



May 18, 2023

MR. JOHN R. GREENEWALD JR.  
THE BLACK VAULT  
SUITE 1203  
27305 WEST LIVE OAK ROAD  
CASTAIC, CA 91384-4520

FOIPA Request No.: 1459895-000  
Subject: QAnon (On or after 2016)

Dear Mr. Greenewald:

The FBI has completed its review of records subject to the Freedom of Information/Privacy Acts (FOIPA) that are responsive to your request. The enclosed documents were reviewed under the FOIPA, Title 5, United States Code, Section 552/552a. Below you will find check boxes under the appropriate statute headings which indicate the types of exemptions asserted to protect information which is exempt from disclosure. The appropriate exemptions are noted on the enclosed pages next to redacted information. In addition, a deleted page information sheet was inserted to indicate where pages were withheld entirely and identify which exemptions were applied. The checked exemption boxes used to withhold information are further explained in the enclosed Explanation of Exemptions.

<b>Section 552</b>		<b>Section 552a</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> (b)(1)	<input type="checkbox"/> (b)(7)(A)	<input type="checkbox"/> (d)(5)
<input type="checkbox"/> (b)(2)	<input type="checkbox"/> (b)(7)(B)	<input type="checkbox"/> (j)(2)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (b)(3)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (b)(7)(C)	<input type="checkbox"/> (k)(1)
<u>Fed. R. Crim. P. 6(e)</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (b)(7)(D)	<input type="checkbox"/> (k)(2)
<u>50 U.S.C. § 3024(i)(1)</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (b)(7)(E)	<input type="checkbox"/> (k)(3)
<hr/>	<input type="checkbox"/> (b)(7)(F)	<input type="checkbox"/> (k)(4)
<input type="checkbox"/> (b)(4)	<input type="checkbox"/> (b)(8)	<input type="checkbox"/> (k)(5)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (b)(5)	<input type="checkbox"/> (b)(9)	<input type="checkbox"/> (k)(6)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (b)(6)		<input type="checkbox"/> (k)(7)

43 pages were reviewed and 19 pages are being released.

Please see the paragraphs below for relevant information specific to your request as well as the enclosed FBI FOIPA Addendum for standard responses applicable to all requests.

Based on the information you provided, we conducted a main and reference entity record search of the Central Records System (CRS) per our standard search policy. For more information about records searches and the standard search policy, see the enclosed FBI FOIPA Addendum General Information Section.

This is the final release of information responsive to your FOIPA request. This material is being provided to you at no charge.

Enclosed are cross-references that are identifiable with the subject of your request. Cross-references are defined as mentions of the subject of your request in files to other individuals, organizations, events, or activities. In processing the cross-references, the pages considered for possible release included only those pages that mention the subject of your request and any additional pages showing the context in which the subject of your request was mentioned.

Additional material responsive to your request was located in an investigative file. This material is exempt from disclosure in its entirety pursuant to Title 5, United States Code, Section 552, subsection (b)(7)(A), which pertains to records or information compiled for law enforcement purposes, the release of which could reasonably be expected to interfere with enforcement proceedings.

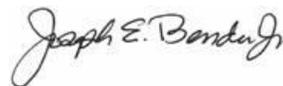
Please refer to the enclosed FBI FOIPA Addendum for additional standard responses applicable to your request. “**Part 1**” of the Addendum includes standard responses that apply to all requests. “**Part 2**” includes additional standard responses that apply to all requests for records about yourself or any third party individuals. “**Part 3**” includes general information about FBI records that you may find useful. Also enclosed is our Explanation of Exemptions.

Additional information about the FOIPA can be found at [www.fbi.gov/foia](http://www.fbi.gov/foia). Should you have questions regarding your request, please feel free to contact [foipaquestions@fbi.gov](mailto:foipaquestions@fbi.gov). Please reference the FOIPA Request number listed above in all correspondence concerning your request.

