



governmentattic.org

"Rummaging in the government's attic"

Description of document: Emails in the account of U.S. Agency for Global Media (USAGM) Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Michael Pack that contain any of the following words: FOIA, visa, visas, renew, renewal, Bannon, Ultrasurf, and OTF, May 1- August 4, 2020

Requested date: 29-November-2020

Release date: 22-December-2020

Posted date: 13-December-2021

Source of document: Freedom of Information Act Request
USAGM FOIA Office
Room 3349
330 Independence Ave. SW
Washington, D.C. 20237
ATTN: FOIA/Privacy Act Officer
Fax: (202) 203-4585
Email: foia@usagm.gov

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September 7, 2021

Email

RE: Request Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act – FOIA #20-053

This is in response to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request dated August 4, 2020 to the U.S. Agency for Global Media (USAGM), which the Agency received on the same date. In your request, you asked for

“A copy of each email in the email account of CEO Michael Pack that contains any of the following words: FOIA, visa, visas, renew, renewal, Bannon, Ultrasurf, or OTF. I agree to accept the results of an electronic search. Please omit compilations of news clips. I agree to limit this request to emails between May 1, 2020 and the present.”

Enclosed are copies of documents responsive to your request. We redacted information under FOIA Exemption (b)(6) (protecting information, the release of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy) and under FOIA Exemption (b)(5) (protecting deliberate and pre-decisional materials, the release of which would harm the deliberative process). The Agency is waiving all fees for this request and the enclosed records are provided to you at no charge.

This concludes the Agency’s response to your request and it is now closed.

For further assistance or to discuss any aspect of your request, you may contact me at foia@usagm.gov or 202-920-2448. You also may contact USAGM’S FOIA Liaison, Daniel Rosenholtz, with questions about pending FOIA matters at drosenholtz@usagm.gov or 202-920-2342. Additionally, you may contact the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) at the National Archives and Records Administration to inquire about the FOIA mediation services they offer:



Office of Government Information Services
National Archives and Records Administration
8601 Adelphi Road-OGIS
College Park, Maryland 20740-6001
E-mail: ogis@nara.gov;
Telephone: 202-741-5770
Toll free: 1 877-684-6448
Facsimile: 202-741-5769

Finally, if you are not satisfied with this response to your request, you may file an administrative appeal with the Agency by writing to: Chairperson, Access Appeal Committee, USAGM, Suite 3349, 330 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20237. Your appeal must be postmarked or transmitted by facsimile to 202-203-4548 within 90 days of the date of this letter. It is advisable due to COVID-related restricted access to our building to e-mail a copy of any appeal to Mr. Rosenholtz.

If you have any questions regarding your request, please contact me at 202-203-4550, the Office of the General Counsel at the above address, or at foia@usagm.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "James McLaren".

James McLaren
Acting Deputy General Counsel

Enclosures

From: (b) (6)
To: [Emily Pauline Newman](#)
Subject: Connecting
Date: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 12:34:06 PM

Emily,

I hope this finds you well and finding time to sleep and t.

I wanted to pass the message below to you – (b) (6), a Director at NSC, provided a more accurate Uyghur translation.

Look forward to staying in touch and helping you in any way I can.

All the best,

(b) (6)

Deputy Assistant to the President
Senior Director for International Religious Freedom
National Security Council | The White House

On Jun 24, 2020, at 9:43 PM, (b) (6) wrote:

Matt,

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(b) (6) has helpfully provided (b) (6) own translation below so you get a sense of the intended message.

Perhaps with the leadership change this won't happen again, but it's worth flagging for Pack.

Thanks, (b) (6)

Sent from my iPhone

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(b) (6)

As I mentioned, here is the story with the RFA. Dozens of Uyghur Americans gathered in front of the White House again on Sunday to thank the President and Congress for passing and signing the Uyghur Act and the RFA ran the story in Uyghur (see #1 below). It was a good story so we asked if there is an English translation. They sent the English version (see #2 below), which has a different title and is totally a different story. RFA Uyghur Director said he cannot control how the English stories come out and noted: “English stories are not direct translation of our Uyghur stories since the target audience is quite different. Our English Service uses the information we provide them, and then write the story the way they deem it important.”

1. **“Uyghurs Gathered in front of the White House and Thanked the President”** (<https://www.rfa.org/uyghur/xewerler/amerikida-uyghur-mesilisi-06212020235228.html>) : See my translation of the important points

“Uyghurs gathered in front of the White House and thanked President Trump again for signing the Uyghur Human Rights Policy Act of 2020...In the few days after the signing of the Act, Chinese Government has used its own media outlets to continue to push for propaganda against the United States....On the afternoon of the day President Trump signed the bill, some Uyghurs in the area braced the pandemic and the heavy rain to celebrate the news in front of the White House. They chanted slogans like: “Thank you President!” “Thank you American people!” ...According to some observers, the Uyghur Human Rights Policy Act of 2020 is considered the most concrete step against China’s repressive campaign against Uyghurs.”

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Personally, some of the interviewees were surprised that the English version took the parts of their quotes that expressed Uyghurs’ wish for sanctions to hold perpetrators accountable but did not use their words that expressed their appreciation for the President for all the actions the Administration has taken so far and called on the European governments and others around the world to take similar actions as the United States to hold the perpetrators of human rights abuses accountable.

Thanks,

(b) (6)

Director for China and Mongolia
National Security Council
The White House

From: (b) (6)
To: [Emily Pauline Newman](#); [Morvared Namdarkhan](#)
Subject: Daily Signal (Heritage Foundation): "Severe, Fundamental Security Failures" in This Federal Agency Need to Be Investigated
Date: Friday, July 31, 2020 4:41:48 PM

FYI:

<https://www.dailysignal.com/2020/07/30/severe-fundamental-security-failures-in-this-federal-agency-need-to-be-investigated/>

(b) (6)

Deputy Assistant to the President
Office of the Senior Advisor for Policy
Executive Office of the President

w: (b) (6)

m: (b) (6)

From: (b) (6)
To: [Emily Pauline Newman](#)
Subject: FW: Briefing Paper # 2 Non-VOA people and VOA People/ Recommendations
Date: Monday, June 15, 2020 3:29:45 PM

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Monday, June 8, 2020 10:01 AM
To: Buckham, Matthew A. (b) (6) (b) (6) >; Diane Cullo
(b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: Briefing Paper # 2 Non-VOA people and VOA People/ Recommendations

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(b) (6)

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From: [Emily Pauline Newman](#)
To: (b) (6)
Subject: Fwd: USAGM CEO Pack Announces Investigation into Long-Term Security Failures
Date: Thursday, July 23, 2020 8:06:30 PM
Attachments: [image.png](#)
[Outlook-tv5ghcto.png](#)

FYI

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: USAGM House Announcements (b) (6)
Sent: Thursday, July 23, 2020 7:24 PM
To: All Staff
Subject: USAGM CEO Pack Announces Investigation into Long-Term Security Failures



USAGM CEO Pack Announces Investigation into Long-Term Security Failures

July 23, 2020

Dear Colleagues,

Multiple in-depth assessments of USAGM have been conducted by other federal agencies. These assessments reveal systemic, severe, and fundamental security failures, many of which have persisted for years. We are working closely with our federal partners to ensure that findings are addressed swiftly and appropriately. Because of the nature of the findings, I further requested meetings with the Chairmen and Ranking Members of USAGM's Congressional committees.

I also ordered a comprehensive investigation of USAGM operations because I am concerned that the failures identified compromise the agency's ability to fulfill its mission, undermine the efficiency and effectiveness of the federal workforce, and pose a threat to U.S. national security. Decisive action is required to protect our country, the integrity of USAGM, and the safety of our journalists in America and abroad.

