



Here's The Warrant: DOJ Investigating Trump For Potential Violations Of Espionage Act, Obstruction Of Justice

Description

USA: *Politico* reports that based on the search warrant, the FBI is investigating former President Trump for “removal or destruction of records, obstruction of an investigation, and violating the Espionage Act,” while ***Breitbart*** has the actual statutes from the warrant.



NEW via Breitbart: Trump under investigation per search warrant for:
18 USC 2071 — Concealment, removal or mutilation
18 USC 793 — Gathering, transmitting or losing defence information
18 USC 1519 — Destruction, alteration or falsification of records in Federal investigations

— Hugo Lowell (@hugolowell) [August 12, 2022](#)

The documents, which are expected to be unsealed later Friday after the Justice Department sought their public disclosure amid relentless attacks by Trump and his GOP allies, underscore the extraordinary national security threat that federal investigators believed the missing documents presented. The concern grew so acute that Attorney General Merrick Garland approved the unprecedented search of Trump's estate last week.

*Taylor Budowich, a spokesperson for Trump, said the FBI's move was "not just unprecedented, but unnecessary — and now they are leaking lies and innuendos to try to explain away the weaponization of government against their dominant political opponent. **This is outrageous.**" -Politico*

This fishing expedition is so insane that under the federal legal definition of "Presidential Records," a McDonald's menu that Trump scrawled his lunch order on during a meeting in the Oval would be included (44 U.S.C. 2201).

The FBI raided Trump's house for that. INSANE. <https://t.co/WP4ULjXS8f>
[pic.twitter.com/A2zMLws370](https://t.co/A2zMLws370)

— Sean Davis (@seanmdav) [August 12, 2022](#)

An interesting point:

WSJ: "Mr. Trump's lawyers argue that the former president used his authority to declassify the material before he left office."

But as [@charlie_savage](#) points out. NONE of the 3 crimes cited in the warrant turn on whether the information is classified. <https://t.co/xGr2LotPD> [pic.twitter.com/vmsbp1vD3z](https://t.co/vmsbp1vD3z)

— Ryan Goodman (@rgoodlaw) [August 12, 2022](#)

Sen. Lindsey Graham (R-SC) has called for AG Merrick Garland to release the information which predicated the warrant.

They can redact the names and other sensitive information, but DOJ must lay their cards on the table.

Media speculation is rampant and many of us remember the Mueller investigation and the rampant misinformation surrounding it.

Let America see the affidavit.

— Lindsey Graham (@LindseyGrahamSC) [August 12, 2022](#)

According to [Human Events](#)’ Jack Posobiec:

The warrant details the address and locations to be searched, including that “The locations to be searched include the ‘45 Office,’ all storage rooms, and all other rooms or areas within the premises used or available to be used by FPOTUS and his staff and in which boxes or documents could be stored, including all structures or buildings on the estate.”

The warrant did not include a call to search parts of the property that are in use by members of the Mar-a-Lago club, or rentals.

It further reads that the “Property to be seized” includes “All physical documents and records constituting evidence, contraband, fruits of crime or other items illegally possessed in violation” of legal codes, including:

“Any physical documents with classification markings, along with any containers/boxes (including any other contents) in which such documents are locations, as well as any other containers/boxes that are collectively stored or found together with the aforementioned documents and containers/boxes:

“Information, including communications in any form, regarding the retrieval, storage, or transmission of national defense information or classified material;

“Any government and/or Presidential Records created between January 20, 2017,” the day Trump took office, and the end of his term.

Additionally, the warrant demands the seizure of “Any evidence of the knowing alteration, destruction, or concealment of and government and/or Presidential Records, or of any documents with classification markings.”

A receipt of property for dozens of boxes follows, with that receipt signed by Trump attorney Christina Bobb on August 8, at 6:19 pm.

The reason for the search warrant was not made public, and the probable cause is not noted as part of the documents.

* * *

Update (1512ET): President Trump had more to say on Friday about Monday’s FBI raid on his residence at Mar-a-Lago.



“Number one, it was all declassified. Number two, they didn’t need to “seize” anything. They could have had it anytime they wanted without playing politics and breaking into Mar-a-Lago. It was in secured storage, with an additional lock put on as per their request,” Trump wrote on Truth Social.

“They could have had it anytime they wanted—and that includes LONG ago. ALL THEY HAD TO DO WAS ASK. The bigger problem is, what are they going to do with the 33 million pages of documents, many of which are classified, that President Obama took to Chicago?”