If you are not satisfied with the Federal Bureau of Investigation’s determination in response to this request, you may administratively appeal by writing to the Director, Office of Information Policy (OIP), United States Department of Justice, 441 G Street, NW, 6th Floor, Washington, D.C. 20530, or you may submit an appeal through OIP’s FOIA STAR portal by creating an account following the instructions on OIP’s website: <https://www.justice.gov/oip/submit-and-track-request-or-appeal>. Your appeal must be postmarked or electronically transmitted within ninety (90) days of the date of my response to your request. If you submit your appeal by mail, both the letter and the envelope should be clearly marked "Freedom of Information Act Appeal." Please cite the FOIPA Request Number assigned to your request so it may be easily identified.

You may seek dispute resolution services by emailing the FBI’s FOIA Public Liaison at [foipaquestions@fbi.gov](mailto:foipaquestions@fbi.gov). The subject heading should clearly state “Dispute Resolution Services.” Please also cite the FOIPA Request Number assigned to your request so it may be easily identified. You may also contact the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS). The contact information for OGIS is as follows: Office of Government Information Services, National Archives and Records Administration, 8601 Adelphi Road-OGIS, College Park, Maryland 20740-6001, e-mail at [ogis@nara.gov](mailto:ogis@nara.gov); telephone at 202-741-5770; toll free at 1-877-684-6448; or facsimile at 202-741-5769.

Sincerely,



Joseph E. Bender, Jr.  
Acting Section Chief  
Record/Information Dissemination Section  
Information Management Division

Enclosures

## FBI FOIPA Addendum

As referenced in our letter responding to your Freedom of Information/Privacy Acts (FOIPA) request, the FBI FOIPA Addendum provides information applicable to your request. Part 1 of the Addendum includes standard responses that apply to all requests. Part 2 includes standard responses that apply to requests for records about individuals to the extent your request seeks the listed information. Part 3 includes general information about FBI records, searches, and programs.

### Part 1: The standard responses below apply to all requests:

- (i) **5 U.S.C. § 552(c).** Congress excluded three categories of law enforcement and national security records from the requirements of the FOIPA [5 U.S.C. § 552(c)]. FBI responses are limited to those records subject to the requirements of the FOIPA. Additional information about the FBI and the FOIPA can be found on the [www.fbi.gov/foia](http://www.fbi.gov/foia) website.
- (ii) **Intelligence Records.** To the extent your request seeks records of intelligence sources, methods, or activities, the FBI can neither confirm nor deny the existence of records pursuant to FOIA exemptions (b)(1), (b)(3), and as applicable to requests for records about individuals, PA exemption (j)(2) [5 U.S.C. §§ 552/552a (b)(1), (b)(3), and (j)(2)]. The mere acknowledgment of the existence or nonexistence of such records is itself a classified fact protected by FOIA exemption (b)(1) and/or would reveal intelligence sources, methods, or activities protected by exemption (b)(3) [50 USC § 3024(i)(1)]. This is a standard response and should not be read to indicate that any such records do or do not exist.

### Part 2: The standard responses below apply to all requests for records on individuals:

- (i) **Requests for Records about any Individual—Watch Lists.** The FBI can neither confirm nor deny the existence of any individual's name on a watch list pursuant to FOIA exemption (b)(7)(E) and PA exemption (j)(2) [5 U.S.C. §§ 552/552a (b)(7)(E), (j)(2)]. This is a standard response and should not be read to indicate that watch list records do or do not exist.
- (ii) **Requests for Records about any Individual—Witness Security Program Records.** The FBI can neither confirm nor deny the existence of records which could identify any participant in the Witness Security Program pursuant to FOIA exemption (b)(3) and PA exemption (j)(2) [5 U.S.C. §§ 552/552a (b)(3), 18 U.S.C. 3521, and (j)(2)]. This is a standard response and should not be read to indicate that such records do or do not exist.
- (iii) **Requests for Confidential Informant Records.** The FBI can neither confirm nor deny the existence of confidential informant records pursuant to FOIA exemptions (b)(7)(D), (b)(7)(E), and (b)(7)(F) [5 U.S.C. § 552 (b)(7)(D), (b)(7)(E), and (b)(7)(F)] and Privacy Act exemption (j)(2) [5 U.S.C. § 552a (j)(2)]. The mere acknowledgment of the existence or nonexistence of such records would reveal confidential informant identities and information, expose law enforcement techniques, and endanger the life or physical safety of individuals. This is a standard response and should not be read to indicate that such records do or do not exist.

