

## **MRU FOIA Service Requested**

**Agency: USAEO**

**Original Request:**

**To Whom It May Concern:**

**Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, I hereby request the following records:**

### **EFOIA Request**

**For the offices of former United States Attorney Carmen Ortiz, and first assistant United States Attorney and then acting USAO William Weinreb , I am seeking copies of both calendars and phone records for the attorneys as cited for the duration of 2015 to December 21, 2017.**

**For both offices I was also seeking any records of correspondence with former Secretary of State John Kerry, or former President Barack Obama.**

**Please produce the records in original unredacted fashion.**

**As a guideline please refer to the attached recent DOJ production of a similar official:**

**<https://www.americanoversight.org/american-oversight-obtains-attorney-general-barr-calendars-and-phone-logs-from-2019-and-2020>**

**Fee waiver requested:**

**Requester is an Activist and participates in the active dissemination of information pertaining to the operations of government.**

**Vaughn Index Requested for any items subject to exemptions.**

**The requested documents will be made available to the general public, and this request is not being made for commercial purposes.**

**In the event that there are fees, I would be grateful if you would inform me of the total charges in advance of fulfilling my request. I would prefer the request filled electronically, by e-mail attachment if available or CD-ROM if not.**

Thank you in advance for your anticipated cooperation in this matter. I look forward to receiving your response to this request within 20 business days, as the statute requires.

Sincerely,

William Fernandes

This request was submitted on Feb 21, 2021 via Muckrock.com and has received no response from the entity.

UNCOVERING THE FACTS,  
HOLDING GOVERNMENT  
ACCOUNTABLE.

PUBLISH DATE: DECEMBER 16, 2020

# AMERICAN OVERSIGHT OBTAINS ATTORNEY GENERAL BARR CALENDARS AND PHONE LOGS FROM 2019 AND 2020



Attorney General William Barr may be on his way out the door, but American Oversight is still uncovering new details about his unprecedentedly politicized tenure as head of the Justice Department. Calendars and phone logs recently produced in response to an American Oversight Freedom of Information Act [lawsuit](https://www.americanoversight.org/document/complaint-american-oversight-v-doj-barrs-texts-calendars-and-visitor-logs) [reveal](https://www.americanoversight.org/document/complaint-american-oversight-v-doj-barrs-texts-calendars-and-visitor-logs)

Select a tag  
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## Topic

National  
Security &  
Foreign Policy  
<<https://www.americanoversight.org/topic/national-security>>

## Areas of Investigation

Trump  
Accountability  
<[https://www.americanoversight.org/areas\\_of\\_investigation/trump-accountability](https://www.americanoversight.org/areas_of_investigation/trump-accountability)>

## Jurisdiction

Federal  
<<https://www.americanoversight.org/jurisdiction/federal>>

## Entity

Department of  
Justice  
<<https://www.americanoversight.org/entity/departement-of-justice>>

frequent meetings between Barr and some of President Donald Trump's most devoted allies in Congress, including throughout the course of impeachment proceedings in late 2019. The calendars also show contact between Barr and department officials who reportedly faced significant political pressure from the administration.

Barr [announced this week](https://www.cnn.com/2020/12/14/politics/william-barr-out-as-attorney-general/index.html) [that he would resign before Christmas, but his time at the Justice department has been marred by an erosion of norms](https://www.cnn.com/2020/12/14/politics/william-barr-out-as-attorney-general/index.html) [that American Oversight and other watchdogs are still trying to fully document.](https://www.americanoversight.org/investigation/trump-administrations-politicization-justice-department)

The new records cover May 2019 through April 2020 and shed light on Barr's day-to-day contacts, specifically his meetings with certain [members of Congress](https://beta.documentcloud.org/documents/20428470-attorney-general-barrs-doj-calendars-and-phone-logs-part-2-doj-oip-20-0796#document/p20/a2009012) [who would be some of the president's most ardent defenders during impeachment proceedings.](https://beta.documentcloud.org/documents/20428470-attorney-general-barrs-doj-calendars-and-phone-logs-part-2-doj-oip-20-0796#document/p20/a2009012)

For example, Barr met with [Rep. Matt Gaetz and Sen. Lindsey Graham](https://beta.documentcloud.org/documents/20428470-attorney-general-barrs-doj-calendars-and-phone-logs-part-2-doj-oip-20-0796#document/p41/a2008964) [on Sept. 10, 2019](https://beta.documentcloud.org/documents/20428470-attorney-general-barrs-doj-calendars-and-phone-logs-part-2-doj-oip-20-0796#document/p41/a2008964) — the day after [three House committees](https://foreignaffairs.house.gov/2019/9/three-house-committees-launch-wide-ranging-investigation-into-trump-giuliani-ukraine-scheme) [announced an investigation into the Trump administration's halt of aid to Ukraine. Barr also had a call with Graham](https://foreignaffairs.house.gov/2019/9/three-house-committees-launch-wide-ranging-investigation-into-trump-giuliani-ukraine-scheme) [the next day.](https://beta.documentcloud.org/documents/20428470-attorney-general-barrs-doj-calendars-and-phone-logs-part-2-doj-oip-20-0796#document/p43/a2008965)