(b) (6)

A large black rectangular redaction box covers the majority of the top-left section of the page.

Michael Pack
Chief Executive Officer
U.S. Agency for Global Media

From: (b) (6)
To: [Emily Pauline Newman](#)
Subject: RE: Connecting
Date: Thursday, July 2, 2020 12:03:12 PM

Emily – we will absolutely do so.

Matt asked me yesterday what roles you are still looking to fill so he could send in recommendations, as he offered to do during the meeting. If you are still seeking advice, please let me know where/how we can be helpful.

Reach out ANY time. I now know that we have a couple of mutual friends (and in your case, people who speak very highly of you!) ... (b) (6), one of my favorites, and (b) (6), who takes all the credit for you (ha!).

I hope your holiday weekend provides you some well-deserved rest.

All my best,

(b) (6)

From: Emily Pauline Newman (b) (6)
Sent: Thursday, July 2, 2020 12:50 AM
To: (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Connecting

Thank you so much for your note, (b) (6)! I hope you are doing well too.

This information is troubling, but helpful and much appreciated. I hope that you and your team will continue to flag any translation concerns.

It was so good to speak with you last week. I look forward to working with you, and hope we can connect by phone or in person again soon.

If we don't talk before the Fourth, have a wonderful Independence Day weekend, and thanks again for your support!

Best,
Emily

(b) (6) (cell)

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 12:34:01 PM
To: Emily Pauline Newman (b) (6)
Subject: Connecting

Emily,

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I wanted to pass the message below to you – (b) (6) a Director at NSC, provided a more accurate Uyghur translation.

Look forward to staying in touch and helping you in any way I can.

All the best,

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Deputy Assistant to the President
Senior Director for International Religious Freedom
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that it could derail the implementation of a long-stalled U.S.-China trade deal... In an Oval Office interview on Friday afternoon, Trump told Axios that he had held off on imposing Treasury sanctions against Chinese officials involved with the internment camps because doing so would have interfered with his trade deal with Beijing....”

Personally, some of the interviewees were surprised that the English version took the parts of their quotes that expressed Uyghurs’ wish for sanctions to hold perpetrators accountable but did not use their words that expressed their appreciation for the President for all the actions the Administration has taken so far and called on the European governments and others around the world to take similar actions as the United States to hold the perpetrators of human rights abuses accountable.

Thanks,

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Director for China and Mongolia
National Security Council
The White House

From: [Emily Pauline Newman](#)
To: (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Connecting
Date: Thursday, July 2, 2020 12:49:55 AM

Thank you so much for your note, (b) (6)!! I hope you are doing well too.

This information is troubling, but helpful and much appreciated. I hope that you and your team will continue to flag any translation concerns.

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Best,
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(b) (6) (cell)

From: (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6)
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“Uyghurs gathered in front of the White House and thanked President Trump again for signing the Uyghur Human Rights Policy Act of 2020...In the few days after the signing of the Act, Chinese Government has used its own media outlets to continue to push for propaganda against the United States....On the afternoon of the day President Trump signed the bill, some Uyghurs in the area braced the pandemic and the heavy rain to celebrate the news in front of the White House. They chanted slogans like: “Thank you President!” “Thank you American people!” ...According to some observers, the Uyghur Human Rights Policy Act of 2020 is considered the most concrete step against China’s repressive campaign against Uyghurs.”

2. **“Uyghur Diaspora Calls on Trump to Sanction Chinese Officials Over Rights Abuses in Xinjiang”** ([\(>https://www.rfa.org/english/news/uyghur/sanctions-06222020141243.html<\)](https://www.rfa.org/english/news/uyghur/sanctions-06222020141243.html))

“Members of the Uyghur diaspora in the U.S. and Canada have called on U.S. President Donald Trump to immediately enact sanctions against Chinese officials complicit in rights abuses in northwest China’s Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region (XUAR) under legislation he signed last week. A group of some 60 Uyghurs gathered in front of the White House on Sunday holding signs applauding Trump’s June 17 enactment of the Uyghur Human Rights Policy Act of 2020 (UHRPA), which passed nearly unanimously through both houses of Congress last month... Observers have questioned why Trump has yet to bring sanctions under the new law, particularly in light of allegations made public on the same day that he signed it by former national security adviser John Bolton... However, the act provides significant leeway for Trump to withhold sanctions if he believes doing so would run counter to U.S. interests. His administration already has the ability to sanction Chinese officials over rights abuses and has chosen not to do so, amidst fears

that it could derail the implementation of a long-stalled U.S.-China trade deal... In an Oval Office interview on Friday afternoon, Trump told Axios that he had held off on imposing Treasury sanctions against Chinese officials involved with the internment camps because doing so would have interfered with his trade deal with Beijing....”

Personally, some of the interviewees were surprised that the English version took the parts of their quotes that expressed Uyghurs’ wish for sanctions to hold perpetrators accountable but did not use their words that expressed their appreciation for the President for all the actions the Administration has taken so far and called on the European governments and others around the world to take similar actions as the United States to hold the perpetrators of human rights abuses accountable.

Thanks,

(b) (6)

Director for China and Mongolia
National Security Council
The White House

From: (b) (6)
To: [Emily Pauline Newman](#)
Subject: RE: Coverage - J-1 - draft
Date: Monday, July 13, 2020 8:35:36 AM

Thanks, Emily.

(b) (6)
Deputy Assistant to the President
Office of the Senior Advisor for Policy
Executive Office of the President
w: (b) (6)
m: (b) (6)

From: Emily Pauline Newman (b) (6)
Sent: Sunday, July 12, 2020 2:52 PM
To: (b) (6)
Subject: Fwd: Coverage - J-1 - draft

FYI

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: Jonathan Bronitsky (b) (6)
Sent: Sunday, July 12, 2020 2:38:14 PM
To: Emily Pauline Newman (b) (6)
Subject: Coverage - J-1 - draft

PRE-DECISIONAL AND DELIBERATIVE PROCESS

From: [Frank Wuco](#)
To: [Jonathan Bronitsky](#); [Diane Cullo](#)
Cc: [Emily Pauline Newman](#); [Morvared Namdarkhan](#); [Sam Dewey](#); [Toni DeLancey](#); (b) (6)
Subject: RE: Presser: OPM report (draft)
Date: Monday, August 3, 2020 2:51:47 PM
Attachments: (b) (5)

Jonathan,

Revised (Ver 2) attached.

Frank

From: Jonathan Bronitsky (b) (6)
Sent: Sunday, August 2, 2020 3:35 PM
To: Frank Wuco (b) (6); Diane Cullo (b) (6)
Cc: Emily Pauline Newman (b) (6); Morvared Namdarkhan (b) (6); Sam Dewey (b) (6); Toni DeLancey (b) (6)
Subject: Presser: OPM report (draft)

PRE-DECISIONAL AND DELIBERATIVE PROCESS

-
Frank and Diane,

Please find attached a draft presser for your review.

ETP: 10:00 AM – Tuesday, August 4

(b) (6)

From: [Andre Mendes](#)
To: (b) (6); [Emily Pauline Newman](#)
Subject: RE: Touching Base - Phone Call Request
Date: Tuesday, July 21, 2020 11:46:29 AM

Hi (b) (6):

Things just changed for this afternoon.

My apologies. Will get back to you as soon as I can.

Best,

Andre

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Monday, July 20, 2020 6:42 PM
To: Emily Pauline Newman (b) (6); Andre Mendes (b) (6)
Subject: Touching Base - Phone Call Request

Emily and Andre,

I hope this finds you both well. I was hoping to touch base with one (or both) of you by phone at a time that's convenient for you. As you likely know, we are continuing to move forward with the interagency process on the Firewall Project and I want to ensure we are supporting your efforts at USAGM and staying in lockstep.