### Part 3: General Information:

- (i) **Record Searches and Standard Search Policy.** The Record/Information Dissemination Section (RIDS) searches for reasonably described records by searching systems, such as the Central Records System (CRS), or locations where responsive records would reasonably be found. The CRS is an extensive system of records consisting of applicant, investigative, intelligence, personnel, administrative, and general files compiled by the FBI per its law enforcement, intelligence, and administrative functions. The CRS spans the entire FBI organization, comprising records of FBI Headquarters, FBI Field Offices, and FBI Legal Attaché Offices (Legats) worldwide; Electronic Surveillance (ELSUR) records are included in the CRS. The standard search policy is a search for main entity records in the CRS. Unless specifically requested, a standard search does not include a search for reference entity records, administrative records of previous FOIPA requests, or civil litigation files.
  - a. *Main Entity Records* – created for individuals or non-individuals who are the subjects or the focus of an investigation
  - b. *Reference Entity Records*- created for individuals or non-individuals who are associated with a case but are not known subjects or the focus of an investigation
- (ii) **FBI Records.** Founded in 1908, the FBI carries out a dual law enforcement and national security mission. As part of this dual mission, the FBI creates and maintains records on various subjects; however, the FBI does not maintain records on every person, subject, or entity.
- (iii) **Foreseeable Harm Standard.** As amended in 2016, the Freedom of Information Act provides that a federal agency may withhold responsive records only if: (1) the agency reasonably foresees that disclosure would harm an interest protected by one of the nine exemptions that FOIA enumerates, or (2) disclosure is prohibited by law (5 United States Code, Section 552(a)(8)(A)(i)). The FBI considers this foreseeable harm standard in the processing of its requests.
- (iv) **Requests for Criminal History Records or Rap Sheets.** The Criminal Justice Information Services (CJIS) Division provides Identity History Summary Checks – often referred to as a criminal history record or rap sheet. These criminal history records are not the same as material in an investigative “FBI file.” An Identity History Summary Check is a listing of information taken from fingerprint cards and documents submitted to the FBI in connection with arrests, federal employment, naturalization, or military service. For a fee, individuals can request a copy of their Identity History Summary Check. Forms and directions can be accessed at [www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/identity-history-summary-checks](http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/identity-history-summary-checks). Additionally, requests can be submitted electronically at [www.edo.cjis.gov](http://www.edo.cjis.gov). For additional information, please contact CJIS directly at (304) 625-5590.

## EXPLANATION OF EXEMPTIONS

### SUBSECTIONS OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 552

- (b)(1) (A) specifically authorized under criteria established by an Executive order to be kept secret in the interest of national defense or foreign policy and (B) are in fact properly classified to such Executive order;
- (b)(2) related solely to the internal personnel rules and practices of an agency;
- (b)(3) specifically exempted from disclosure by statute (other than section 552b of this title), provided that such statute (A) requires that the matters be withheld from the public in such a manner as to leave no discretion on issue, or (B) establishes particular criteria for withholding or refers to particular types of matters to be withheld;
- (b)(4) trade secrets and commercial or financial information obtained from a person and privileged or confidential;
- (b)(5) inter-agency or intra-agency memorandums or letters which would not be available by law to a party other than an agency in litigation with the agency;
- (b)(6) personnel and medical files and similar files the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy;
- (b)(7) records or information compiled for law enforcement purposes, but only to the extent that the production of such law enforcement records or information ( A ) could reasonably be expected to interfere with enforcement proceedings, ( B ) would deprive a person of a right to a fair trial or an impartial adjudication, ( C ) could reasonably be expected to constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy, ( D ) could reasonably be expected to disclose the identity of confidential source, including a State, local, or foreign agency or authority or any private institution which furnished information on a confidential basis, and, in the case of record or information compiled by a criminal law enforcement authority in the course of a criminal investigation, or by an agency conducting a lawful national security intelligence investigation, information furnished by a confidential source, ( E ) would disclose techniques and procedures for law enforcement investigations or prosecutions, or would disclose guidelines for law enforcement investigations or prosecutions if such disclosure could reasonably be expected to risk circumvention of the law, or ( F ) could reasonably be expected to endanger the life or physical safety of any individual;
- (b)(8) contained in or related to examination, operating, or condition reports prepared by, on behalf of, or for the use of an agency responsible for the regulation or supervision of financial institutions; or
- (b)(9) geological and geophysical information and data, including maps, concerning wells.

