# IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

ALLIED PROGRESS, 1200 L Street NW, Suite 110/364 Washington, DC 20005	) ) )
Plaintiff,	)
v.	) Case No. 18-cv-1728
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET, 725 17th Street NW Washington, DC 20503	) ) )
and	)
CONSUMER FINANCIAL PROTECTION BUREAU, 1700 G Street NW Washington, DC 20552	) ) ) )
Defendants.	) )

# **COMPLAINT**

1. Plaintiff Allied Progress brings this action against the Office of Management and Budget and the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau under the Freedom of Information Act,

5 U.S.C. § 552 (FOIA), and the Declaratory Judgment Act, 28 U.S.C. §§ 2201 and 2202, seeking

declaratory and injunctive relief to compel compliance with the requirements of FOIA.

# JURISDICTION AND VENUE

2. This Court has jurisdiction over this action pursuant to 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(4)(B)

and 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331, 2201, and 2202.

3. Venue is proper in this district pursuant to 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(4)(B) and 28 U.S.C. § 1391(e).

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4. Because Defendants have failed to comply with the applicable time-limit provisions of the FOIA, Allied Progress is deemed to have exhausted its administrative remedies pursuant to 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(6)(C)(i) and is now entitled to judicial action enjoining the agency from continuing to withhold agency records and ordering the production of agency records improperly withheld.

#### **PARTIES**

5. Plaintiff Allied Progress is a consumer watchdog organization that uses research, including FOIA requests, to hold federal government officials accountable for the undue influence of financial industry interests on government activities and decisions. Allied Progress is primarily engaged in disseminating information to the public and uses the information gathered from public records requests to educate the public through reports, press releases, and other media. Allied Progress makes information it gathers available on its public website. Allied Progress is located in Washington, D.C.

6. Defendant the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) is an agency of the federal government within the meaning of 5 U.S.C. § 552(f)(1). OMB has possession, custody, and control of the records that Allied Progress seeks.

7. Defendant the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) is an agency of the federal government within the meaning of 5 U.S.C. § 552(f)(1). CFPB has possession, custody, and control of the records that Allied Progress seeks.

#### **STATEMENT OF FACTS**

8. On Saturday June 16, 2018, the White House confirmed that OMB Associate Director Kathy Kraninger would be nominated to serve as director of CFPB. Shortly after this nomination was confirmed, Allied Progress sent three FOIA requests to OMB and one FOIA

request to CFPB, and each FOIA request sought expedited processing. The FOIA requests seek

information that would shed light on Associate Director Kraninger's record during her service at

OMB before the Senate decides whether to confirm Ms. Kraninger as Director of CFPB.

# OMB Kraninger Background FOIA

9. On June 18, 2018, Allied Progress submitted a FOIA request to OMB seeking

categories of records with the potential to shed light on OMB Associate Director Kathy

Kraninger's background and her work at OMB. Specifically, the request sought:

- All resumes, curricula vitae, and documents associated with Ms. Kraninger's hiring.
- All personnel records concerning Ms. Kraninger's employment with OMB, including performance reviews, disciplinary actions, warnings and/or reprimands, salary and benefits information, and any other information regarding Ms. Kraninger's job performance.
- All records documenting travel arrangements and expenses for Ms. Kraninger since she has been employed by OMB.
  - This should include all itineraries and receipts for travel expenses, including receipts for [] airfare, lodging, meals, rental vehicles, and per-diem expenses. This should also include all records of any payments made by OMB to Ms. Kraninger that fall outside the scope of her regular salary.
- All calendars or calendar entries between March 1, 2017, and the date this request is processed for Ms. Kraninger, including any calendars maintained on her behalf (e.g., by an administrative assistant.).
  - For calendar entries created in Outlook or similar programs, the document should be produced in "memo" form to include all invitees, notes, and attachments. However, please do not limit your search to Outlook calendars; we request the production of any calendar, whether it be paper o[r] electronic or on government-issued or personal devices, used to track or coordinate how Ms. Kraninger allocates her time on agency business.
- 10. OMB acknowledged the OMB Kraninger Background FOIA on June 20, 2018

and assigned the request tracking number 2018-397. A copy of this request is attached hereto as

Exhibit A and incorporated herein.

11. Allied Progress has received no further communication regarding this FOIA

request.

Kraninger OMB Government Emails FOIA

12. Also on June 18, 2018, Allied Progress submitted a FOIA request to OMB

seeking Associate Director Kraninger's email communications with a list of OMB and CFPB

officials or containing specific search terms. Specifically, the request sought:

[A]ll emails sent by, sent to, or carbon copying ("CC") Ms. Kraninger during this time period that were sent by, sent to, or CC'ed any of the following employees of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) and Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB):

- Mick Mulvaney
- Eric Blankenstein
- Ann Conant
- John Czwartacki
- James Reilly Dolan
- Emma Doyle
- James Galkowski
- Sheila Greenwood
- Brian Johnson
- Halle Morgan
- Kirsten Sutton Mork
- Jonathan Slemrod
- Anthony Welcher

Additionally, we request all emails sent by, sent to, or CC'ing Ms. Kraninger during this time period that include any of the following keywords or phrases:

- Consumer Financial Protection Bureau
- CFPB
- Mulvaney
- Cordray
- Leandra English

The request sought all records from March 1, 2017, to the date the request was processed. A

copy of this request is attached hereto as Exhibit B and incorporated herein.