I can be available tomorrow after 1600; Wednesday between noon – 1430 or 1600 – until; or most of the day Thursday.

Look forward to hearing from you.

Best,

(b) (6)

Deputy Assistant to the President
National Security Council | The White House

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From: (b) (6)
To: [Andre Mendes](#); [Emily Pauline Newman](#)
Subject: RE: Touching Base - Phone Call Request
Date: Tuesday, July 21, 2020 12:06:14 PM

Andre – totally understand! I'll standby. Wednesday and Thursday are still available for me.

From: Andre Mendes (b) (6)
Sent: Tuesday, July 21, 2020 11:46 AM
To: (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); Emily Pauline Newman
(b) (6)
Subject: RE: Touching Base - Phone Call Request

Hi (b) (6):

Things just changed for this afternoon.

My apologies. Will get back to you as soon as I can.

Best,

Andre

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Monday, July 20, 2020 6:42 PM
To: Emily Pauline Newman (b) (6); Andre Mendes (b) (6)
Subject: Touching Base - Phone Call Request

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I can be available tomorrow after 1600; Wednesday between noon – 1430 or 1600 – until; or most of the day Thursday.

Look forward to hearing from you.

Best,

(b) (6)

Deputy Assistant to the President

National Security Council | The White House

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To: [Andre Mendes](#); [Emily Pauline Newman](#)
Subject: RE: Touching Base - Phone Call Request
Date: Tuesday, July 21, 2020 12:06:14 PM

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From: Andre Mendes (b) (6)
Sent: Tuesday, July 21, 2020 11:46 AM
To: (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); Emily Pauline Newman
(b) (6)
Subject: RE: Touching Base - Phone Call Request

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My apologies. Will get back to you as soon as I can.

Best,

Andre

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Monday, July 20, 2020 6:42 PM
To: Emily Pauline Newman (b) (6); Andre Mendes (b) (6)
Subject: Touching Base - Phone Call Request

Emily and Andre,

I hope this finds you both well. I was hoping to touch base with one (or both) of you by phone at a time that's convenient for you. As you likely know, we are continuing to move forward with the interagency process on the Firewall Project and I want to ensure we are supporting your efforts at USAGM and staying in lockstep.

I can be available tomorrow after 1600; Wednesday between noon – 1430 or 1600 – until; or most of the day Thursday.

Look forward to hearing from you.

Best,

(b) (6)

Deputy Assistant to the President

National Security Council | The White House

The content of this email is intended for the recipient specified in the message only. Forwarding or sharing any part of this message with a third party, without the written consent of the sender, is strictly prohibited. If you received this message in error, please reply and follow with its deletion.

From: [Jonathan Bronitsky](#)
To: (b) (6); [CEO2016](#); [Morvared Namdarkhan](#); [Diane Cullo](#); [Emily Pauline Newman](#); [Frank Wuco](#); [Toni DeLancey](#); [Thad Strom](#); [Sam Dewey](#)
Subject: RE: USAGM: coverage
Date: Tuesday, August 4, 2020 9:09:23 AM

Fantastic – thank you!

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Tuesday, August 4, 2020 9:03 AM
To: Jonathan Bronitsky (b) (6); [CEO2016](#) (b) (6); [Morvared Namdarkhan](#) (b) (6); [Diane Cullo](#) (b) (6); [Emily Pauline Newman](#) (b) (6); [Frank Wuco](#) (b) (6); [Toni DeLancey](#) (b) (6); [Thad Strom](#) (b) (6); [Sam Dewey](#) (b) (6)
Subject: RE: USAGM: coverage

Great! I've flagged for WSJ, (b) (6)

From: Jonathan Bronitsky (b) (6)
Sent: Tuesday, August 4, 2020 8:52 AM
To: [CEO2016](#) (b) (6); [Morvared Namdarkhan](#) (b) (6); [Diane Cullo](#) (b) (6); [Emily Pauline Newman](#) (b) (6); [Frank Wuco](#) (b) (6); [Toni DeLancey](#) (b) (6); [Thad Strom](#) (b) (6); [Sam Dewey](#) (b) (6)
Subject: USAGM: coverage

- **Mark Hemingway and Susan Crabtree**, *RealClearPolitics* (08.04.20), [U.S. Broadcast Agency Didn't Thoroughly Vet Foreign Workers](#)
-
- **Dan Robinson**, *BBG-USAGM Watch* (08.04.20), [USAGM: Past Agency Leaders Ignored National Security Procedures, Failed to Adequately Vet Staff](#)
-
- **Bill Gertz**, *Washington Times* (08.04.20), [Lax vetting of foreign employees at U.S. broadcasters jeopardizing national security](#)

From: (b) (6)
To: [Jonathan Bronitsky](#); [CEO2016](#); [Morvared Namdarkhan](#); [Diane Cullo](#); [Emily Pauline Newman](#); [Frank Wuco](#); [Toni DeLancey](#); [Thad Strom](#); [Sam Dewey](#)
Subject: RE: USAGM: coverage
Date: Tuesday, August 4, 2020 9:02:49 AM

Great! I've flagged for WSJ, (b) (6)

From: Jonathan Bronitsky (b) (6)
Sent: Tuesday, August 4, 2020 8:52 AM
To: CEO2016 (b) (6); Morvared Namdarkhan (b) (6); Diane Cullo (b) (6); Emily Pauline Newman (b) (6); Frank Wuco (b) (6); Toni DeLancey (b) (6); Thad Strom (b) (6); Sam Dewey (b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: USAGM: coverage

- **Mark Hemingway and Susan Crabtree**, *RealClearPolitics* (08.04.20), [U.S. Broadcast Agency Didn't Thoroughly Vet Foreign Workers](#)
-
- **Dan Robinson**, *BBG-USAGM Watch* (08.04.20), [USAGM: Past Agency Leaders Ignored National Security Procedures, Failed to Adequately Vet Staff](#)
-
- **Bill Gertz**, *Washington Times* (08.04.20), [Lax vetting of foreign employees at U.S. broadcasters jeopardizing national security](#)

From: (b) (6)
To: Jonathan Bronitsky; CEO2016; Emily Pauline Newman; Diane Cullo
Subject: RE: USAGM: rollout
Date: Wednesday, July 29, 2020 12:52:24 PM
Attachments: (b) (5)

Thanks for sending. Think this is a good start! Attached are my edits and thoughts.

Coms plan: (b) (5)
[Redacted]

Messaging: (b) (5)
[Redacted]

(b) (6)
[Redacted]

Timeline: (b) (5)
[Redacted]

Am glad to send thoughts on the next round of edits. Will be in a posture of waiting for you to tell me which of these aspects I can execute for you on rollout.

(b) (6)
Director of Communications
The White House, Office of Management and Budget
(b) (6) work
[Redacted]

From: Jonathan Bronitsky (b) (6)
Sent: Wednesday, July 29, 2020 11:24 AM
To: CEO2016 (b) (6); Emily Pauline Newman (b) (6); Diane Cullo (b) (6)
Subject: USAGM: rollout

PRE-DECISIONAL AND DELIBERATIVE PROCESS

-
Please find attached a draft timeline, comms plan, and messaging one-pager.

JB

From: (b) (6)
To: [Toni DeLancey](#); [Jonathan Bronitsky](#); [CEO2016](#); [Emily Pauline Newman](#); [Diane Cullo](#)
Subject: RE: USAGM: security messaging (draft)
Date: Thursday, July 30, 2020 5:43:17 PM

This looks good. I think you'd def want to engage these folks before the embargo breaks

- (b) (6)
- (b) (6)
- (b) (6)

As soon as the backgrounder document gets finalized, send it over and I can ping my folks.