### SUBSECTIONS OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 552a

- (d)(5) information compiled in reasonable anticipation of a civil action proceeding;
- (j)(2) material reporting investigative efforts pertaining to the enforcement of criminal law including efforts to prevent, control, or reduce crime or apprehend criminals;
- (k)(1) information which is currently and properly classified pursuant to an Executive order in the interest of the national defense or foreign policy, for example, information involving intelligence sources or methods;
- (k)(2) investigatory material compiled for law enforcement purposes, other than criminal, which did not result in loss of a right, benefit or privilege under Federal programs, or which would identify a source who furnished information pursuant to a promise that his/her identity would be held in confidence;
- (k)(3) material maintained in connection with providing protective services to the President of the United States or any other individual pursuant to the authority of Title 18, United States Code, Section 3056;
- (k)(4) required by statute to be maintained and used solely as statistical records;
- (k)(5) investigatory material compiled solely for the purpose of determining suitability, eligibility, or qualifications for Federal civilian employment or for access to classified information, the disclosure of which would reveal the identity of the person who furnished information pursuant to a promise that his/her identity would be held in confidence;
- (k)(6) testing or examination material used to determine individual qualifications for appointment or promotion in Federal Government service the release of which would compromise the testing or examination process;
- (k)(7) material used to determine potential for promotion in the armed services, the disclosure of which would reveal the identity of the person who furnished the material pursuant to a promise that his/her identity would be held in confidence.

This document is made available through the declassification efforts  
and research of John Greenewald, Jr., creator of:

# The Black Vault



The Black Vault is the largest online Freedom of Information Act (FOIA)  
document clearinghouse in the world. The research efforts here are  
responsible for the declassification of hundreds of thousands of pages  
released by the U.S. Government & Military.

**Discover the Truth** at: <http://www.theblackvault.com>

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

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**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION**

[Redacted]

b7E

Date: 10/24/2018

Case ID #: [Redacted]

(U) UNSUB;  
UNAFFILIATED BOMBING MATTER;

[Redacted]

b6  
b7C  
b7E

Drafted By: [Redacted]

Date/Time Received: 10/24/2018 03:07 PM EDT

**Details:**

On 10/24/2018, at 3:07 p.m. Eastern Time, [Redacted] email address [Redacted] telephone number [Redacted] home address [Redacted] Internet Protocol (IP) address [Redacted] which resolves to [Redacted]

b6  
b7C

[Redacted] submitted an online tip to the FBI Public Access Line (PAL) Unit via tips.fbi.gov, to report information regarding a cult that may be related to the bombs.