## FOIA ID #

DOJ-  
OIP-20-0796  
<<https://www.americanoversight.org/foia/doj-oip-20-0796>>

## Case #

20-1538  
<<https://www.americanoversight.org/case/20-1538>>

However, the details of some other calendar entries on Sept. 10 <<https://beta.documentcloud.org/documents/20428470-attorney-general-barrs-doj-calendars-and-phone-logs-part-2-doj-oip-20-0796#document/p41>> and 11 <<https://beta.documentcloud.org/documents/20428470-attorney-general-barrs-doj-calendars-and-phone-logs-part-2-doj-oip-20-0796#document/p42>> are redacted.

A week later, on Sept. 17 <<https://beta.documentcloud.org/documents/20428470-attorney-general-barrs-doj-calendars-and-phone-logs-part-2-doj-oip-20-0796#document/p45/a2008967>>, Barr met with Sens. Ted Cruz, Josh Hawley, and Mike Lee. Then on Sept. 24 — the day House Speaker Nancy Pelosi announced her support for a [formal impeachment inquiry](https://www.cnn.com/2019/09/24/politics/democrats-impeachment-strategy/index.html) <<https://www.cnn.com/2019/09/24/politics/democrats-impeachment-strategy/index.html>> — Barr held [calls or meetings](https://beta.documentcloud.org/documents/20428470-attorney-general-barrs-doj-calendars-and-phone-logs-part-2-doj-oip-20-0796#document/p48/a2008968) <<https://beta.documentcloud.org/documents/20428470-attorney-general-barrs-doj-calendars-and-phone-logs-part-2-doj-oip-20-0796#document/p48/a2008968>> with Graham, then-Rep. Mark Meadows, and Rep. Jim Jordan. Similar calls and meetings with members of Congress continue throughout the records.

Most apparent references to White House meetings in the calendars were redacted, but the regular contact between the Barr and officials there can be partially surmised by entries that reflect Barr traveling “en route to White House” or “WH.” In two cases, Barr headed to the White House after being in contact with Jessie Liu, the former U.S. Attorney for the District of Columbia who oversaw the criminal cases against Trump allies Michael Flynn and Roger Stone until [shortly before](https://www.nbcnews.com/politics/donald-trump/former-us-attorney-who-oversaw-roger-stone-case-resigns-n1136411) <<https://www.nbcnews.com/politics/donald-trump/former-us-attorney-who-oversaw-roger-stone-case-resigns-n1136411>> the agency leadership’s highly unusual and controversial interventions in both cases.

The calendars show a [July 15, 2019](https://beta.documentcloud.org/documents/20428470-attorney-) <<https://beta.documentcloud.org/documents/20428470-attorney->

[general-barrs-doj-calendars-and-phone-logs-part-2-doj-oip-20-0796#document/p22/a2008979](#)>, meeting with Liu at the attorney general's office. This was followed by <https://beta.documentcloud.org/documents/20428470-attorney-general-barrs-doj-calendars-and-phone-logs-part-2-doj-oip-20-0796#document/p22/a2008979>> scheduled transportation to and from the White House for Barr and senior aide Brian Rabbitt with a hour-long gap in between, although no meeting at the White House is specified.

Barr also spoke with Liu on the phone on Feb. 12, 2020 — the day Liu resigned <https://www.nbcnews.com/politics/donald-trump/former-us-attorney-who-oversaw-roger-stone-case-resigns-n1136411>> from the administration following Trump's withdrawal of her nomination for a senior role at the Treasury Department — then was transported <https://beta.documentcloud.org/documents/20428470-attorney-general-barrs-doj-calendars-and-phone-logs-part-2-doj-oip-20-0796#document/p77/a2008984>> via limo to the White House for an apparent meeting, the details of which are redacted.

The records also reflect <https://beta.documentcloud.org/documents/20428470-attorney-general-barrs-doj-calendars-and-phone-logs-part-2-doj-oip-20-0796#document/p64/a2008995>> regular <https://beta.documentcloud.org/documents/20428470-attorney-general-barrs-doj-calendars-and-phone-logs-part-2-doj-oip-20-0796#document/p74/a2008988>> contact <https://beta.documentcloud.org/documents/20428470-attorney-general-barrs-doj-calendars-and-phone-logs-part-2-doj-oip-20-0796#document/p7/a2008999>> between Barr and then-U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of New York Geoffrey Berman, who oversaw an investigation into Trump lawyer and ally Rudy Giuliani before he was fired by the president in June <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/06/20/nyregion/trump-geoffrey-berman-fired-sdny.html>> of this year, after Barr's unsuccessful <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/06>

</19/nyregion/us-attorney-manhattan-trump.html>> <https://www.nbcnews.com/politics/politics-news/manhattan-u-s-attorney-geoffrey-berman-fired-trump-twice-refused-n1233363>> Berman to leave his post in the days before.

