relationships with him based on media accounts. In addition the family

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found [] appeared to have a social relationship with []
[] spent little or no time with [] yet always sided
with [] claiming it was in [] best interest.

The family claimed [] had told them he had never seen anything like this and was completely confused by the judge's rulings. [] had questioned the relationships of the parties in Niagara County. [] concern was noteworthy to the family because he [] was a [] and would be aware of suspicions activity by a Judge or instances when they should recuse themselves. [] told them that he believed Dilabio would not listen to any of their positions and the only course of action would be to create a good record and to get to the Appeals Court were they would receive a more fair hearing. The family expressed extreme frustration about [] explanation because they had paid him ver \$20,000 and were running out of money.

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During the meeting SA [] advised that despite the family's thoughts on fairness of court orders they were binding.

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The family displayed corroborating information for all of the aforementioned allegations including court transcripts, media accounts, Facebook postings and this information was organized in a binder with summaries.

SA [] informed the family that information provided to date was not sufficient predication for a public corruption investigation to be initiated by the FBI. The Riford family expressed surprise to SA [] but understood. The Riford family indicated they had been planning on filing a complaint with the New York State Commission on Judicial Commission (COJDC) concerning Dilabio's actions. SA [] referred them to a COJDC Deputy Administrator [] SA [] later learned that the Riford family met with COJDC and they received correspondence indicating an inquiry would commence.

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SA [] advised the aforementioned threatening text messages should be reported to the Niagara County Sheriff's Office (NCSO). The

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family claimed that previously this information was provided to the NCSO and initially they seemed interested in pursuing criminal charges but later nothing happened. This information was also reported to the Niagara County District Attorney's Office (NCDAO) who initially seemed interested but subsequently would not meet about the matter. Rifford,

[redacted] believe that because [redacted] they refused to address the matter. SA [redacted] told them that it was public knowledge that [redacted]

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[redacted] and the matter was settled and [redacted] had not been in the office for many many years.

SA [redacted] subsequently received email correspondence telephonic communication with Rifford in which she was explained she was attempting to get an order of protection from Dilabio. Rifford claimed [redacted] were exposed to alleged abuse during supervised visits by Rifford indicated she had documentation signed by a medical professional from Children's Hospital in Buffalo and medical professional from an Urgent Care on separate occasions which they found medical neglect after a supervised visit. Both medical professionals had reported their findings to Child Protective Services in Niagara County yet they were not investigating the allegations. Rifford and [redacted] complained that local law enforcement would not provide an order protection and were deferring to Family Court.

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The family terminated its relationship with [redacted] and decided to proceed pro se during this time frame. As outlined in an email the family made allegations about [redacted] unprofessional conduct in which they claim they would report him to the Erie County Bar Association. [redacted] ultimately filed a motion seeking a protective order and other actions on behalf of the family. This was [redacted] final motion on Rifford's behalf and he included the fact that the family had reported Dilabio to the NCDAO.

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Numerous times during the multiple interactions with the Rifford family SA [redacted] told them he cannot provide legal advice but in any

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Title: (U) To document interactions with family members Katie Rifford,

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legal proceedings a party should have a lawyer representing them and going pro se was not always advisable.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Riford had previously prepared and had filed a pro se motion requesting Dilabio to recuse herself based on the notification that the family had reported her contact to the COJDC as well as her past rulings. The motion also was seeking a temporary order of protection from [REDACTED]. The motion included text messages, for transcripts, and medical reports from the Children's Hospital and an urgent care facility. [REDACTED]

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On February 21, 2019, SA [REDACTED] met with SSA [REDACTED] well as United States Attorney JP Kennedy at the offices of the FBI Buffalo Division. Notably US Attorney Kennedy had been at the FBI offices on an

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Title: (U) To document interactions with family members Katie Rifford,

Re: 62-BF-0, 05/07/2019

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unrelated matter. SA [] provided an overview of the aforementioned facts and supporting documentation. Upon review it was agreed that

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Title: (U) To document interactions with family members Katie Rifford,

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On April 4, 2019, SA [redacted] received an unsolicited telephonic call from [redacted] [redacted] and he believes that Dilabio had acted within her authority which is broad as a Family Court Judge.

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On April 8, 2019, [redacted] contacted SA Burns on an unrelated matter and during the conversation SA [redacted] questioned [redacted] familiarity with the Riford family. [redacted] indicated he was familiar with the family over a number of years.

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On May 2, 2019, [redacted] received a telephone call from [redacted] who advised [redacted]

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Title: (U) To document interactions with family members Katie Rifford,

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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On May 6, 2019, SA [REDACTED] received a text message from telephone number [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

On May 7, 2019, SA [REDACTED] reviewed [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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Title: (U) To document interactions with family members Katie Rifford,

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[REDACTED] and

Digital copies of all email communications involving Rifford, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] are attached to this document. A review
of these documents indicate progressing conspiratorial beliefs of
corruption involving all these entities being driven by the activities
of SA [REDACTED] and Infraguard. It is notable that [REDACTED] is convinced
that SA [REDACTED] who was assigned to the [REDACTED] FBI Division
from [REDACTED] is the same [REDACTED] who is the [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Infraguard organization. SA [REDACTED] attempted to explain to
[REDACTED] with little success, that SA [REDACTED] having the same name is
merely a coincidence and not the same person. [REDACTED]

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Digital copies of all documents provided by Rifford, [REDACTED]
and [REDACTED] are attached to this document either as email
attachments or as scanned documents. The only physical item is the

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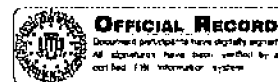
A review of records indicates that neither [REDACTED] Katie
Rifford, or [REDACTED] have ever had pistol permits or any history of
violence. They have no criminal histories [REDACTED]

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**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION**
Electronic Communication

Title: (U) To document interactions with family members Katie Rifford, [redacted] and [redacted]

Date: 05/23/2019

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CC: [redacted]

From: BUFFALO

BF-WC-1

Contact: [redacted]

Approved By: SSA [redacted]

Drafted By: [redacted]

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Case ID #: 62-BF-0

(U) ADMINISTRATIVE INQUIRY:FEDERAL
JUDICIARY INVESTIGATION -ZERO FILE

Synopsis: (U) [redacted]
[redacted]
[redacted]

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Enclosure(s): Enclosed are the following items:

1. (U)
 2. (U)
 3. (U)
 4. (U)
 5. (U)
 6. (U)
-

Details:

On December 14, 2018, Special Agent [redacted] while assigned as the Complaint Duty Agent, interviewed walk in complainants Katie Riford, born November 15, 1984, residing at 3038 Michael Drive, North Tonawanda,

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Title: (U) To document interactions with family members Katie Rifford,

[REDACTED]

Re: 62-BF-0, 05/23/2019

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New York 14120, telephone number (716) 264-3399 and her [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

born

[REDACTED]

residing

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

telephone number

[REDACTED]

Interactions with this family are outlined in serial 17746 of 62-BF-0.

The purpose of this communication is to document additional information occurring subsequent to what was outlined in serial 17746 of 62-BF-0.

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

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