Date Submitted: 10/24/2018 03:07:17 PM

Transaction Number: [Redacted]

b7E

**Submitted Text:**

I felt compelled to call about the bombing devices found today in New York. The cult known as QANON [Redacted] posted in their rabbit hole that there would be bombs coming to take down the "Deep State" players [Redacted] and the "lying media" and that is exactly what we are seeing today. [Redacted]

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[Redacted]

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[Redacted]

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# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

## Electronic Communication

**Title:** (U//~~FOUO~~) Basic Records Checks on Qanon  
Cult [Redacted]

**Date:** 10/24/2018

b6  
b7C

**From:** NEW YORK  
NY-ID03

**Contact:** [Redacted]

**Approved By:** [Redacted]

**Drafted By:** [Redacted]

b6  
b7C  
b7E

**Case ID #:** [Redacted]

(U) UNSUB;  
UNAFFILIATED BOMBING MATTER;

[Redacted]

b6  
b7C  
b7E

**Synopsis:** (U//~~FOUO~~) To document the results of database checks and open source research on facilities and identifiers associated with Qanon Cult [Redacted]

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### Details:

(U//~~FOUO~~) On 09 October 2018, writer conducted a variety of database checks and open source research on the QANON group

[Redacted]

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(U) According to an open source website, Qanon is a right-wing conspiracy group that began with an October 2017 post on the anonymous imageboard 4chan by someone using the handle Q claiming to have access to classified information involving the Trump administration and its opponents in the United States. The theory details a supposed secret conspiracy by an alleged "deep state" against U.S. President Donald Trump and his supporters. The account has accused numerous liberal Hollywood actors, politicians, and high-ranking officials of engaging in an international child sex trafficking ring, [Redacted]

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b7C

[Redacted]

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[Redacted]

b7E

UNCLASSIFIED//~~LES~~

Title: (U//~~FOUO~~) Basic Records Checks on Qanon Cult [Redacted]

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Re: [Redacted] 10/24/2018

[Redacted]  
[Redacted] Qanon adherents began appearing at Trump rallies during the summer of 2018.

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(U) The conspiracy theory, mainly popularized by supporters of President Trump under the names The Storm and The Great Awakening, has been widely characterized as "baseless", "unhinged" and "evidence-free". Its proponents have been called "a deranged conspiracy cult" and "some of the Internet's most *outré* Trump fans".

(U//~~FOUO~~) [Redacted]

[Redacted]

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(U//~~LES~~) [Redacted]

[Redacted]

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[Redacted]

[Redacted]

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b7E

**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION**

[Redacted]

Date: 10/27/2018

Case ID #: [Redacted]

(U) UNSUB;  
UNAFFILIATED BOMBING MATTER;

[Redacted]

b6  
b7C  
b7E

Drafted By: [Redacted]

Date/Time Received: 10/27/2018 09:04 AM EDT

Details:

PAL2018 [Redacted] Suspicious Package (NY)

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Date Submitted: 10/27/2018 09:04:14 AM

Transaction Number: [Redacted]

b7E

Submitted Text:

[Redacted] lives in [Redacted] and promotes a group called Qanon.

[Redacted]

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[Redacted] He's just an avid follower of Qanon [Redacted]

Complainant Information

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**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION**

**Dissemination of Information to Other Agencies**

**Title:** (U) LHM Closing Dissemination to  
Department of Justice//Public Integrity  
Section

**Date:** 02/13/2019

**Approved By:**   
**Drafted By:**

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**Case ID #:** 58A-NY-2969119 (U) QANON; False Personation of a  
Federal Official

**Responsible Organization:** CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE

**Agency Contacted:** Department of Justice on 02/13/2019 via Note

**POC:** Chief -

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**Disseminated On:** 02/13/2019 (Once)

**Dissemination Details:** (U) Disseminated this serial in weekly  
package for DOJ Public Integrity Section.

**Method:** Written

**Follow-up Required (SSTF):** No

**Disseminated Serials:**  
58A-NY-2969119, Serial 3, (U) Closing EC



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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
FOI/PA  
DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET  
FOI/PA# 1459895-000

Total Deleted Page(s) = 2  
Page 6 ~ b6; b7C;  
Page 7 ~ b6; b7C;

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**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION**

**Electronic Communication**

**Title:** (U) Opening EC for Preliminary Investigation

**Date:** 08/13/2018

**CC:** [Redacted]

b6  
b7C

**From:** NEW YORK  
NY-C14

**Contact:** [Redacted]

**Approved By:** A/SSA [Redacted]

b6  
b7C  
b7E

**Drafted By:** [Redacted]

**Case ID #:** 58A-NY-2969119 (U) QANON; False Personation of a Federal Official

**Synopsis:** (U) To obtain approval for the opening of a Preliminary Investigation and notify the Public Corruption Unit (PCU) of the case opening.