From: Toni DeLancey (b) (6)
Sent: Wednesday, July 29, 2020 7:54 PM
To: Jonathan Bronitsky (b) (6); CEO2016 (b) (6); Emily Pauline Newman (b) (6); Diane Cullo (b) (6)
Subject: RE: USAGM: security messaging (draft)

PRE-DECISIONAL AND DELIBERATIVE PROCESS

Also sending the revised draft of rollout matrix.

From: Jonathan Bronitsky (b) (6)
Sent: Wednesday, July 29, 2020 7:36 PM
To: CEO2016 (b) (6); Emily Pauline Newman (b) (6); Diane Cullo (b) (6); Toni DeLancey (b) (6)
Subject: USAGM: security messaging (draft)
Importance: High

PRE-DECISIONAL AND DELIBERATIVE PROCESS

-
Team, please find attached a revised messaging one-pager.

From: (b) (6)
To: [Jonathan Bronitsky](#); [CEO2016](#); [Emily Pauline Newman](#); [Diane Cullo](#); [Toni DeLancey](#)
Subject: RE: USAGM: security messaging (draft)
Date: Thursday, July 30, 2020 8:49:56 AM
Attachments: (b) (5)

This looks great! a few edits attached.

If we want to use this as a cheat sheet for journos, one thing I would do at the top of this is just list out all the umbrella outlets that fall under USAGM.

From: Jonathan Bronitsky (b) (6)
Sent: Wednesday, July 29, 2020 7:36 PM
To: CEO2016 (b) (6); Emily Pauline Newman (b) (6); Diane Cullo (b) (6); Toni DeLancey (b) (6)
(b) (6) (b) (6)
Subject: USAGM: security messaging (draft)
Importance: High

PRE-DECISIONAL AND DELIBERATIVE PROCESS

-

Team, please find attached a revised messaging one-pager.

From: (b) (6)
To: Jonathan Bronitsky
Cc: Diane Cullo; Toni DeLancey; CEO2016; Emily Pauline Newman; Sam Dewey
Subject: RE: USAGM: security messaging (draft)
Date: Thursday, July 30, 2020 5:48:29 PM

Great!

From: Jonathan Bronitsky (b) (6)
Sent: Thursday, July 30, 2020 5:47 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Diane Cullo (b) (6); Toni DeLancey (b) (6); CEO2016 (b) (6); Emily Pauline Newman (b) (6); Sam Dewey (b) (6)
Subject: RE: USAGM: security messaging (draft)

Thanks, (b) (6), and I believe that the attached one-pager draft is pretty close to final.

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Thursday, July 30, 2020 5:43 PM
To: Toni DeLancey (b) (6); Jonathan Bronitsky (b) (6); CEO2016 (b) (6); Emily Pauline Newman (b) (6); Diane Cullo (b) (6)
Subject: RE: USAGM: security messaging (draft)

This looks good. I think you'd def want to engage these folks before the embargo breaks

- (b) (6)
- (b) (6)
- (b) (6)

As soon as the backgrounder document gets finalized, send it over and I can ping my folks.

From: Toni DeLancey (b) (6)
Sent: Wednesday, July 29, 2020 7:54 PM
To: Jonathan Bronitsky (b) (6); CEO2016 (b) (6); Emily Pauline Newman (b) (6); Diane Cullo (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: RE: USAGM: security messaging (draft)

PRE-DECISIONAL AND DELIBERATIVE PROCESS

Also sending the revised draft of rollout matrix.

From: Jonathan Bronitsky (b) (6)

Sent: Wednesday, July 29, 2020 7:36 PM

To: CEO2016 (b) (6); Emily Pauline Newman (b) (6) Diane
Cullo (b) (6) Toni DeLancey (b) (6)
(b) (6) (b) (6)

Subject: USAGM: security messaging (draft)

Importance: High

PRE-DECISIONAL AND DELIBERATIVE PROCESS

-

Team, please find attached a revised messaging one-pager.

From: (b) (6)
To: [Jonathan Bronitsky](#); [Diane Cullo](#); [Toni DeLancey](#); [CEO2016](#); [Emily Pauline Newman](#); [Morvared Namdarkhan](#); [Sam Dewey](#)
Subject: RE: USAGM: security rollout (drafts)
Date: Friday, July 31, 2020 1:25:18 PM

Can you also send the report over for me to share w the reporters I'm talking to? I'll keep you updated as they share interest

From: Jonathan Bronitsky (b) (6)
Sent: Thursday, July 30, 2020 8:01 PM
To: Diane Cullo (b) (6); Toni DeLancey (b) (6); CEO2016 (b) (6); Emily Pauline Newman (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); Morvared Namdarkhan (b) (6); Sam Dewey (b) (6)
Subject: USAGM: security rollout (drafts)

PRE-DECISIONAL AND DELIBERATIVE PROCESS

-
Team, for the sake of simplicity, I'm starting this new chain. The most up-to-date messaging and rollout drafts are attached.

And for those who might appreciate additional context, I've also attached a draft USAGM backgrounder.

Sincerely,
JBB

From: [Andre Mendes](#)
To: [Emily Pauline Newman](#); [Michael B. Williams](#)
Cc: [Diane Cullo](#)
Subject: RE: VOA J-1 Visa and Permanent Residence Requests
Date: Wednesday, June 24, 2020 1:45:43 PM

That list is just admin people. She should be instructed to stop using it

We can delete it in the back end but she might use it for her own internal workflows.

Let me know if you want it deleted.

Best,

A

From: Emily Pauline Newman (b) (6)
Sent: Wednesday, June 24, 2020 1:42 PM
To: Andre Mendes (b) (6); Michael B. Williams (b) (6)
Cc: Diane Cullo (b) (6)
Subject: FW: VOA J-1 Visa and Permanent Residence Requests

Andre & Michael:

Please see below.

As discussed, Oanh should not be using the CEO Office list serve, and this type of information should flow up the chain through her direct report only, not the entire front office (plus whomever is included on this list serve). Please ensure this is addressed again today.

Additionally, it remains unclear to me why Oanh is involved in this matter at all. Who typically handles these types of requests? This is a process question that may require further consideration.

Thank you,
Emily

From: Oanh Tran (b) (6)
Sent: Wednesday, June 24, 2020 1:25 PM
To: Diane Cullo (b) (6); Emily Pauline Newman (b) (6)
Cc: CEO Office (b) (6)
Subject: VOA J-1 Visa and Permanent Residence Requests

Hi Diane/Emily,

Just wanted to check back with you on VOA's requests to either extend J-1 visa or sponsor permanent residency for the following employees:

- J-1 visa extension for VOA Thai (b) (6)
- J-1 visa extension for VOA Indonesian (b) (6)
- Permanent Residency Sponsorship for VOA Korean (b) (6)

For your convenience, I've attached the emails again.

VOA is worried about the two J-1 visa holders—(b) (6) is on an expired visa and (b) (6)'s visa will expire on July 26.

Please let us know soon the status of the above individuals.

Many thanks!