13. OMB acknowledged the Kraninger OMB Government Emails FOIA on June 20,

2018 and assigned the request tracking number 2018-398.

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14. Allied Progress has received no further communication regarding this FOIA

request.

# Kraninger Industry Emails FOIA

15. Also on June 18, 2018, Allied Progress submitted a FOIA request to OMB

seeking Associate Director Kraninger's email communications with a list of firms in the

financial industry or containing specific search terms. Specifically, the request sought:

[A]ll emails sent by, sent to, or carbon copying ("CC") Ms. Kraninger during this time period that were sent by, sent to, or CC'ed representatives of any of the following organizations, as evidenced by their e-mail addresses or the inclusion of one of these entity names in their e-mail signatures:

- Community Financial Services Association of America (CFSA) (@cfsaa.com)
- Online Lenders Alliance (OLA) (@onlinelendersalliance.org)
- American Financial Services Association (AFSA) (@afsaonline.org)
- Financial Service Centers of America (FiSCA) (@fisca.org)
- Consumer Credit Research Foundation (@creditresearch.org)
- US Consumer Coalition (@usconsumers.org)
- Protect America's Consumers (@protectconsumers.com)
- Advance America (@advanceamerica.net)
- Speedy Cash (@speedycash.com)
- *QC* Holdings, Inc./QuickCash (@qcholdings.com or @myquickcashloan.net)
- Moneytree, Inc. (@moneytreeinc.com)
- USA Cash Services (@usacashservices.com)
- Axcess Financial (@axcess-financial.com)
- Check 'n Go, Inc. (@checkngo.com)
- Check Into Cash, Inc. (@checkintocash.com)
- Jones Management Company (@jonesmanagement.com)
- Amscot Financial, Inc. (@amscot.com)
- Dollar Financial Group, Inc. (@dollarcashtree.com or @dfcglobalcorp.com)

Additionally, we request all emails sent by, sent to, or CC'ing Ms. Kraninger during this time period that include any of the following keywords or phrases:

- Payday
- Cash advance
- Short-term loan
- PHH Corp
- World Acceptance

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The request sought all records from March 1, 2017, to the date the request was processed. A

copy of this request is attached hereto as Exhibit C and incorporated herein.

16. OMB acknowledged the Kraninger Industry Emails FOIA on June 20, 2018 and

assigned the request tracking number 2018-399.

17. Allied Progress has received no further communication regarding this FOIA

request.

# Kraninger CFPB Emails FOIA

18. On June 19, 2018, Allied Progress submitted a FOIA request to CFPB seeking

email correspondence from specified CFPB officials with OMB Associate Director Kraninger.

Specifically, the request sought:

[A]ll emails sent by, sent to, or carbon copying ("CC") any of the listed individuals that were sent by, sent to, or CC'ed Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Associate Director Kathy Kraninger between and including March 1, 2017, and the date this request is processed. This should include all emails sent to or from any email address associated with Ms. Kraninger and should not be limited to her primary OMB email address.

The list of individuals was the following:

- Mick Mulvaney
- Eric Blankenstein
- Ann Conant
- John Czwartacki
- James Reilly Dolan
- Emma Doyle
- James Galkowski
- Sheila Greenwood
- Brian Johnson
- Halle Morgan
- Kirsten Sutton Mork
- Jonathan Slemrod
- Anthony Welcher

A copy of this request is attached hereto as Exhibit D and incorporated herein.

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19. CFPB acknowledged the Kraninger CFPB Emails FOIA on June 19, 2018 and assigned the request tracking number #BCFP-2018-616-FOIA.

20. Allied Progress has received no further communication regarding this FOIA request.

#### Exhaustion of Administrative Remedies

21. Through Defendants' failure to make decisions regarding Allied Progress's requests for expedited processing of all the above FOIA requests within the time period required by law, Allied Progress has constructively exhausted its administrative remedies as to that issue and seeks immediate judicial review.

22. As of the date of this complaint, Defendants have failed to (a) notify Allied
Progress of any determination regarding its FOIA requests, including the scope of any responsive
records Defendants intend to produce or withhold and the reasons for any withholdings; or
(b) produce the requested records or demonstrate that the requested records are lawfully exempt
from production.

23. Through Defendants' failure to respond to Allied Progress's FOIA requests within the time period required by law, Allied Progress has constructively exhausted its administrative remedies and seeks immediate judicial review.

#### **<u>COUNT I</u>** Violation of FOIA, 5 U.S.C. § 552 Failure to Grant Expedited Processing

24. Allied Progress repeats the allegations in the foregoing paragraphs and incorporates them as though fully set forth herein.

25. Allied Progress properly requested records within the possession, custody, and control of Defendants on an expedited basis.

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26. Defendants are agencies subject to FOIA and must process FOIA requests on an expedited basis pursuant to the requirements of 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(6)(E) and their own implementing regulations, 5 C.F.R. § 1303.10(d) and 12 C.F.R. § 1070.17.

27. The records sought by Allied Progress in all the requests submitted to Defendants concern matters about which there is an urgency to inform the public about actual or alleged Federal government activities, and Allied Progress is primarily engaged in disseminating information to the public.

28. Defendants failed to make a determination as to whether expedited processing was appropriate and notify Allied Progress of any such determination within ten days after the date of the request.