Pundit Mark Levin makes some great points via Twitter:

B. Wouldn’t the FBI had known there was “classified” information at that time — either before they arrived at the home or during their search? The most sensitive national security documents are supposed to be tracked by the relevant agency or department.

— Mark R. Levin (@marklevinshow) [August 12, 2022](#)

(continued)

C. Did they look in June? If so, didn’t they see the documents? If they did not look, why not?

D. 2. If the FBI felt the Trump lawyers were not cooperative, all they had to do is go to court to enforce their subpoena or get a second subpoena.

E. Instead, there was a TWO-MONTH gap between the June meeting and the seeking/execution of the search warrant in August. Why was there a two-month gap if there was an urgent necessity for a search warrant? Why wasn’t a search warrant sought immediately?

F. 3. Once again, I make the argument that this was pretextual for the purpose of grabbing anything they could find, using the plain view doctrine as an attempt to find anything related to January 6, among other things.

* * *

Update (1325ET): The DOJ leak-fest continues, this time with the [Wall Street Journal](#) reporting that the FBI “removed 11 sets of classified documents, including some marked as top secret and meant to only be available in special government facilities” (much like [the 7 ‘top secret’ email chains](#) on Hillary Clinton’s computer).



The Federal Bureau of Investigation agents took around 20 boxes of items, binders of photos, a handwritten note and the executive grant of clemency for Mr. Trump’s ally Roger Stone, a list of items removed from the property shows. Also included in the list was information about the “President of France,” according to the three-page list.

The list is contained in a seven-page document that also includes the warrant [to search the premises](#) which was granted by a federal magistrate judge in Florida. -WSJ

One set of the recovered documents were marked as “Various classified/TS/SCI documents,” referring to sensitive or top-secret information.

The agency also claims they collected four sets of top secret documents, three sets of secret documents, and three sets of confidential documents.

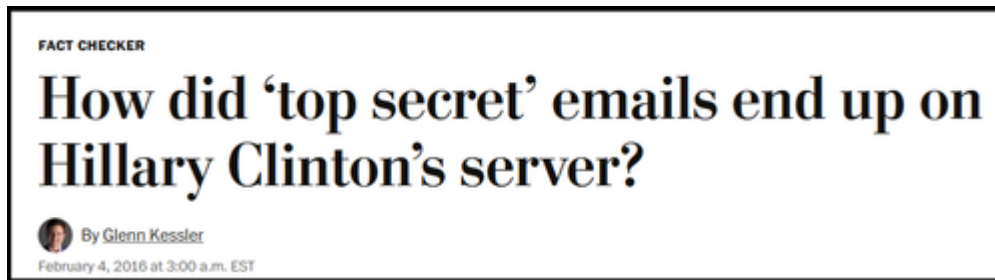
According to the *Journal’s* subheadline, Trump allies insist the documents were declassified by the former president.

*The [search and seizure warrant](#), signed by U.S. Magistrate Judge Bruce Reinhart, shows that **FBI agents sought to search “the 45 Office,” as well as “all storage rooms and all other rooms or areas within the premises used or available to be used by [the former president] and his staff** and in which boxes or documents could be stored, including all structures or buildings on the estate.”*

The former president and his team don’t have the affidavit, which would provide more detail about the FBI’s investigation, according to people familiar with the process. His lawyers have asked for a more specific account of what was removed from Mar-a-Lago. -

WSJ

Meanwhile, guess who didn't get raided for doing the same thing?



On Friday, Trump called out former President Barack Hussein Obama for keeping “33 million pages of documents, much of them classified.”



A debate over whether Trump could have declassified the documents has ensued:

I don't know the validity of this claim, but the argument (unlike the implausible nuclear secrets) is worth parsing.

Needless to say, FBI squealed about "sources and methods" when corrupt sources Halper and Danchenko were exposed.

— Stephen McIntyre (@ClimateAudit) [August 12, 2022](#)

it says that President has right to declassify whatever he wants and that, under separation of powers, Congress cannot limit his authority.