**Enclosure(s):** Enclosed are the following items:

- 1. (U) QANON Opening EC

**Details:**

On August 2, 2018, FBI New York Field Office received information that QANON, an unidentified internet figure(s), was asserting to be a high level federal official with a security clearance and disseminating purportedly classified information on the websites 4Chan and 8Chan.

QANON purports to be a highly placed federal official with a "Q Clearance" and access to the President. QANON purports that there is a conspiracy amongst various law enforcement agencies to overthrow the President. QANON further states that many current and former members

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Title: (U) Opening EC for Preliminary Investigation  
Re: 58A-NY-2969119, 08/13/2018

of the government, along with various specifically and generally named celebrities and other U.S. persons are involved in pedophilia and child kidnapping rings.

QANON supporters have shown up to rallies wearing commercially available QANON themed clothing. QANON posted pictures of locations associated with various people implied to be part of the conspiracy against the president including [redacted]

[redacted] At least two people stating to have been influenced by QANON have been involved in armed standoffs with local police officers.

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QANON has not publicly revealed their identity. It is unknown whether QANON is actually affiliated with the U.S. Government. It is also unknown whether QANON is profiting off of the assertion that they are a government employee.

Assistant United States Attorneys [redacted] and [redacted] [redacted] concurred with the opening of this investigation [redacted]

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Based on the information supplied in this EC, there is an articulable factual basis to believe that an activity constituting a federal crime has or may have occurred, is or may be occurring, or will or may occur, and the investigation may obtain information of intelligence relating to the activity or the involvement or role of an individual, group, or organization in such activity. Therefore, it is requested that a Preliminary Investigation be approved.

The investigative strategy includes issuing grand jury subpoenas, conducting interviews, review of financial records, and employing other investigative methods, as appropriate.

SAs [redacted] and [redacted] are the assigned case agents.

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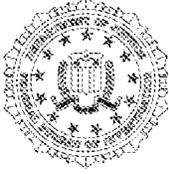
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**UNCLASSIFIED**

Title: (U) Opening EC for Preliminary Investigation  
Re: 58A-NY-2969119, 08/13/2018



**UNCLASSIFIED**



U. S. Department of Justice

Federal Bureau of Investigation

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**In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.** 58A-NY-NEW

New York, New York  
August 13, 2018

QANON, FALSE PERSONATION OF A FEDERAL OFFICIAL

New York Office is opening a Preliminary Investigation into QANON, an online persona purporting to be a high placed public official.

On August 2, 2018, FBI New York Field Office received a referral QANON was purporting to be a highly placed government employee disseminating classified information.

Assistant United States Attorneys [redacted] and [redacted] concurred with the opening of this investigation [redacted]

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The point of contact for this investigation is Special Agent [redacted] telephone number [redacted]

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of entry 09/11/2018

On August 14, 2018, FBI New York received open source information that

[Redacted]

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b7E

Searches were conducted with open-source resources [Redacted]

[Redacted] The following information was obtained via searches:

[Redacted]

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[Redacted]

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b7C

[Redacted]

b6  
b7C  
b7E

[Redacted]

Social Security Number (SSN): [Redacted]

Date of Birth (DOB): [Redacted]

Address: [Redacted]

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b7C

Phone numbers: [Redacted]

[Redacted]

Investigation on 09/10/2018 at New York, New York, United States (In Person)

File # 58A-NY-2969119 Date drafted 09/10/2018

by [Redacted]

b6  
b7C

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**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION**

**Electronic Communication**

**Title:** (U) Closing EC

**Date:** 01/28/2019

**From:** NEW YORK

NY-C14

**Contact:** [Redacted]

**Approved By:** SSA [Redacted]

**Drafted By:** [Redacted]

**Case ID #:** 58A-NY-2969119

(U) QANON; False Personation of a  
Federal Official

**Synopsis:** (U) To close a preliminary investigation and notify the  
Public Corruption Unit (PCU) of the case closing.