29. Defendants' failure to grant expedited processing of all of the above FOIA requests violates FOIA and Defendants' regulations.

30. Plaintiff Allied Progress is therefore entitled to injunctive and declaratory relief requiring Defendants to grant expedited processing of all four of the above FOIA requests.

#### COUNT II Violation of FOIA, 5 U.S.C. § 552 Failure to Conduct Adequate Search for Responsive Records

31. Allied Progress repeats the allegations in the foregoing paragraphs and incorporates them as though fully set forth herein.

32. Allied Progress properly requested records within the possession, custody, and control of Defendants.

33. Defendants are agencies subject to FOIA and must therefore make reasonable efforts to search for requested records.

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34. Defendants have failed to promptly review agency records for the purpose of locating those records that are responsive to Allied Progress's FOIA requests.

35. Allied Progress's failure to conduct an adequate search for responsive records violates FOIA.

36. Plaintiff Allied Progress is therefore entitled to injunctive and declaratory relief requiring Defendant to promptly make reasonable efforts to search for records responsive to Allied Progress's FOIA requests.

### <u>COUNT III</u> Violation of FOIA, 5 U.S.C. § 552 Wrongful Withholding of Non-Exempt Responsive Records

37. Allied Progress repeats the allegations in the foregoing paragraphs and incorporates them as though fully set forth herein.

38. Allied Progress properly requested records within the possession, custody, and control of Defendants.

39. Defendants are agencies subject to FOIA and must therefore release in response to a FOIA request any non-exempt records and provide a lawful reason for withholding any materials.

40. Defendants are wrongfully withholding non-exempt agency records requested by

Allied Progress by failing to produce non-exempt records responsive to its FOIA requests.

41. Defendants are wrongfully withholding non-exempt agency records requested by Allied Progress by failing to segregate exempt information in otherwise non-exempt records responsive to Allied Progress's FOIA requests.

42. Defendants' failure to provide all non-exempt responsive records violates FOIA.

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43. Plaintiff Allied Progress is therefore entitled to declaratory and injunctive relief requiring Defendants to promptly produce all non-exempt records responsive to its FOIA requests and provide indexes justifying the withholding of any responsive records withheld under claim of exemption.

#### **REQUESTED RELIEF**

WHEREFORE, Allied Progress respectfully requests the Court to:

- Order Defendants to conduct a search or searches reasonably calculated to uncover all records responsive to Allied Progress's FOIA requests;
- (2) Order Defendants to produce, within twenty days of the Court's order, or by such other date as the Court deems appropriate, any and all non-exempt records responsive to Allied Progress's FOIA requests and indexes justifying the withholding of any responsive records withheld under claim of exemption;
- (3) Enjoin Defendants from continuing to withhold any and all non-exempt records responsive to Allied Progress's FOIA requests;
- (4) Award Allied Progress the costs of this proceeding, including reasonable attorneys' fees and other litigation costs reasonably incurred in this action, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(4)(E); and
- (5) Grant Allied Progress such other relief as the Court deems just and proper.

Dated: July 25, 2018

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Daniel A. McGrath Daniel A. McGrath D.C. Bar No. 1531723

<u>/s/ Elizabeth France</u> Elizabeth France

D.C. Bar No. 999851

<u>/s/ John E. Bies</u> John E. Bies D.C. Bar No. 483730

### AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

1030 15th Street NW, B255 Washington, DC 20005 (202) 897-4213 daniel.mcgrath@americanoversight.org beth.france@americanoversight.org john.bies@americanoversight.org

Counsel for Plaintiff Allied Progress

# ATTACHMENT E

# **CIVIL COVER SHEET**

JS-44 (Rev. 3/16 DC)										
I. (a) PLAINTIFFS				DEFENDA	NTS					
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<ul> <li>○ G. Habeas Corpus/ 2255</li> <li>□ 530 Habeas Corpus – General</li> <li>□ 510 Motion/Vacate Sentence</li> <li>□ 463 Habeas Corpus – Alien Detainee</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>H. Employment Discrimination</li> <li>442 Civil Rights – Employment (criteria: race, gender/sex, national origin, discrimination, disability, age, religion, retaliation)</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>I. FOIA/Privacy Act</li> <li>\$895 Freedom of Information Act</li> <li>\$890 Other Statutory Actions (if Privacy Act)</li> </ul>	O J. Student Loan 152 Recovery of Defaulted Student Loan (excluding veterans)		
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<ul> <li>K. Labor/ERISA (non-employment)</li> <li>710 Fair Labor Standards Act</li> <li>720 Labor/Mgmt. Relations</li> <li>740 Labor Railway Act</li> <li>751 Family and Medical Leave Act</li> <li>790 Other Labor Litigation</li> <li>791 Empl. Ret. Inc. Security Act</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>L. Other Civil Rights (non-employment)</li> <li>441 Voting (if not Voting Rights Act)</li> <li>443 Housing/Accommodations</li> <li>440 Other Civil Rights</li> <li>445 Americans w/Disabilities – Employment</li> <li>446 Americans w/Disabilities – Other</li> <li>448 Education</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>M. Contract</li> <li>110 Insurance</li> <li>120 Marine</li> <li>130 Miller Act</li> <li>140 Negotiable Instrument</li> <li>150 Recovery of Overpayment &amp; Enforcement of Judgment</li> <li>153 Recovery of Overpayment of Veteran's Benefits</li> <li>160 Stockholder's Suits</li> <li>190 Other Contracts</li> <li>195 Contract Product Liability</li> <li>196 Franchise</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>N. Three-Judge Court</li> <li>441 Civil Rights – Voting (if Voting Rights Act)</li> </ul>		
V. ORIGIN O 1 Original Proceeding Court O 2 Removed from State Court O 3 Remanded from Appellate Court O 4 Reinstated or Reopened Reopened (specify) O 5 Transferred from another district (specify) O 6 Multi-district Litigation D 5 Transferred from D 6 Multi-district Litigation From Mag. Judge					
VI. CAUSE OF ACTION (CITE THE U.S. CIVIL STATUTE UNDER WHICH YOU ARE FILING AND WRITE A BRIEF STATEMENT OF CAUSE.) 5 U.S.C. 552. Defendant has failed to provide responsive records to FOIA request.					
VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT     CHECK IF THIS IS A CLASS ACTION UNDER F.R.C.P. 23     DEMAND \$     Check YES only if demanded in complaint       VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT     CHECK IF THIS IS A CLASS ACTION UNDER F.R.C.P. 23     DEMAND \$     Check YES only if demanded in complaint					
VIII. RELATED CASE(S) IF ANY	(See instruction) YES	NO If yes, p	lease complete related case form		
DATE:7/24/2018	SIGNATURE OF ATTORNEY OF RE	cord			