Other notable entries include a [July 26, 2019, breakfast](https://beta.documentcloud.org/documents/20428470-attorney-general-barrs-doj-calendars-and-phone-logs-part-2-doj-oip-20-0796#document/p25/a2008972) <https://beta.documentcloud.org/documents/20428470-attorney-general-barrs-doj-calendars-and-phone-logs-part-2-doj-oip-20-0796#document/p25/a2008972>> with Trump's son-in-law and White House Senior Adviser Jared Kushner, an [August 2019 call](https://beta.documentcloud.org/documents/20428470-attorney-general-barrs-doj-calendars-and-phone-logs-part-2-doj-oip-20-0796#document/p36/a2008973) <https://beta.documentcloud.org/documents/20428470-attorney-general-barrs-doj-calendars-and-phone-logs-part-2-doj-oip-20-0796#document/p36/a2008973>> with [embattled](https://www.nbcnews.com/news/us-news/wayne-lapierre-allegedly-used-nra-personal-piggy-bank-n-y-n1236068) <https://www.nbcnews.com/news/us-news/wayne-lapierre-allegedly-used-nra-personal-piggy-bank-n-y-n1236068>> National Rifle Association CEO Wayne LaPierre, and a [December 2019 meeting](https://beta.documentcloud.org/documents/20428470-attorney-general-barrs-doj-calendars-and-phone-logs-part-2-doj-oip-20-0796#document/p72/a2009033) <https://beta.documentcloud.org/documents/20428470-attorney-general-barrs-doj-calendars-and-phone-logs-part-2-doj-oip-20-0796#document/p72/a2009033>> with Ken Caruso, an associate and partner <https://www.politico.com/story/2007/10/giuliani-law-firm-sued-by-high-profile-texan-006252>> of Trump attorney Rudy Giuliani.

Finally, the calendars also show a [March 2020 meeting](https://beta.documentcloud.org/documents/20428470-attorney-general-barrs-doj-calendars-and-phone-logs-part-2-doj-oip-20-0796#document/p88/a2008970) <https://beta.documentcloud.org/documents/20428470-attorney-general-barrs-doj-calendars-and-phone-logs-part-2-doj-oip-20-0796#document/p88/a2008970>> with U.S. Attorney John Durham, whom Barr appointed to investigate the origins of the Russia probe. Our past FOIA litigation for records related to Durham's highly politicized investigation [revealed](https://www.americanoversight.org/documents-we-obtained-show-barr-met-with-prosecutor-examining-mueller-investigation-immediately-after-mueller-investigation-ended) <https://www.americanoversight.org/documents-we-obtained-show-barr-met-with-prosecutor-examining-mueller-investigation-immediately-after-mueller-investigation-ended>> that Barr met frequently with Durham — 18 times in the seven months after Special Counsel Robert Mueller's investigation into foreign election interference ended. There is also an [itinerary](https://beta.documentcloud.org/documents/20428470-attorney-general-barrs-doj-calendars-and-phone-logs-part-2-doj-oip-20-0796#document/p88/a2008970) <https://beta.documentcloud.org/documents/20428470-attorney-general-barrs-doj-calendars-and-phone-logs-part-2-doj-oip-20-0796#document/p88/a2008970>>

[phone-logs-part-2-doj-oip-20-0796#document/p30/a2009032](https://www.americanoversight.org/document/phone-logs-part-2-doj-oip-20-0796#document/p30/a2009032)> for Barr's [August 2019 trip to Italy](https://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-trump-barr-italy/u-s-attorney-general-barr-met-italian-intelligence-officials-newspaper-iduskbn1wh1l0) <<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-trump-barr-italy/u-s-attorney-general-barr-met-italian-intelligence-officials-newspaper-iduskbn1wh1l0>>, during which the attorney general reportedly made one of his [attempts to enlist](https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2019/oct/02/us-attorney-general-william-barr-met-italian-officials-to-discuss-russiagate) <<https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2019/oct/02/us-attorney-general-william-barr-met-italian-officials-to-discuss-russiagate>> foreign assistance in looking into the Russia investigation's origins.

As the attorney general prepares his exit from the administration, American Oversight will continue to hold Barr accountable for how he has abetted Trump's efforts to turn the Justice Department into his own political tool.

### Part of Investigation:

[Politicization of the Justice Department](https://www.americanoversight.org/investigation/trump-administrations-politicization-justice-department)

<<https://www.americanoversight.org/investigation/trump-administrations-politicization-justice-department>>

[John Durham's Politicized Investigation — And William](https://www.americanoversight.org/investigation/john-durhams-politicized-investigation-and-william-barrs-role-in-it)

[Barr's Role in It](https://www.americanoversight.org/investigation/john-durhams-politicized-investigation-and-william-barrs-role-in-it) <<https://www.americanoversight.org/investigation/john-durhams-politicized-investigation-and-william-barrs-role-in-it>>

[The Trump Administration's Contacts with Ukraine](https://www.americanoversight.org/investigation/the-trump-administrations-contacts-with-ukraine)

<<https://www.americanoversight.org/investigation/the-trump-administrations-contacts-with-ukraine>>

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