From: (b) (6)
To: [Emily Pauline Newman](#)
Subject: Recommendations for International Broadcasting Positions
Date: Sunday, June 14, 2020 4:34:27 PM
Attachments: (b) (6)

[Namdar, Mora.pdf](#)

(b) (6)

[Wuco, Frank.pdf](#)

Emily:

Per our discussions, below are recommendations for international broadcasting positions, including for VOA Director (please note, I have flagged most of these recommendations, including for sub-director positions, for John, Matt, and the team at PPO within the last few weeks, so these names should already be on their radar and/or undergoing initial review and screening). I have color-coded the below individuals for your convenience:

- **Green** is current political appointee
- **Red** is current career employee
- **Blue** is referral (i.e., I don't know the individual personally, but they came from a trusted source)
- **Highlighted** are people I know well

VOA Director

- (b) (6)
- **Alberto Fernandez** ([bio](#))
- (b) (6) (b) (6) (note: I worked closely with (b) (6) when she was on the White House Comms team; she is also from Florida, which could be helpful; I believe she is currently working for Gov. DeSantis)
- (b) (6) (b) (6) (note: I worked very closely with (b) (6) during our years on the Hill; he is probably one of the most capable individuals in the international broadcasting/public diplomacy space; he also literally wrote the law that created USAGM for Chairman Royce and governs the new CEO structure; you couldn't ask for a more qualified individual for this spot; your biggest challenge might be pulling him away from the U.S. Institute of Peace (USIP) before the election)
- (b) (6)
- (b) (6)

Other Positions (including content management and specific language services)

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

[redacted] (language skills: fluent Farsi) (note: I think Mora could handle dual-hatting VOA Deputy Director and Director of the Persian News Network)

- **Dan Negrea (State)** (language skills: fluent French, German, and Romanian)

(b) (6)

- **Elizabeth “Beth” Robbins (State)** (no resume) (note: I believe Amanda and Mora both like Beth and would agree she could be an asset, but your biggest challenge with her might be that she is the only sound political appointee in State’s public affairs shop, besides Mora; you might create a vacuum if you pull her away; still, she might be worth a conversation)
- **Belsis Romero (EOP)** (language skills: fluent Spanish)

(b) (6)

John C. Sullivan (State)

- **Natalie Szmyd (DFC)** (language skills: fluent Polish and Spanish, proficient Portuguese)

(b) (6)

- **Frank Wuco** (note: Frank, as you know, has tons of military comms and broadcasting know-how)

I can provide additional feedback and perspective any time this week, if and when you have time. Just let me know when works for you.

(I can also come up with more recommendations, if necessary.)

(b) (6)

Deputy Assistant to the President

Office of the Senior Advisor for Policy
Executive Office of the President

w: (b) (6)
m: [REDACTED]

From: (b) (6)
To: [Emily Pauline Newman](#)
Subject: Rider
Date: Wednesday, July 8, 2020 12:19:18 PM
Attachments: [USAGM Bill Compare FY20 versus Dem Subcommittee.docx](#)

Here's the rider, note that they hit you guys with a reg that they moved without any outside approval that this would then codify into approps law.

(b) (6)
Deputy Associate Director for Legislative Affairs (Appropriations)
Office of Management and Budget
Executive Office of the President
Office: (b) (6) | Cell: (b) (6)

From: (b) (6)
To: [Emily Pauline Newman](#); [Andre Mendes](#)
Subject: Touching Base - Phone Call Request
Date: Monday, July 20, 2020 6:43:49 PM

Emily and Andre,

I hope this finds you both well. I was hoping to touch base with one (or both) of you by phone at a time that's convenient for you. As you likely know, we are continuing to move forward with the interagency process on the Firewall Project and I want to ensure we are supporting your efforts at USAGM and staying in lockstep.

I can be available tomorrow after 1600; Wednesday between noon – 1430 or 1600 – until; or most of the day Thursday.

Look forward to hearing from you.

Best,

(b) (6)

Deputy Assistant to the President
National Security Council | The White House

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From: (b) (6)
To: [Emily Pauline Newman](#)
Cc: [Morvared Namdarkhan](#)
Subject: USAGM Visa and Recruitment Data
Date: Tuesday, July 7, 2020 11:29:55 AM

Emily:

I hope all is well.

Can you please let me know the following when you are able (but preferably by COB today, Tuesday 7/7, or COB Wednesday 7/8, if COB today is too short a turn-around):

- How many USAGM personnel, including non-FTE contractors, are in the United States pursuant to visas.
- The breakdown of USAGM personnel who are here on visas, broken down by visa category (H-1B, J-1, etc.).
- The language or other specialized skill that justify these individuals' presence on USAGM staff.
- A snapshot of how USAGM recruits talent for the Voice of America or the surrogate broadcasters, both domestically and internationally.
- Any other relevant information.

I am available at your convenience if you want to discuss, either before or after you assemble the above information.

Thanks in advance.

(b) (6)

Deputy Assistant to the President
Office of the Senior Advisor for Policy
Executive Office of the President

w: (b) (6)

m: (b) (6)

From: [Jonathan Bronitsky](#)
To: [CEO2016](#); [Emily Pauline Newman](#); [Diane Cullo](#); [Toni DeLancey](#); (b) (6)
Subject: USAGM: security messaging (draft)
Date: Wednesday, July 29, 2020 7:36:32 PM
Attachments: (b) (5)
Importance: High

PRE-DECISIONAL AND DELIBERATIVE PROCESS

-
Team, please find attached a revised messaging one-pager.

From: [Andre Mendes](#)
To: [Emily Pauline Newman](#); [Diane Cullo](#)
Subject: FW: Extension -URGENT!
Date: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 2:16:51 PM
Attachments: (b) (6) [redacted] [VOA Thai J1 Extension Justification.pdf](#)
[AT100001.htm](#)
Importance: High

This one is urgent.

Best,

a

From: (b) (6) [redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 2:13 PM
To: Andre Mendes (b) (6) [redacted]
Cc: Elez Biberaj (b) (6) [redacted]; Kelu Chao (b) (6) [redacted]
Subject: FW: Extension -URGENT!

Hi Andre,

Could you please request approval for a J-1 visa extension (attached) that is for one of our best reporters in the Thai Service. We need to notify the State Department for (b) (6) extension or (b) (6) will have to stop work tomorrow. (b) (6) resume, etc., are all in the attachment.

Thanks,

(b) (6) [redacted]

From: Kelu Chao (b) (6) [redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 2:05 PM
To: Elez Biberaj (b) (6) [redacted]
Subject: Fwd: Extension -URGENT!

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: (b) (6) [redacted]
Date: June 30, 2020 at 1:53:56 PM EDT
To: (b) (6) [redacted]
(b) (6) [redacted]
Cc: (b) (6) [redacted]
(b) (6) [redacted], Kelu Chao (b) (6) [redacted], Marie
Lennon (b) (6) [redacted]
Subject: RE: Extension

Hello (b) (6)

As I explained on June 24th (b) (6) can work through tomorrow July 1, 2020, but until the extension is approved by the CEO we cannot submit the paperwork for payment or send it over to State Department for approval. I have notified my contact at State Department and she is waiting on the documents so they can be reviewed and approved. Marie I have attached the documents you needed.

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 12:44 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Kelu Chao (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Extension

Hi (b) (6)
Can you advise us on what to do for tomorrow, if the J1 Extension Memo for (b) (6) does not get signed by CEO Pack today? Do we need to ask (b) (6) to stop working? (b) (6) J1 visa expires tomorrow.

Please advise.

Thank you,
(b) (6)
Director - VOA East Asia and Pacific Division
P: (b) (6)
Sent from my iPhone

On Jun 25, 2020, at 11:22, (b) (6)
wrote:

Good morning, (b) (6)

Thank you for the clarification. We will (nervously) wait for good news. (b) (6) has lifted the VOA Thai's performance in (b) (6) first year with us, we'd hate to lose (b) (6). We "plucked" (b) (6) from Wall Street Journal!

Thank you, as always, for your support!

(b) (6)

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Wednesday, June 24, 2020 8:57 AM
To: (b) (6)
(b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: RE: Extension

Hello

Once I get the signed approval, I will ask my person over at State Department to expedite the extension approval. After that expiration date (b) (6) would 30 day to return home.

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Wednesday, June 24, 2020 8:20 AM
To: (b) (6)
(b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Extension

Most definitely, (b) (6).

(b) (6), what should we do if the deadline passes? It's only 5 days away.