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING CIVIL COVER SHEET JS-44 Authority for Civil Cover Sheet

The JS-44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replaces nor supplements the filings and services of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. Consequently, a civil cover sheet is submitted to the Clerk of Court for each civil complaint filed. Listed below are tips for completing the civil cover sheet. These tips coincide with the Roman Numerals on the cover sheet.

- I. COUNTY OF RESIDENCE OF FIRST LISTED PLAINTIFF/DEFENDANT (b) County of residence: Use 11001 to indicate plaintiff if resident of Washington, DC, 88888 if plaintiff is resident of United States but not Washington, DC, and 99999 if plaintiff is outside the United States.
- III. CITIZENSHIP OF PRINCIPAL PARTIES: This section is completed <u>only</u> if diversity of citizenship was selected as the Basis of Jurisdiction under Section II.
- IV. CASE ASSIGNMENT AND NATURE OF SUIT: The assignment of a judge to your case will depend on the category you select that best represents the <u>primary</u> cause of action found in your complaint. You may select only <u>one</u> category. You <u>must</u> also select <u>one</u> corresponding nature of suit found under the category of the case.
- VI. CAUSE OF ACTION: Cite the U.S. Civil Statute under which you are filing and write a brief statement of the primary cause.
- VIII. RELATED CASE(S), IF ANY: If you indicated that there is a related case, you must complete a related case form, which may be obtained from the Clerk's Office.

Because of the need for accurate and complete information, you should ensure the accuracy of the information provided prior to signing the form.

FOIA Summons 1/13

# UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

	)
Р	laintiff )
	)
V.	)
	)
	)
D	efendant )

Civil Action No.

# SUMMONS IN A CIVIL ACTION

To: (Defendant's name and address)

A lawsuit has been filed against you.

Within 30 days after service of this summons on you (not counting the day you received it) you must serve on the plaintiff an answer to the attached complaint or a motion under Rule 12 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. The answer or motion must be served on the plaintiff or plaintiff's attorney, whose name and address are:

If you fail to respond, judgment by default may be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint. You also must file your answer or motion with the court.

ANGELA D. CAESAR, CLERK OF COURT

Date:

Signature of Clerk or Deputy Clerk

FOIA Summons (12/11) (Page 2)

Civil Action No.

#### **PROOF OF SERVICE**

# (This section should not be filed with the court unless required by Fed. R. Civ. P. 4 (l))

	This summons for (no	ame of individual and title,	if any)				
was rec	ceived by me on (date)						
	□ I personally serve	d the summons on the	individual at (place)				
				on (date)	; or		
				ce of abode with (name)			
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	on (date)	, and mailed	d a copy to the indiv	idual's last known address; o	or		
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	designated by law to accept service of process on behalf of (name of organization)						
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	<b>Other</b> ( <i>specify</i> ):						
	My fees are \$	for travel an	nd \$	for services, for a total of \$			
	I declare under penal	ty of perjury that this	information is true.				
D (							
Date:				Server's signature			
				Printed name and title			

Server's address

Additional information regarding attempted service, etc:

FOIA Summons 1/13

# UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

	)
Р	laintiff )
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V.	)
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Civil Action No.

# SUMMONS IN A CIVIL ACTION

To: (Defendant's name and address)

A lawsuit has been filed against you.

Within 30 days after service of this summons on you (not counting the day you received it) you must serve on the plaintiff an answer to the attached complaint or a motion under Rule 12 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. The answer or motion must be served on the plaintiff or plaintiff's attorney, whose name and address are:

If you fail to respond, judgment by default may be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint. You also must file your answer or motion with the court.

ANGELA D. CAESAR, CLERK OF COURT

Date:

Signature of Clerk or Deputy Clerk

FOIA Summons (12/11) (Page 2)

Civil Action No.