**Package Copy:** (U) Letterhead memorandum for dissemination.

**Enclosure(s):** Enclosed are the following items:

- 1. (U) Closing LHM

**Details:**

I. FBI New York attempted to identify the person(s) behind the online  
persona QANON by subpoenaing [Redacted]

[Redacted]

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Title: (U) Closing EC

Re: 58A-NY-2969119, 01/28/2019

II. Sufficient personnel and financial resources were available for the investigation.

III. A logical and reasonable investigation was completed.

IV. All investigative techniques and methods have been completed /discontinued.

V. No leads were set during the course of this investigation.

VI. No evidence was collected during the course of this investigation.

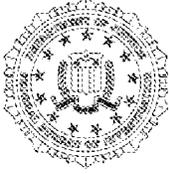
VII. C4 Administrative Closing, no criminal subject was identified after logical and reasonable preliminary investigation. AUSA [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] of the Southern District of New York concurred with closing.

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◆◆

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U. S. Department of Justice

Federal Bureau of Investigation

**In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.** 58A-NY-2969119

New York, New York  
January 24, 2019

CASE: QANON

The preliminary investigation was opened on August 13, 2018, based on allegations that an unknown person was posing as a federal government official on internet messageboards using the name QANON and potentially profiting off and/or inciting violence by use of their false personation. FBI New York has taken all logical and reasonable investigative steps warranted by the situation.

FBI New York attempted to identify the person(s) behind the online persona QANON by subpoenaing [redacted]



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b5

FBI New York is requesting to close the preliminary investigation with AUSA concurrence. FBI New York will reopen the investigation should new, actionable information present itself.

The point of contact for this investigation is Special Agent [redacted] telephone number [redacted]

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
FOI/PA  
DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET  
FOI/PA# 1459895-000

Total Deleted Page(s) = 8

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UNCLASSIFIED

**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION**

**Electronic Communication**

**Title:** (U) Subfile Opening Document

**Date:** 11/16/2018

**From:** NEW YORK

NY-C14

**Contact:**

**Approved By:** SSA

**Drafted By:**

**Case ID #:** 58A-NY-2969119-  
INTELPRODS

(U) QANON; False Personation of a  
Federal Official

**Synopsis:** (U) To open Intelligence Products sub-file.

**Details:**

To open Intelligence Products sub-file.

◆◆

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UNCLASSIFIED

~~SECRET//NOFORN//LES~~

DECLASSIFICATION AUTHORITY DERIVED FROM:  
FBI AUTOMATIC DECLASSIFICATION GUIDE  
DATE 04-27-2023 BY: [redacted]

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

## Import Form

b6  
b7C

**Form Type:** IntelProd-IN - Intelligence Note

**Date:** 08/12/2019

**Title:** (U//~~FOUO~~) Radicalized Followers of QAnon Likely Pose a Threat to NY  
AOR Residents Targeted by Conspiracy

**Approved By:** SIA [redacted]  
A/SSIA [redacted]  
[redacted]

b6  
b7C

**Drafted By:** [redacted]

**Case ID #:** 58A-NY-2969119- (U) QANON; False Personation of a Federal  
INTELPRODS Official

**Synopsis:** (U//~~FOUO~~) FBI New York assesses [redacted]

b7E

[Large redacted synopsis box]

~~Reason: 1.4 (b)  
Derived From: FBI NSIC CG  
Declassify On: 20291231~~

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**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION**

**Electronic Communication**

**Title:** (U) Subfile Opening Document

**Date:** 10/29/2018

**From:** NEW YORK

NY-C14

**Contact:** [REDACTED]

**Approved By:** SSA [REDACTED]

**Drafted By:** [REDACTED]

**Case ID #:** 58A-NY-2969119-TEL (U) QANON; False Personation of a  
Federal Official

**Synopsis:** (U) Request to open TEL subfile

**Details:**

Request to open TEL subfile for telephone pen register data.