Thank you,

(b) (6)
Director - East Asia & Pacific Division
330 Independence Ave., SW (b) (6)

Washington, D.C. 20237

Tel: (b) (6)

From: (b) (6)

Sent: Wednesday, June 24, 2020 8:14 AM

To: (b) (6)

(b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6)

Subject: Re: Extension

Thank you, (b) (6). I will talk to (b) (6) about this.

Sent from my iPhone

On Jun 24, 2020, at 8:04 AM, (b) (6)
(b) (6) wrote:

Thank you for the update, (b) (6).

(b) (6)

Director - East Asia & Pacific Division
330 Independence Ave., SW (b) (6)
Washington, D.C. 20237
Tel: (b) (6)

From: (b) (6)

Sent: Wednesday, June 24, 2020 7:22 AM

To: (b) (6)

(b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6)

(b) (6)

Subject: Extension

Good Morning

I wanted to inform you that as of today
(b) (6) extension paperwork
has not be signed off by CEO Mr. Pack. This
DS-2019 will expire on July 1, 2020 and (b) (6)

will not be able to work until this is approved. I was told Mr. Pack have been informed of the deadline.

(b) (6)

**Human Resources Specialist
Human Resource Division
330 Independence Ave, SW**

(b) (6)

Washington, DC 20237

(b) (6)

From: [Emily Pauline Newman](#)
To: [Diane Cullo](#) (b) (6)
Subject: FW: Time Sensitive: J-1 Visa Extension Request for VOA Indonesian (b) (6)
Date: Tuesday, June 16, 2020 11:51:00 PM
Attachments: [J1 VISA EXTENSION MEMO - \(b\) \(6\) .PSC_VOAPPI.pdf](#)

Please add to list for discussion.

From: Oanh Tran (b) (6)
Sent: Tuesday, June 16, 2020 3:47 PM
To: Diane Cullo (b) (6); Emily Pauline Newman (b) (6)
Cc: CEO Office (b) (6)
Subject: Time Sensitive: J-1 Visa Extension Request for VOA Indonesian (b) (6)

Hi Diane/Emily,

Attached please find a memo from VOA requesting a J-1 visa extension for VOA Indonesian (b) (6)

(b) (6) was hired by VOA as a Personal Service Contractor (PSC) and, since (b) (6) doesn't have a work permit, VOA sponsored (b) (6) on a J-1 visa so that (b) (6) can work. (b) (6) current J-1 visa expires July 26, 2020, so we need to submit (b) (6) paperwork to ICE soon if we want to extend (b) (6) J-1 visa.

We'd be happy to brief you, if you like. In the meantime, we recommend the CEO's immediate approval of the above request from VOA to extend (b) (6) (b) (6)'s J-1 visa.

Many thanks!

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Friday, June 12, 2020 5:33 PM
To: CEO Office (b) (6)
Subject: RE: J-1 Visa Permanent Residency Sponsorship - (b) (6)

Hi Team,

Here is another J-1 Visa Sponsorship request for CEO Pack to sign.

Thanks,

(b) (6)

From: [Oanh Tran](#)
To: [Diane Cullo](#); [Emily Pauline Newman](#)
Cc: [CEO Office](#)
Subject: VOA J-1 Visa Extension Request
Date: Monday, July 20, 2020 3:12:18 PM
Attachments: [J-1 Visa Extension Memo - \(b\) \(6\) .pdf](#)

Diane/Emily,

Attached please find a request from VOA to extend J-1 visa for (b) (6), a Full Time Employee in the Hausa Service. (b) (6) current visa will expire on August 16, 2020.

Thanks!

ROUTING AND TRANSMITTAL SLIP

Date

06/ 04 /2020

TO: (Name, office symbol, room number, building, Agency/Post)

	Initials	Date
1. (b) (6)	(b) (6)	
2.		06-11-2020
3.		6/18/2020
4.		6/18/2020
5. Michael Pack, USAGM		

Action	File	Note and Return
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Approval	For Clearance	Per Conversation
<input type="checkbox"/> As Requested	For Correction	Prepare Reply
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Circulate	For Your Information	See Me
<input type="checkbox"/> Comment	Investigate	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Signature
<input type="checkbox"/> Coordination	Justify	

REMARKS

FINAL ROUTING TO:

6. (b) (6) OMS/HR/O (b) (6)

FY20 FEDERAL EMPLOYEE

J-1 VISA Extension Request
VOA/PPU

DO NOT use this form as a RECORD of approvals, concurrences, disposals, clearances, and similar actions

FROM: (Name, organization symbol, Agency/Post)	Room Number - Building
(b) (6)	(b) (6) Cohen
	Phone Number
	(b) (6)



J-1 Visa EXTENTION REQUEST MEMO

DATE: June 4, 2020

MEMORANDUM FOR: USAGM - CEO, Michael Pack (b) (6)
THROUGH: VOA/PP, EAP Division Director - (b) (6)
FROM: VOA/PPV, Thai Service Chief - (b) (6)
SUBJECT: Request for a J-1 Visa extension for (b) (6)

Attached is the memo requesting a J-1 Visa extension for (b) (6) in Voice of America, East Asia and Pacific Division's Thai Service.

USAGM - (Signature) Date
Approve Disapprove Discuss

VOA - (b) (6) Date 6/18/2020
Approve X Disapprove Discuss

Clearances: (b) (6) (b) (6)
VOA - (b) (6)
OMS/OHR - (b) (6) (b) (6)



J-1 EXTENTION REQUEST MEMO

The VOA Thai Service has a need for an FTE employee with journalism and multimedia skills, who understands Thai and the United States, and has native and idiomatic fluency in Thai and English.

This request is for continued sponsorship of a J-1 Visa for (b) (6) to provide the aforementioned services to VOA.

(b) (6) s current J-1 Visa expires on May 1, 2020.

(b) (6) has more than years of journalistic experience and is currently supporting the VOA Thai Service as an International Broadcaster. Prior to this, (b) (6) worked as journalist at The Wall Street Journal. (b) (6) had won the (b) (6) (b) (6) began (b) (6) journalism career as a reporter for NHK Japan Broadcasting Corporation.

(b) (6) holds a master degree in Journalism from Columbia University, and another master degree in Business and Economic Reporting from New York University.

(b) (6) has an in-depth knowledge of the target area – a critical factor for effective reporting for VOA Thai content. (b) (6) has demonstrated this knowledge in his excellent coverage of news developments and major events of regional importance. (b) (6) is a Thai/English bilingual professional with extensive skills as a reporter, video journalist, editor, producer and researcher.

The Thai Service routinely searches for qualified broadcasting and multimedia talent. VOA executes a thorough domestic search for candidates and advertises the job opening. To date, insufficient domestic candidates are identified who meet VOA requirements. (b) (6) has proven to be an invaluable resource and I therefore request continued sponsorship of (b) (6) s J-1 Visa.

(b) (6)

EXPERIENCE

International Broadcaster (Multimedia) (Thai), Voice of America, Thai service; Washington, D.C. May 2019–Present

Adapts news reports, radio and video production from VOA News Center and wire services for Thai audience. Produces original multimedia content, focusing on a wide range of issues, in Thai and in English, for VOA Thai and VOA News Center. Covers major events, as well as the development of special reports and series. Serves a variety of roles in VOA Thai's daily radio program, including newscaster, reporter, interviewer, and show producer. Engages with the audience on social media to promote news and original content. Shoots, edits and creates infographics and animations to support and enhance multimedia packages.