#### **PROOF OF SERVICE**

# (This section should not be filed with the court unless required by Fed. R. Civ. P. 4 (l))

	This summons for (no	ame of individual and title,	if any)				
was rec	ceived by me on (date)						
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Date:				Server's signature			
				Printed name and title			

Server's address

Additional information regarding attempted service, etc:

FOIA Summons 1/13

# UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

v.	)	Plaintiff		
v.	)			
	)		v.	
	)			
Defendant	)	 <b>D</b> ( )		

Civil Action No.

# SUMMONS IN A CIVIL ACTION

To: (Defendant's name and address)

A lawsuit has been filed against you.

Within 30 days after service of this summons on you (not counting the day you received it) you must serve on the plaintiff an answer to the attached complaint or a motion under Rule 12 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. The answer or motion must be served on the plaintiff or plaintiff's attorney, whose name and address are:

If you fail to respond, judgment by default may be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint. You also must file your answer or motion with the court.

ANGELA D. CAESAR, CLERK OF COURT

Date:

Signature of Clerk or Deputy Clerk

FOIA Summons (12/11) (Page 2)

Civil Action No.

#### **PROOF OF SERVICE**

# (This section should not be filed with the court unless required by Fed. R. Civ. P. 4 (l))

	This summons for (na	ume of individual and title,	if any)			
was rec	ceived by me on (date)		·			
	□ I personally served	d the summons on the	individual at (place)			
				on (date)	; or	
	□ I left the summons	s at the individual's res		ce of abode with (name)		
			-	le age and discretion who res		2
	on (date)	, and mailed	a copy to the indiv	vidual's last known address; o	r	
	□ I served the summ	nons on (name of individu	al)			, who is
	designated by law to	accept service of proc	ess on behalf of (nat	ne of organization)		
				on (date)	; or	
	□ I returned the sum	mons unexecuted beca	use			; or
	<b>Other</b> ( <i>specify</i> ):					
	My fees are \$	for travel ar	nd \$	for services, for a total of \$		·
	I declare under penal	ty of perjury that this i	nformation is true.			
Date:						
				Server's signature		
		-				
				Printed name and title		

Server's address

Additional information regarding attempted service, etc:

FOIA Summons 1/13

# UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

v.	)	Plaintiff		
v.	)			
	)		v.	
	)			
Defendant	)	 <b>D</b> ( )		

Civil Action No.

# SUMMONS IN A CIVIL ACTION

To: (Defendant's name and address)

A lawsuit has been filed against you.

Within 30 days after service of this summons on you (not counting the day you received it) you must serve on the plaintiff an answer to the attached complaint or a motion under Rule 12 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. The answer or motion must be served on the plaintiff or plaintiff's attorney, whose name and address are:

If you fail to respond, judgment by default may be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint. You also must file your answer or motion with the court.

ANGELA D. CAESAR, CLERK OF COURT

Date:

Signature of Clerk or Deputy Clerk

FOIA Summons (12/11) (Page 2)

Civil Action No.

#### **PROOF OF SERVICE**

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was ree	ceived by me on (date)		· .			
	□ I personally served	d the summons on the	individual at (place)			
				on (date)	; or	
	□ I left the summons	s at the individual's rea		ce of abode with (name)		
			-	le age and discretion who resi		
	on (date)	, and mailed	d a copy to the indiv	ridual's last known address; or	ſ	
	$\Box$ I served the summ	ons on (name of individu	al)			, who is
	designated by law to	accept service of proc	ess on behalf of (nat	ne of organization)		
				on (date)	; or	
	□ I returned the sum	mons unexecuted beca	ause			; or
	<b>Other</b> ( <i>specify</i> ):					
	My fees are \$	for travel ar	nd \$	for services, for a total of \$		·
	I declare under penal	ty of perjury that this i	information is true.			
Date:						
				Server's signature		
				Printed name and title		

Server's address

Additional information regarding attempted service, etc:

# Exhibit A



June 18, 2018

Dionne Hardy FOIA Officer Office of Management and Budget Email: <u>OMBFOIA@omb.eop.gov</u>

### Re: Freedom of Information Act Request

Dear FOIA Officer:

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, Allied Progress requests access to and copies of certain records related to Associate Director Kathy Kraninger, who has been employed by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) since March 2017.

Specifically, we request:

- All resumes, curricula vitae, and documents associated with Ms. Kraninger's hiring
- All personnel records concerning Ms. Kraninger's employment with OMB, including performance reviews, disciplinary actions, warnings and/or reprimands, salary and benefits information, and any other information regarding Ms. Kraninger's job performance.
- All records documenting travel arrangements and expenses for Ms. Kraninger since she has been employed by OMB.
  - This should include all itineraries and receipts for travel expenses, including receipts for receipts for airfare, lodging, meals, rental vehicles, and per-diem expenses. This should also include all records of any payments made by OMB to Ms. Kraninger that fall outside the scope of her regular salary.
- All calendars or calendar entries between March 1, 2017, and the date this request is processed for Ms. Kraninger, including any calendars maintained on her behalf (e.g., by an administrative assistant.)
  - For calendar entries created in Outlook or similar programs, the document should be produced in "memo" form to include all invitees, notes, and attachments. However, please do not limit your search to Outlook calendars; we request the production of any calendar, whether it be paper of electronic or on government-issued or personal devices, used to track or coordinate how Ms. Kraninger allocates her time on agency business.

