



**Jason Leopold**

@JasonLeopold

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SCOOP: 2nd edition of my weekly newsletter, FOIA Files, is out (SUBSCRIBE!), based on FBI docs related to the classified docs Trump took to MAL & how the Aug 2022 search roiled some of FBI's rank & file

"Did this really just happen? Am I dreaming?"



[bloomberg.com/news/newslette...](https://www.bloomberg.com/news/newslette...)

**From:** Morey, Chauncenette D. (OO) (FBI)  
**Subject:** Search Warrant on former President Trump  
**To:** Abbate, Paul M. (DO) (FBI)  
**Cc:** [redacted] (DO) (FBI)  
**Sent:** August 11, 2022 6:00 AM (UTC-04:00)

Good morning sir,

Just wanted you to be aware of the concerns/comments our office has received regarding the search of former President Trump.

- Hello Chauncenette,

Did this really just happen? Am I dreaming? The FBI served a Search Warrant on a former president? The news is saying it's about documents. Did this really just happen?

b6 -1  
b7C -1

I've lost just about all faith in our leadership. Obviously they forgot Crossfire Hurricane. If he took documents, give him a call and ask for them back. Like... Seriously? My own agency.... A bunch of democrat political hacks up top.

I don't know how many [redacted] but they may have lost one here.

Is there any plan from leadership to explain these absurd actions? I no longer believe we have real PC based on Crossfire Hurricane and everything else I've seen to include targeting parents based on the AG's letter. They need to explain their embarrassment of the Bu. That used to be a mortal sin.

Please convey this message. They owe our workforce an explanation of their overt political antics.

Thanks,



<https://www.bloomberg.com/news/newsletters/2024-03-15/trump-documents-raid-at-mar-a-lago-sparked-protest-from-fbi-employees?accessToken...>

The FBI employee sent that email to the FBI ombudsman shortly after the MAL search. "If he took documents, give him a call and ask for them back. Like ...Seriously? My own agency .... A bunch of democrat political hacks up top...I've lost just about all faith in our leadership"

2/

Another FBI employee was even harsher, characterizing the bureau as a "Banana Republic" and an "embarrassment," and demanding answers to a series of questions.

3/

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**From:** Morey, Chauncenette D. (OO) (FBI)  
**Subject:** RE: Search Warrant on former President Trump  
**To:** Abbate, Paul M. (DO) (FBI)  
**Cc:** [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)  
**Sent:** August 11, 2022 11:04 AM (UTC-04:00)

b6 -1  
b7C -1

Good morning,

Here's the latest:

Hello Chauncenette,

See the START of the result below from the politicizing and absolute embarrassment of the recently formed Banana Republic Bu. People are threatening us more than usual due to the actions of the few. Here we go again. I can't wait to see what training we will all have to do.

1) What is the predication of the investigation involving the search? It better be more than putting a few documents in the archives or classified material of which the man could have declassified.

2) What is the PC of the warrant? It better not involve any type of political opposition.

3) Provided 1 & 2 are legit, why didn't someone work with one of the former POTUS's delegates to resolve the problem? I doubt it was the least intrusive method, and they probably wanted the publicity.

The 7th floor needs to lead and provide faith back in our organization if it's even possible.

Thanks,

The documents showed that the FBI ombudsman forwarded the email to Paul Abbate, the FBI's deputy director.

"Just wanted you to be aware of the concerns/comments our office has received regarding the search of former President Trump," Morey wrote.

4/

FBI Director Christopher Wray was under fire and the bureau had to engage in some damage control and that included setting up an interview with the WSJ. The result was an article that "humanize[d]" Wray.

5/

**From:** Lenzner, Jonathan Falk (DO) (DET)  
**Subject:** Re: WSJ Story posted  
**To:** [redacted] (OPA) (FBI); Abbate, Paul M. (DO) (FBI)  
**Cc:** Milhoan, Catherine L. (OPA) (FBI); Goodwater, Douglas M. (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] (DO) (DET); [redacted] (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] (DO) (DET); [redacted] (DO) (FBI)  
**Sent:** August 20, 2022 10:22 AM (UTC-04:00)

This story worked out well. Shows the Director working hard to do the right thing, focusing on the work and the people. Also shows him trying to keep FBI away from politics, though the story notes that is harder to accomplish. The fact is the FBI is very much in the news, people are already talking a lot about the Bureau and the Director, and some of it is not good. This story humanizes the Director and gives an inside look at how he and the FBI are focused on the work, and how we are not deterred by the drama.

b6 -1  
b7C -1  
b7E -3

**From:** [redacted] (OPA) (FBI); [redacted]  
**Sent:** Saturday, August 20, 2022, 8:21 AM  
**To:** Abbate, Paul M. (DO) (FBI); [redacted]; Lenzner, Jonathan Falk (DO) (DET); [redacted]  
**Cc:** Milhoan, Catherine L. (OPA) (FBI); [redacted]; Goodwater, Douglas M. (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] (OPA) (FBI); [redacted] (DO) (DET); [redacted] (DO) (FBI); [redacted] (DO) (DET); [redacted] (DO) (FBI)  
**Subject:** WSJ Story posted

Good morning. The Wall Street Journal Story is up. Posted below is a link as well as the article's full text:  
[https://www.wsj.com/articles/donald-trump-fbi-mar-a-lago-wray-116609452067?st=ycg2n91yy4glb60&reflink=desktopwebshare\\_permalink](https://www.wsj.com/articles/donald-trump-fbi-mar-a-lago-wray-116609452067?st=ycg2n91yy4glb60&reflink=desktopwebshare_permalink)

WSJ NEWS EXCLUSIVE


## FBI Director Christopher Wray Tried to Keep the Bureau Out of Politics. Then Came Mar-a-Lago Search.

Bureau's director responds to threats against agents after the search of Mar-a-Lago in an interview halfway through his tenure

Taken as a whole, the FBI docs reveal the most detailed view yet of the raw hostility erupting inside an agency that has been in a state of near-constant turmoil ever since June 2015, when Trump rode a gold escalator...

6/

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