Video Journalist, The Wall Street Journal; Bangkok, Thailand March 2015–March 2019

Operated as a one-person video journalist covering breaking news and enterprise stories in Asia for The Wall Street Journal. Responsible for every step of video production, from planning to shooting, scripting, and editing. Highlights include extensive coverage of Myanmar's historic election in 2015; an immersive project for the coverage of the 2016 Philippine elections that includes a virtual reality video that juxtaposes two very different lives in Manila; and a short documentary profiling Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte. Recent achievements include an investigative feature on how North Korea is using smartphones as weapons of surveillance, a profile of Kim Jong Un, a Page One story on the rescue of Thai boys and their coach from a partially flooded cave, a feature examining how and why South African public schools have fallen short of their promise since apartheid, and video coverage of the PyeongChang 2018 Winter Olympics.

Reporter, The Wall Street Journal; Bangkok, Thailand June 2013–February 2015

Covered political and economic affairs in Thailand, including the military coup in 2014, the economic and political fallout of the rice-price guarantee program under Yingluck Shinawatra's administration, and Japan's expansion into frontier markets. Conducted a rare and exclusive interview with Dhanin Chearavanont, one of Thailand's richest men, focusing on his business and investment strategies.

Video Producer Intern, The Wall Street Journal; New York, NY June–August 2012

Produced video packages to accompany feature stories on wsj.com, including the WSJ's London Olympics video series "(b) (6)" and a video about a WSJ reporter's experience telecommuting to work inside a robot.

Reporter Intern, Marketwatch; New York, NY January–April 2012

Covered U.S. and Canadian business and markets news for marketwatch.com, from daily snippets of market movements to a feature about Canada’s housing market edging towards a bubble.

Producer, NBC News Bangkok; Bangkok, Thailand October 2007–July 2011

Field produced the coverage of major breaking news and feature stories out of Thailand and Asia, mainly for NBC’s Nightly News and the Today Show. Reported, wrote, shot, and edited multimedia packages for MSNBC.com.

Researcher/Reporter, NHK Japan Broadcasting Corporation; Bangkok, September 2004–June 2006

Reported and assisted Japanese correspondents in covering news and features in Thailand for the Japanese national public broadcasting organization. Coverage included the 2004 tsunami, human trafficking, an avian flu outbreak, and the months-long political crisis leading to the 2006 military coup in Thailand.

EDUCATION

New York University, Arthur L. Carter Journalism Institute, New York, NY — M.A. in Business and Economic Reporting, (b) (6)

Columbia University’s Graduate School of Journalism, New York, NY — M.S. in Journalism, (b) (6)

Chulalongkorn University, Faculty of Arts, Bangkok, Thailand — B.A. in English (First Class Honor), (b) (6)

AWARDS

The Foreign Press Association Scholarship (Third-Prize Winner), (b) (6)

The Wall Street Journal Asia Fellowship, (b) (6)

Fulbright Scholarship Open Competition, (b) (6)

SKILLS

Digital Camera Shooting, Video Editing (Adobe Premiere Pro, Final Cut Pro), Scripting, Motion Graphics (Adobe After Effects), Basic HTML, News and Creative Writing, Social Media

LANGUAGES

Fluency in English and Thai

ROUTING AND TRANSMITTAL SLIP

Date **06/ 11 /2020**

TO: (Name, office symbol, room number, building, Agency/Post)		Initials	Date
1.	(b) (6)	(b) (6)	06/11/2020
2.			06/11/2020
3.			6/11/2020
4.			6/12/2020
5.	Michael Pack, USAGM		

<input type="checkbox"/>	Action	File	Note and Return
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Approval	For Clearance	Per Conversation
<input type="checkbox"/>	As Requested	For Correction	Prepare Reply
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Circulate	For Your Information	See Me
<input type="checkbox"/>	Comment	Investigate	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Signature
<input type="checkbox"/>	Coordination	Justify	

REMARKS

ADDITIONAL COR SIGNATURES:
6. (b) (6) VOA

FY20 PSC

J-1 VISA Extension Request
VOA/PPI

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FROM: (Name, organization symbol, Agency/Post)		Room Number - Building
(b) (6)	VOA/PPI (b) (6)	(b) (6) - Cohen
		Phone Number
		(b) (6)



J-1 VISA EXTENSION MEMO

Date: June 11, 2020

MEMORANDUM FOR: USAGM – CEO, Michael Pack _____ (b) (6)

THROUGH: VOA/PP – EAP Division Director, (b) (6)

FROM: VOA/PPI – Indonesian Service Chief, (b) (6)

SUBJECT: Request for a J-1 Visa Extension for (b) (6)

Attached is the memo requesting a J-1 Visa extension for (b) (6), in the Voice of America, East Asia and Pacific Division’s Indonesian Service:

USAGM _____ Date _____
(Signature)

Approve _____ Disapprove _____ Discuss _____

VOA (b) (6) _____ Date 6/12/2020
(Signature)

Approve Disapprove _____ Discuss _____

Clearances: (b) (6)

VOA – (b) (6)

OMS/HR/O – (b) (6)



J-1 VISA EXTENSION MEMO

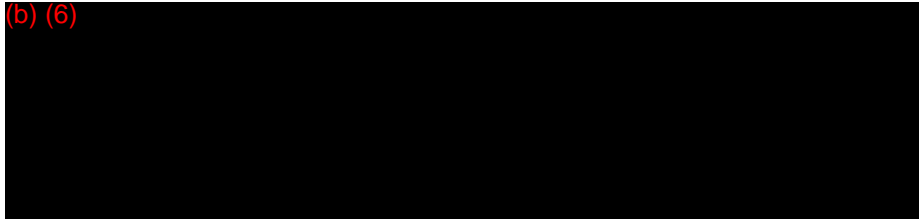
The VOA Indonesian Service has a need for an experienced multimedia journalist, and who has native and idiomatic fluency in Indonesian and an excellent command of English.

This request is for extending a J-1 visa for (b) (6) to provide the aforementioned services to VOA Indonesia. (b) (6) demonstrates impressive reporting skills from interviewing, writing, video editing to delivering live reports for VOA Indonesian television affiliates. Indonesia requires (b) (6) continued service as multimedia journalist. (b) (6) current J-1 visa expires July 26, 2020.

Since joining VOA Indonesian Service in July 2018, (b) (6) has demonstrated an exceptional work ethic. (b) (6) consistently produces high quality work as multimedia journalist. One of (b) (6) responsibilities is to inform the Indonesian audience on current affairs and news on politics from the United States that we send to all VOA Indonesian affiliates. (b) (6) pitches stories, does original reporting and produces video packages. (b) (6) is able to tackle complex assignments with little supervision. (b) (6) also conducts weekly live reports for Indonesia's longest-running newscast on the state broadcaster TVRI on the major U.S. news of the week, which (b) (6) handles expertly. (b) (6) acute news judgment paired with (b) (6) strong on-air presence make (b) (6) a complete reporter. (b) (6) contributions have helped VOA Indonesia to engage with more affiliates and VOA Indonesian audience reach.

(b) (6) holds a Master of Science in Journalism from Boston University. (b) (6) was a reporter, producer and news presenter for one of Indonesia's news channel Metro TV from (b) (6) and served as the U.S. correspondent for the news channel from (b) (6) also had an internship as a news reporter Boston's Channel 5 WCVB-TV in the summer of (b) (6).

The Indonesian Service routinely searches for qualified broadcasting and multimedia talent, and VOA executes a thorough domestic search for candidates and advertises on multiple recruiting boards and broadcasting specific sites. To date, there is no domestic candidate who meet VOA requirements. (b) (6) will increase the overall quality of the Indonesian service mission, and I therefore request the extension of (b) (6)'s J-1 visa.