If possible, I would prefer to receive this information electronically via e-mail at karl.frisch@alliedprogress.org. If you have questions or need additional information, please feel free to call me at (202) 644-8526.

#### Fee Waiver Request

Allied Progress requests a waiver of fees because it qualifies for classification as a "news media" requester, responsible only for duplication fees under FOIA's fee assessment provisions. The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau and Federal Communications Commission have previously recognized this status in light of the regular publication and dissemination activities in which Allied Progress engages. Allied Progress will use the information gathered, and its analysis of it, to educate the public through reports, press releases, or other media. Allied Progress will also make materials it gathers available on its public website.

The disclosure of the requested information is also "in the public interest because it is likely to contribute significantly to public understanding" of government operations and is not "primarily in the commercial interest of the requester." The disclosure of the information sought under this request will document and reveal the operations of the federal government, including how public funds are spent and how officials conduct the public's business.

It was recently reported that President Donald Trump is expected to nominate OMB Associate Director Kathy Kraninger to lead the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB), an agency charged with protecting consumers from predatory financial entities. <sup>1</sup> Since November, the CFPB has been led by "Acting Director" Mick Mulvaney, who has made substantive changes to the agency's structure and policies, even going so far as to change its mission statement. Allied Progress is working to ensure that the next CFPB director does not continue eroding the agency as Mulvaney has done.

Currently, the public has very little information on Ms. Kraninger, as her work has primarily been outside of the public eye. This request seeks to determine the scope of Ms. Kraninger's work at the OMB, including her work on consumer protection issues, and the requested materials will be used to inform the public about Ms. Kraninger in the context of her expected CFPB nomination.

This request is primarily and fundamentally for non-commercial purposes. As a project of a 501(c)(3) organization, Allied Progress does not have a commercial purpose and the release of the information requested is not in Allied Progress's financial interest. Allied Progress's mission is to give voice to hard-working Americans by standing up to Wall Street and other powerful special interests and holding their allies in Congress and the White House accountable.

Accordingly, Allied Progress qualifies for a fee waiver.

### Expedited Processing Request

It was first reported late afternoon Friday, June 15, 2018, that President Donald Trump is expected to nominate OMB Associate Director Kathy Kraninger to lead the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB).<sup>2</sup> As soon as her nomination becomes official, the Senate

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Lalita Clozel, "<u>Kathy Kraninger to Be Nominated to Head Consumer Financial Protection</u> <u>Bureau</u>," *The Wall Street Journal*, 06/16/18

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Elizabeth Dexheimer, Robert Schmidt, and Jennifer Jacobs, "<u>Trump Favors Little-Known</u> <u>Official to Be Next CFPB Chief</u>," *Bloomberg*, 06/15/18

may hold a confirmation vote at any time. "Acting Director" Mick Mulvaney has vowed to make the CFPB "permanently accountable and transparent."<sup>3</sup> However, the public currently has very little information on Ms. Kraninger, as her work has primarily been outside of the public eye. It is urgent that the public has access to records concerning the potential nominee, so they can make their voices heard about this crucial government position.

Allied Progress certifies these facts are true and correct and requests expedited processing for this reason.

### **Conclusion**

If my request is denied in whole or part, I ask that you justify all deletions by reference to specific exemptions of the act. Additionally, if any documents are withheld based on the Agency's interpretation of any exemption, Allied Progress requests that you provide an index of those documents as required under *Vaughn v. Rosen*, 484 F.2d 820 (D.C. Cir. 1973), *cert. denied*, 415 U.S. 977 (1974). Specifically, this *Vaughn* index should describe withheld documents with enough specificity to determine whether the material is exempt under the act and must describe each document or portion withheld.

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Karl Frisch Executive Director Allied Progress

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Lydia Wheeler, <u>"Mulvaney fires back after Warren questions CFPB</u> leadership," *The Hill,* 04/05/18

# Exhibit B



June 18, 2018

Dionne Hardy FOIA Officer Office of Management and Budget Email: <u>OMBFOIA@omb.eop.gov</u>

# Re: Freedom of Information Act Request

Dear FOIA Officer:

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, Allied Progress requests access to and copies of certain emails from Associate Director Kathy Kraninger between and including March 1, 2017, and the date this request is processed.

Specifically, we request all emails sent by, sent to, or carbon copying ("CC") Ms. Kraninger during this time period that were sent by, sent to, or CC'ed any of the following employees of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) and Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB):

- Mick Mulvaney
- Eric Blankenstein
- Ann Conant
- John Czwartacki
- James Reilly Dolan
- Emma Doyle
- James Galkowski
- Sheila Greenwood
- Brian Johnson
- Halle Morgan
- Kirsten Sutton Mork
- Jonathan Slemrod
- Anthony Welcher

Additionally, we request all emails sent by, sent to, or CC'ing Ms. Kraninger during this time period that include any of the following keywords or phrases:

- Consumer Financial Protection Bureau
- CFPB
- Mulvaney
- Cordray
- Leandra English

If possible, I would prefer to receive this information electronically via e-mail at karl.frisch@alliedprogress.org. If you have questions or need additional information, please feel free to call me at (202) 644-8526.