So the claim that Trump lacked authority to declassify documents on "sources and methods" (because of statute) looks totally bogus. pic.twitter.com/PiMwMkuFZ3

— Stephen McIntyre (@ClimateAudit) [August 12, 2022](#)

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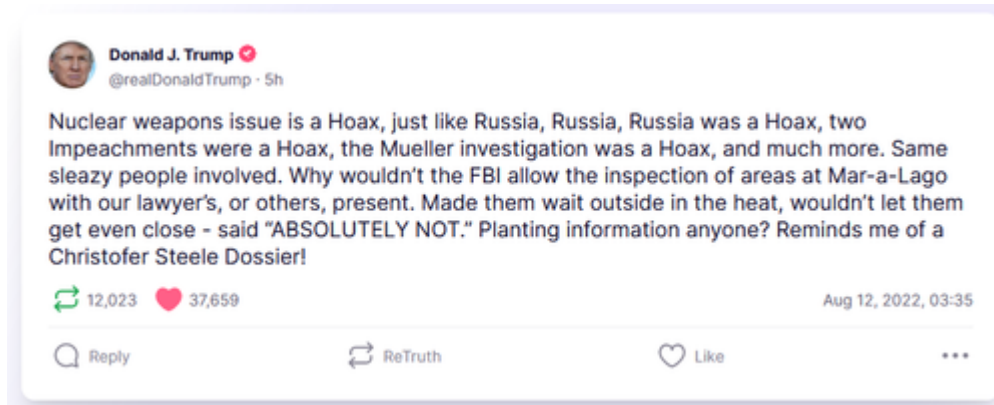
Former President Donald Trump on Friday **called a Thursday report in [WaPo](#) that he took classified documents related to nuclear weapons "a hoax,"** and compared it to the FBI's use of the discredited 'Steele Dossier' – a notorious fabrication used during and after the 2016 US election to discredit Trump as a Russian asset.



"Nuclear weapons issue is a Hoax, just like Russia, Russia, Russia was a Hoax, two Impeachments were a Hoax, the Mueller investigation was a Hoax, and much more," Trump wrote on Truth Social, adding "Same sleazy people involved."

“Why wouldn’t the FBI allow the inspection of areas at Mar-a-Lago with our lawyer’s [sic], or others present. Made them wait outside in the heat, wouldn’t let them get even close — said ‘ABSOLUTELY NOT.’”

“Planting information anyone? Reminds me of a Christofer Steele Dossier!”



On Thursday, Trump demanded the “immediate release” of materials related to the FBI raid on his Mar-a-Lago residence.

“Not only will I not oppose the release of documents related to the unAmerican, unwarranted, and unnecessary raid and break-in of my home in Palm Beach, Florida, Mar-a-Lago, ***I am going a step further by ENCOURAGING the immediate release of those documents***, even though they have been drawn up by radical left Democrats and possible future political opponents, who have a strong and powerful vested interest in attacking me, much as they have done for the last 6 years...” Trump said in a Thursday night [post](#) on Truth Social.

Meanwhile, Twitter is full of hot takes and reactions...

Beschloss is one of the half dozen historians Biden has been meeting with on a regular basis. Here he is casually floating the idea that Trump be executed for treason
<https://t.co/wYovpB22Vk>

— Chuck Ross (@ChuckRossDC) [August 12, 2022](#)

Former FBI Deputy Assistant Director Terry Turchie says Merrick Garland would not sign off on a warrant to raid the Unabomber, but signed off on a warrant to raid Trump.
<pic.twitter.com/FbPfHhRWQf>

— The Post Millennial (@TPostMillennial) [August 11, 2022](#)

“And these ‘stolen nuclear codes,’ are they...are they in the room with us right now?”

— Michael Knowles (@michaeljknowles) [August 12, 2022](#)

So the same guy who “blew the whistle” on Trump for “stealing boxes” leading to the Mar-a-Lago raid (David Ferriero) was sued in 2015 for failing to preserve Hillary Clinton’s emails.

<https://t.co/vUZZRyGfRs>

— Merissa Hansen????? ?? ?? (@MerissaHansen17) [August 11, 2022](#)

By Monday, the New York Times will be running a story about how Trump had the Ark of the Covenant

— Dan Gainor (@dangainor) [August 12, 2022](#)

Crack-addled Hunter Biden leaving a laptop at a repair shop? Completely improbable.

Trump stealing nuclear secrets and the FBI waiting 18 months to seize them without arresting anyone? Totally legit.

The mind of Jonah Goldberg. Almost as if it’s undergirded by bias. <https://t.co/KEjZfk8Cr7>

— Bonchie (@bonchieredstate) [August 12, 2022](#)

The agency that ran the Russia collusion hoax, the Whitmer kidnap hoax, went to war against the parents of school-age children, and did nothing during the violent summer of 2020, the attacks on Supreme Court Justices, churches, and pregnancy centers, has thoughts. <https://t.co/rQslztYYBA>

— Mollie (@MZHemingway) [August 11, 2022](#)

by Tyler Durden

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