Education

Master of Science: Journalism

Boston University College of Communication

(b) Boston, MA

Bachelor of Political Science: International Relations

Parahyangan Catholic University

(b) Indonesia

Work History

Voice Of America

Producer And Reporter

Aug 2018 - Current

Washington, DC

- Produce news reports in Indonesian and English for VOA Indonesian service's TV affiliates, and VOA's websites: voaindonesia.com and voanews.com
- Conduct TV live reports on breaking news and current events. E.g., the Black Lives Matter protests after the death of George Floyd, funeral of George H.W Bush, Iowa Caucus, Super Tuesday in California, etc.
- Host and produce a weekly magazine TV show and news show on US-Indonesian politics and relations for Indonesian audience.
- Lead a team of producers in pre-production and production of story packages and weekly shows that include researching, reaching out to sources, filming, and interviewing.
- Operate camera, audio and lighting equipment to produce broadcast-quality digital video and audio.
- Plan and perform post-production of story packages and weekly shows that include writing scripts, and video editing with Adobe Premiere Pro.

Berkshire Eagle

Statehouse Reporter (Internship)

Sep 2017 - Dec 2017

Boston, MA

- Reported news from Massachusetts Statehouse for the Berkshire Eagle website and paper as part of Boston University Statehouse program.
- Attended hearings, interviewed representatives and constituents, took still pictures and wrote news articles.

Channel 5 WCVB

News Reporter (Internship)

May 2017 - Aug 2017

Needham, MA

- Wrote news scripts for the NewsCenter 5 at noon, NewsCenter 5 at 5 and WCVB.com

Metro TV

Reporter, Producer, News Presenter

Nov 2009 - Jun 2018

Jakarta, Indonesia

- Foreign correspondent in the United States from 2016 to 2018; conducted live reports and covered breaking news for Indonesian audience. E.g., 2016 presidential election, and the procession of Fidel Castro's funeral in Cuba.
- Producer and reporter for a weekly documentary program from 2014-2016.
- National desk reporter from 2009 to 2014.
- News presenter for a weekly English news program for English speaking audience in Indonesia and daily news program for audience in East Java, Indonesia from 2010 to 2014

Skills

- Proficient in Adobe Premiere Pro and Final Cut Pro for video editing, Adobe Light Room for picture editing, and Canva for info-graphic productions
- Operate SONY XDCAM and HXR series and Canon DSLR cameras for video production

 Keywords

Job title, dept., agency, series, or occupation

 Location

City, state, zip, or country

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Entering Federal Service

The Federal Government consists of three types of services, the competitive service, the excepted service, and the Senior Executive Service.

Competitive service

Competitive service positions are positions subject to the civil service laws passed by Congress to ensure that applicants and employees receive fair and equal treatment in the hiring process.

In the competitive service, individuals must go through a competitive hiring process (i.e., competitive examining) before being appointed which is open to all applicants.

This process may consist of a written test, an evaluation of the individual's education and experience, and/or an evaluation of other attributes necessary for successful performance in the position to be filled.

Excepted service

Excepted service positions are any federal or civil service positions which are not in the competitive service or the Senior Executive service. Excepted service agencies set their own qualification requirements and are not subject to the appointment, pay, and classification rules in title 5, United States Code. However, they are subject to [veterans' preference](#).

There are a number of ways to be appointed into the excepted service such as appointed under an authority defined by the U.S. Office of Personnel Management (OPM) as excepted (e.g., Veterans Recruitment Appointment) or being appointed to a position defined by OPM as excepted (e.g., Attorneys). More information can be found about excepted service in 5 U.S.C. 2103 and parts 213 and 302 of title 5 of the Code of Federal Regulations.

Senior Executive Service

The Senior Executive Service (SES) is the corps of executives, selected for their leadership qualifications, and charged with leading the continuing transformation of government. These leaders possess well-honed executive skills and share a broad perspective of government and a public service commitment which is grounded in the Constitution. As the leaders of our federal civilian workforce, Senior Executives strive each day to create a more citizen centered, result oriented Federal Government.

Special appointing authorities

Special non-competitive appointing authorities are established by law or Executive Order. Agencies may use a variety of appointing authorities to hire job applicants.

Examples of appointing authorities:

- [Direct-Hire authority](#)
- [People with disabilities](#)
- [30% Disabled Veterans appointing authority](#)

Veterans, individuals with disabilities, many current and former federal employees, and returning Peace Corps volunteers are all examples of individuals eligible for [non-competitive appointment](#).

Additional resources

- [Hiring authorities \(OPM\)](#).
- [Unique hiring paths](#)

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U.S. AGENCY FOR GLOBAL MEDIA

330 Independence Avenue SW | Washington, DC 20237 | usagm.gov

Clearance Cover Sheet

To: CEO Office

From: *Division/Office:*
VOA/Africa Division

Title of Document: Request for J-1 Visa Extension for FTE (b) (6)

Request for Action: CEO Signature

Brief Description: Request for J-1 Visa Extension for (b) (6) is an FTE in VOA Africa's Hausa Service. (b) (6) visa expires on 8/16/2020.

When do you need this by? 7/21/2020

Drafted by: *Office:* VOA/LA *Name:* (b) (6)

Draft approved by: *Name of Division:* VOA/Afric *Office Head:* (b) (6) *Approval:*

Cleared:			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
OMS/HR	(b) (6)		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
VOA	(b) (6)		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
VOA	(b) (6)		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
VOA	(b) (6)		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ExexSec	Executive Secretariat		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
OCEO	(b) (6)		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
OCEO	Diane Cullo		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
OCEO	Emily Newman		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Approved: CEO CEO
or designee





PERSONAL SERVICE PERSONNEL J1 VISA EXTENSION MEMO

July 16, 2020

MEMORANDUM FOR: USAGM –CEO, Michael Pack

THROUGH: VOA Africa Division Director, (b) (6)

FROM: VOA Hausa Service Chief, (b) (6)

SUBJECT: Request J1 Visa Extension for (b) (6)

7/17/2020

Attached is the memo requesting J1 Visa Extension for: (b) (6)

USAGM _____ Date _____ (Signature)

Approve _____ Disapprove _____ Discuss _____

VOA (b) (6) _____ Date 7/17/2020 (Signature)

Approve Disapprove _____ Discuss _____

Clearances:

VOA – (b) (6) (b) (6)
OMS/HR/O – (b) (6) (b) (6)

PERSONNEL J1 VISA EXTENSION REQUEST MEMO

[JUSTIFICATION]

The VOA Africa Division is requesting a visa extension for International Broadcaster (Hausa) (b) (6) whose J1 visa is set to expire on August 16, 2020.

(b) (6) is a multimedia international broadcaster for the Hausa Service who writes, edits, interviews, anchors, and reports on deadline for daily news and feature programs. (b) (6) is a considerable journalist who hosts radio and television programs and translates content for all platforms including radio, television, and online. (b) (6) also organizes weekly women roundtables with prominent female experts, community leaders and opinion makers, to discuss socioeconomic and cultural issues around (b) (6) including work, family, gender and aged-based situations. VOA Hausa editors have often praised both (b) (6) diction and the professionalism of (b) (6) writing in Hausa, which they say requires minimal copy editing.

Prior to joining VOA's Hausa Service as an FTE, (b) (6)'s extensive experience writing, editing, interviewing, and reporting television news in the Hausa language includes having worked at the Nigerian Television Authority in Jos and in Damaturu. (b) (6) work at VOA affiliate FarinWata Television in Abuja was known to be of high quality as (b) (6) designed, developed, produced, and presented original Hausa programming. The strength of (b) (6) skill in broadcast journalism is further demonstrated by (b) (6) coordinating the production of Lenscope Media programs (b) (6) as well as a United Nations Children's Fund documentary on girls' education and a United Nations Fund for Population Activities documentary on maternal and infant mortality. The professional regard for (b) (6) television ability was evident in Nigeria's Ministry of Education and in the Kano State Ministry of Health contracting (b) (6) as a documentary writer and producer.

To date, there is no domestic candidate identified who is more qualified to continue carrying out these important multimedia functions for the VOA Hausa Service than (b) (6).