### Fee Waiver Request

Allied Progress requests a waiver of fees because it qualifies for classification as a "news media" requester, responsible only for duplication fees under FOIA's fee assessment provisions. The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau and Federal Communications Commission have previously recognized this status in light of the regular publication and dissemination activities in which Allied Progress engages. Allied Progress will use the information gathered, and its analysis of it, to educate the public through reports, press releases, or other media. Allied Progress will also make materials it gathers available on its public website.

The disclosure of the requested information is also "in the public interest because it is likely to contribute significantly to public understanding" of government operations and is not "primarily in the commercial interest of the requester." The disclosure of the information sought under this request will document and reveal the operations of the federal government, including how public funds are spent and how officials conduct the public's business.

It was recently reported that President Donald Trump is expected to nominate OMB Associate Director Kathy Kraninger to lead the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB), an agency charged with protecting consumers from predatory financial entities. <sup>1</sup> Since November, the CFPB has been led by "Acting Director" Mick Mulvaney, who has made substantive changes to the agency's structure and policies, even going so far as to change its mission statement. Allied Progress is working to ensure that the next CFPB director does not continue eroding the agency as Mulvaney has done.

Currently, the public has very little information on Ms. Kraninger, as her work has primarily been outside of the public eye. This request seeks to determine the scope of Ms. Kraninger's work at the OMB, including her work on consumer protection issues, and the requested materials will be used to inform the public about Ms. Kraninger in the context of her expected CFPB nomination.

This request is primarily and fundamentally for non-commercial purposes. As a project of a 501(c)(3) organization, Allied Progress does not have a commercial purpose and the release of the information requested is not in Allied Progress's financial interest. Allied Progress's mission is to give voice to hard-working Americans by standing up to Wall Street and other powerful special interests and holding their allies in Congress and the White House accountable.

Accordingly, Allied Progress qualifies for a fee waiver.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Lalita Clozel, "<u>Kathy Kraninger to Be Nominated to Head Consumer Financial Protection</u> <u>Bureau</u>," *The Wall Street Journal*, 06/16/18

#### **Expedited Processing Request**

It was first reported late afternoon Friday, June 15, 2018, that President Donald Trump is expected to nominate OMB Associate Director Kathy Kraninger to lead the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB).<sup>2</sup> As soon as her nomination becomes official, the Senate may hold a confirmation vote at any time. "Acting Director" Mick Mulvaney has vowed to make the CFPB "permanently accountable and transparent."<sup>3</sup> However, the public currently has very little information on Ms. Kraninger, as her work has primarily been outside of the public eye. It is urgent that the public has access to records concerning the potential nominee, so they can make their voices heard about this crucial government position.

Allied Progress certifies these facts are true and correct and requests expedited processing for this reason.

### **Conclusion**

If my request is denied in whole or part, I ask that you justify all deletions by reference to specific exemptions of the act. Additionally, if any documents are withheld based on the Agency's interpretation of any exemption, Allied Progress requests that you provide an index of those documents as required under *Vaughn v. Rosen*, 484 F.2d 820 (D.C. Cir. 1973), *cert. denied*, 415 U.S. 977 (1974). Specifically, this *Vaughn* index should describe withheld documents with enough specificity to determine whether the material is exempt under the act and must describe each document or portion withheld.

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely. Karl Frisch

Executive Director Allied Progress

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Elizabeth Dexheimer, Robert Schmidt, and Jennifer Jacobs, "<u>Trump Favors Little-Known</u> <u>Official to Be Next CFPB Chief</u>," *Bloomberg*, 06/15/18

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Lydia Wheeler, <u>"Mulvaney fires back after Warren questions CFPB</u> leadership," *The Hill,* 04/05/18

# Exhibit C



June 18, 2018

Dionne Hardy FOIA Officer Office of Management and Budget Email: <u>OMBFOIA@omb.eop.gov</u>

# Re: Freedom of Information Act Request

Dear FOIA Officer:

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, Allied Progress requests access to and copies of certain emails from Associate Director Kathy Kraninger between and including March 1, 2017, and the date this request is processed.

Specifically, we request all emails sent by, sent to, or carbon copying ("CC") Ms. Kraninger during this time period that were sent by, sent to, or CC'ed representatives of any of the following organizations, as evidenced by their e-mail addresses or the inclusion of one of these entity names in their e-mail signatures:

- Community Financial Services Association of America (CFSA) (@cfsaa.com)
- Online Lenders Alliance (OLA) (@onlinelendersalliance.org)
- American Financial Services Association (AFSA) (@afsaonline.org)
- Financial Service Centers of America (FiSCA) (@fisca.org)
- Consumer Credit Research Foundation (@creditresearch.org)
- US Consumer Coalition (@usconsumers.org)
- Protect America's Consumers (@protectconsumers.com)
- Advance America (@advanceamerica.net)
- Speedy Cash (@speedycash.com)
- QC Holdings, Inc./QuickCash (@qcholdings.com or @myquickcashloan.net)
- Moneytree, Inc. (@moneytreeinc.com)
- USA Cash Services (@usacashservices.com)
- Axcess Financial (@axcess-financial.com)
- Check 'n Go, Inc. (@checkngo.com)
- Check Into Cash, Inc. (@checkintocash.com)
- Jones Management Company (@jonesmanagement.com)
- Amscot Financial, Inc. (@amscot.com)
- Dollar Financial Group, Inc. (@dollarcashtree.com or @dfcglobalcorp.com)

Additionally, we request all emails sent by, sent to, or CC'ing Ms. Kraninger during this time period that include any of the following keywords or phrases:

• Payday

- Cash advance
- Short-term loan
- PHH Corp
- World Acceptance

If possible, I would prefer to receive this information electronically via e-mail at karl.frisch@alliedprogress.org. If you have questions or need additional information, please feel free to call me at (202) 644-8526.