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
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DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET  
FOI/PA# 1459895-000

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**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION**

**Electronic Communication**

Title: (U) [redacted]

Date: 01/16/2019

b7E

From: BOSTON

BS-WORC

Contact: [redacted]

b6  
b7C  
b7E

Approved By: [redacted]

Drafted By: [redacted]

Case ID #: 62F-BS-3049693

(U) NTOC2019 [redacted] Reported Concern That [redacted] Involved in the Conspiracy Group QAnon [redacted] (BS)

b6  
b7C  
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Synopsis: (U) NTOC2019 [redacted] Reported Concern That [redacted] Involved in the Conspiracy Group QAnon [redacted] (BS)

b6  
b7C  
b7E

Assessment Initiated: 01/16/2019, set to expire 02/15/2019

Details: On 01/13/2019, at 4:17 p.m. Eastern Time, [redacted] date of birth [redacted] cellular telephone number [redacted] address [redacted] called the FBI National Threat Operations Center (NTOC) to report concerns that [redacted] [redacted] has become involved in the conspiracy group, QAnon [redacted]

b6  
b7C  
b7D

NOTE: This information is being sent for situational awareness or any action deemed appropriate by the Boston Division.

[redacted] provided the following information:

[redacted]

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# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

## Import Form

Form Type: FD-71A

Date: 01/24/2019

Title: U NTOC2019 [redacted] Reported Concern That [redacted] Involved in the Conspiracy Group QAnon [redacted]

b6  
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Approved By: [redacted]

b6  
b7C

Drafted By: [redacted]

Case ID #: 62F-BS-3049693

(U) NTOC2019 [redacted] Reported Concern That [redacted] Involved in the Conspiracy Group QAnon [redacted] (BS)

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Synopsis: U DOCUMENT SYNOPSIS CREATED ON 01-24-2019 03:35 PM--SEE [redacted] FOR CURRENT ASSESSMENT DATA.

On 01/13/2019, at 4:17 p.m. Eastern Time, [redacted] date of birth [redacted] cellular telephone number [redacted] address [redacted] [redacted] called the FBI National Threat Operations Center (NTOC) to report concerns that [redacted] [redacted] has become involved in the conspiracy group, QAnon [redacted]

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NOTE: This information is being sent for situational awareness or any action deemed appropriate by the Boston Division.

[redacted] provided the following information:

[redacted]

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[redacted]

b6  
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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
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# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

## Import Form

**Form Type:** IntelProd-TIR - Tactical Intelligence Report

**Date:** 01/02/2019

**Title:** (U//~~FOUO~~) Interstate Threatening Communications By [redacted]  
[redacted]

b6  
b7C

**Approved By:** SIA [redacted]  
SSRA [redacted]

b6  
b7C

**Drafted By:** [redacted]

**Case ID #:** 9E-SU-3008380 (U) PAL2018 [redacted] E-Tip: Interstate Threatening Communciations By [redacted]  
[redacted] (SU)  
[redacted]

b6  
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### CONFIDENTIAL HUMAN SOURCE INFORMATION

Information contained in this document pertains to a highly sensitive intelligence source. Recipients are cautioned to avoid taking any action based on this information that could compromise the source without prior contact with the FBIHQ operational division, section, or field office, as appropriate.

**Synopsis:** (U//~~FOUO~~) [redacted]  
[redacted]

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**Enclosure(s):** Enclosed are the following items:

- 1. (U//~~FOUO~~) [redacted]
- 2. (U//~~FOUO~~) [redacted]
- 3. (U//~~FOUO~~) [redacted]

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