



U.S. Department of Justice

National Security Division

U.S. FOREIGN
INTELLIGENCE
SURVEILLANCE COURT

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Washington, D.C. 20530

MAGNUS PETERSON
CLERK OF COURT

January 3, 2025

The Honorable Anthony J. Trenga
United States Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court
U.S. Courthouse
333 Constitution Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20001

Re: (U) *In Re Accuracy Concerns Regarding FBI Matters Submitted to the FISC*,
Docket No. Misc. 19-02.

Dear Judge Trenga:

(U) The government files this letter in furtherance of its obligations pursuant to this Court's Order dated May 22, 2023 (Order), in the above-listed docket number, which ordered the government to file periodic reports regarding technological improvements to processes used by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) for preparing Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (FISA) applications or verifying the information contained in FISA applications. In the Order, the Court ordered the government to provide a report no later than October 13, 2023. The Order further required that, if deployment of the Bridge (discussed below) was not completed by October 13, 2023, the government shall submit subsequent reports at intervals of no more than 90 days thereafter, until the government reports that such deployment has been completed. The government timely filed its report on October 13, 2023, noting, in part, that the deployment of the Bridge was ongoing. As described in previous update reports, while deployment of the Bridge is fully completed on the FBI's Secret enclave, the FBI is still working to deploy the Bridge on the Top Secret enclave. This letter constitutes the government's subsequent report in this matter.

(U) As previously reported, the FBI has developed and implemented a new electronic FISA management system named the Bridge to streamline the FBI's FISA-related workflow processes. The Bridge replaces the FBI's prior system, the FISA Management System (FISAMS), and remedies certain deficiencies presenting technological challenges due to the age of FISAMS. Among other benefits, the Bridge uses a technical interface to communicate with Sentinel, the FBI's case management system, and is designed to provide users with a high level of data integrity due to automatically cross-referencing Bridge data with Sentinel case data. Users can also

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complete FISA request forms and FISA verification forms directly in the Bridge, which assists users in validating inputted data. As previously reported, the FBI has fully deployed the Bridge throughout the enterprise's Secret enclave; however, the Bridge has not yet been deployed on the enterprise's Top Secret enclave.

(U) As noted in the government's prior reports, on the Secret enclave, the FBI's Bridge team has primarily transitioned to a support and operations role as the Bridge's FISA processes have been fully deployed on the Secret enclave. FISAMS is no longer used for processing new or renewal Secret-level FISA applications as of in or around February 2024, apart from a limited number of Secret-level FISAs that were initiated in FISAMS before the cut-off date. The FBI, through the Bridge team, provides training and direct support to address user issues, and continues to refine and improve the application's functionality to make it more user friendly.

(U) Since the government's last report, the FBI, through the Bridge team, has continued to work toward the deployment of the Bridge on the Top Secret enclave. As previously reported, the Bridge application was developed so that it could be deployed across multiple enclaves with minimal redevelopment. Previously, in anticipation of beginning development work to fully integrate Bridge, the Bridge team developed and delivered all required architectural, business concept, cost estimate, and technical requirement documentation; satisfied certain governance requirements necessary to move forward with deployment; began receiving development work to allow the Bridge team to begin preliminary integration tasks; and worked to refine the minimal adjustments necessary for deployment. More recently, the FBI approved the network extension step necessary to allow the installation of a critical network connection. Overall, the appropriate environment has been "stood up" and network connections are being verified, which will allow the initial steps in deployment on the Top Secret enclave to be taken during the upcoming year.

(U) As the Bridge has not yet been deployed on the Top Secret enclave, the government will provide a subsequent report to the Court again within 90 days of the date of this filing, which will continue to address the status of the planned deployment of the Bridge on that enclave, and, if applicable, provide updates on any material developments regarding the FBI's technological efforts to improve compliance with the FBI's accuracy and completeness procedures.

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(U) The FBI has reviewed this letter and confirmed its accuracy.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'G' followed by a series of loops and a long horizontal stroke.

Gabriel R. Sanz-Rexach
Chief, Operations Section
Office of Intelligence
National Security Division
U.S. Department of Justice

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