### Fee Waiver Request

Allied Progress requests a waiver of fees because it qualifies for classification as a "news media" requester, responsible only for duplication fees under FOIA's fee assessment provisions. The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau and Federal Communications Commission have previously recognized this status in light of the regular publication and dissemination activities in which Allied Progress engages. Allied Progress will use the information gathered, and its analysis of it, to educate the public through reports, press releases, or other media. Allied Progress will also make materials it gathers available on its public website.

The disclosure of the requested information is also "in the public interest because it is likely to contribute significantly to public understanding" of government operations and is not "primarily in the commercial interest of the requester." The disclosure of the information sought under this request will document and reveal the operations of the federal government, including how public funds are spent and how officials conduct the public's business.

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Currently, the public has very little information on Ms. Kraninger, as her work has primarily been outside of the public eye. This request seeks to determine the scope of Ms. Kraninger's work at the OMB, including her work on consumer protection issues, and the requested materials will be used to inform the public about Ms. Kraninger in the context of her expected CFPB nomination.

This request is primarily and fundamentally for non-commercial purposes. As a project of a 501(c)(3) organization, Allied Progress does not have a commercial purpose and the release of the information requested is not in Allied Progress's financial interest. Allied Progress's mission is to give voice to hard-working Americans by standing up to Wall Street and other powerful special interests and holding their allies in Congress and the White House accountable.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Lalita Clozel, "<u>Kathy Kraninger to Be Nominated to Head Consumer Financial Protection</u> <u>Bureau</u>," *The Wall Street Journal*, 06/16/18

Accordingly, Allied Progress qualifies for a fee waiver.

#### **Expedited Processing Request**

It was first reported late afternoon Friday, June 15, 2018, that President Donald Trump is expected to nominate OMB Associate Director Kathy Kraninger to lead the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB).<sup>2</sup> As soon as her nomination becomes official, the Senate may hold a confirmation vote at any time. "Acting Director" Mick Mulvaney has vowed to make the CFPB "permanently accountable and transparent."<sup>3</sup> However, the public currently has very little information on Ms. Kraninger, as her work has primarily been outside of the public eye. It is urgent that the public has access to records concerning the potential nominee, so they can make their voices heard about this crucial government position.

Allied Progress certifies these facts are true and correct and requests expedited processing for this reason.

#### **Conclusion**

If my request is denied in whole or part, I ask that you justify all deletions by reference to specific exemptions of the act. Additionally, if any documents are withheld based on the Agency's interpretation of any exemption, Allied Progress requests that you provide an index of those documents as required under *Vaughn v. Rosen*, 484 F.2d 820 (D.C. Cir. 1973), *cert. denied*, 415 U.S. 977 (1974). Specifically, this *Vaughn* index should describe withheld documents with enough specificity to determine whether the material is exempt under the act and must describe each document or portion withheld.

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Sincerely,

Karl Frisch Executive Director Allied Progress

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Lydia Wheeler, <u>"Mulvaney fires back after Warren questions CFPB</u> leadership," *The Hill,* 04/05/18

# Exhibit D



June 19, 2018

Raynell Lazier FOIA Manager Consumer Financial Protection Bureau Email: <u>CFPB\_FOIA@consumerfinance.gov</u>

# Re: Freedom of Information Act Request

Dear FOIA Officer:

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, Allied Progress requests access to and copies of certain correspondence from the following CFPB employees:

- Mick Mulvaney
- Eric Blankenstein
- Ann Conant
- John Czwartacki
- James Reilly Dolan
- Emma Doyle
- James Galkowski
- Sheila Greenwood
- Brian Johnson
- Halle Morgan
- Kirsten Sutton Mork
- Jonathan Slemrod
- Anthony Welcher

Specifically, we request all emails sent by, sent to, or carbon copying ("CC") any of the listed individuals that were sent by, sent to, or CC'ed Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Associate Director Kathy Kraninger between and including March 1, 2017, and the date this request is processed. This should include all emails sent to or from any email address associated with Ms. Kraninger and should not be limited to her primary OMB email address.

If possible, I would prefer to receive this information electronically via e-mail at karl.frisch@alliedprogress.org. If you have questions or need additional information, please feel free to call me at (202) 644-8526.

### Fee Waiver Request

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Elizabeth Dexheimer, Robert Schmidt, and Jennifer Jacobs, "<u>Trump Favors Little-Known</u> <u>Official to Be Next CFPB Chief</u>," *Bloomberg*, 06/15/18

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Lydia Wheeler, <u>"Mulvaney fires back after Warren questions CFPB</u> leadership," *The Hill*, 04/05/18

has very little information on Ms. Kraninger, as her work has primarily been outside of the public eye. It is urgent that the public has access to records concerning the potential nominee, so they can make their voices heard about this crucial government position.

Allied Progress certifies these facts are true and correct and requests expedited processing for this reason.

#### **Conclusion**

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Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely, a Karl Frisch

Executive Director Allied Progress