



May 4, 2026

VIA EMAIL: BOP-OGC-EFOIA-S@BOP.GOV

FOIA/PA Section
Office of General Counsel, Room 924
Federal Bureau of Prisons
320 First Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20534

Re: Freedom of Information Act Request

Dear FOIA Officer:

America First Legal Foundation is a national, nonprofit organization working to promote the rule of law in the United States and to ensure due process and equal protection for all Americans, all to promote public knowledge and understanding of the law and individual rights guaranteed under the Constitution and laws of the United States. To that end, we file Freedom of Information Act (“FOIA”) requests on issues of pressing public concern, then disseminate the information we obtain, making documents broadly available to the public, scholars, and the media.¹ Using our editorial skills to turn raw materials into distinct work, we distribute that work to a national audience through traditional and social media platforms.

I. Background

Executive Order 14168, titled “Defending Women from Gender Ideology Extremism and Restoring Biological Truth to the Federal Government,” recognizes only two biological sexes, designates intimate spaces by sex, and bars federal funding for gender ideology promotion.² The order instructs the Attorney General and the

¹ See, e.g., *Major Victory — America First Legal Uncovers Documents Conclusively Proving the Infamous Garland Memo was Politically Orchestrated and Coordinated with the Biden White House*, AM. FIRST LEGAL FOUND. (July 18, 2025), <https://perma.cc/EY6K-3VH2>; *Exclusive — New Docs from Deep State Committee Reveal How January 6 and the Raid at Mar-a-Lago Emboldened DHS to Expand Monitoring of Americans*, AM. FIRST LEGAL FOUND. (June 24, 2024), <https://perma.cc/9G8M-E3SC>; *America First Legal Uncovers Documents Exposing Senior Biden-Harris DOJ Official’s Key Role in Coverup of Biden Classified Documents Scandal Before Joining Jack Smith’s Office to Prosecute President Trump*, AM. FIRST LEGAL FOUND. (Oct. 29, 2024), <https://perma.cc/XM52-YP4B>.

² Exec. Order No. 14168 § 2, 90 Fed. Reg. 8615 (Jan. 20, 2025). Several federal district courts have enjoined various provisions of the order pending further litigation. However, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit recently vacated preliminary injunctions that blocked the Federal Bureau of

Secretary of Homeland Security to “ensure that males are not detained in women’s prisons or housed in women’s detention centers.”³ To this end, agencies must “ensure that intimate spaces designated for women, girls, or females (or for men, boys, or males) are designated by sex and not identity.”⁴

Over 6 months after Executive Order 14168 was issued, the Federal Bureau of Prisons (“BOP”) reincarcerated Sarah Cavanaugh, a female offender, for voicing discomfort about sharing a room with a biological male.

In 2025, Ms. Cavanaugh was an inmate under the care and custody of the BOP. The BOP determined that Ms. Cavanaugh was a good candidate for release to a Federal Residential Re-entry Center (“RRC”), also known as a halfway house. Ms. Cavanaugh was transferred to the Houston House in Rhode Island to finish out her sentence. Houston House is an adult co-ed RRC and is operated by its parent agency, Community Resources for Justice, Inc.

On August 12, 2025, Ms. Cavanaugh noticed that changes had been made to her assigned room and inquired with Houston House staff whether she would be getting a roommate. The staff confirmed that she was getting a new roommate named “Haley Lynn Rose.” Ms. Cavanaugh Googled this name and discovered that her soon-to-be roommate was actually a biological male named Anthony Ninfo. Ninfo pleaded guilty to a charge of possession of child pornography in July 2024. Based on this information, Ms. Cavanaugh asked the staff if her new roommate was transgender and expressed discomfort with sharing a room with a biological male convicted of a sexual crime. The staff responded that they did not know and instructed Ms. Cavanaugh to follow up with the administration the next day.

Ms. Cavanaugh did not get the opportunity to inquire further. On August 13, 2025, she was served with an incident report. The incident report’s version of events differs dramatically from Ms. Cavanaugh’s recollection. The report implies that Ms. Cavanaugh learned of Ninfo’s gender identity on her own and menacingly publicized it to other Houston House residents. The report charges Ms. Cavanaugh with “violating a condition of a community program,” by “creating a hostile environment for the [transgender felon], and overstepping boundaries by inquiring about the gender identity, genitalia, charges, and room assignment of another Houston House resident.” The report also states that “asserting [sic] preferences regarding room assignments is inappropriate” Following the incident report, Ms. Cavanaugh’s release to Houston House was revoked, and she was reincarcerated for an additional six months.

Prisons from transferring transgender women to men’s facilities. *See Doe v. Blanche*, No. 25-5099, 2026 WL 1042002 (D.C. Cir. Apr. 17, 2026).

³ *Id.*

⁴ *Id.*

Ms. Cavanaugh is represented by AFL and seeks transparency regarding the incident report, any actions taken against her in connection with the report, and the DOJ's legal relationship with Houston House.

II. Records Request

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. § 552, AFL hereby requests:

1. All records created by, or in any way referencing or involving Houston House staff interactions with Sarah Cavanaugh on August 12, 2025.
2. All records of communications referring or relating to, or in any way referencing or involving the August 13, 2025, incident report.
3. All records of documents referring or relating to, or in any way referencing or involving the August 13, 2025, incident report.
4. All records referring or relating to, or in any way referencing or involving actions taken against Sarah Cavanaugh in connection with the August 13, 2025, incident report.
5. All records referring or relating to, or in any way referencing or involving the BOP's contract with Houston House and its parent agency, Community Resources for Justice, Inc.
6. All records referring or relating to the processing of this request.

The timeframe for this request is from August 12, 2025, to the date it is processed.

III. Custodians

Relevant custodians include:

- A. Patrick McFarland, BOP Residential Reentry Manager;
- B. Diamond Rivera, Houston House Program Director;
- C. Ariyana Morales, Houston House Assistant Program Director;
- D. Destiny Soeum, Houston House Intake and Release Coordinator;
- E. Olasunkanmi Ijaduola ("Kenny"), Houston House staff;
- F. Janai Abis, Houston House staff;
- G. Ashanti Dorsey, Houston House staff; and
- H. Lori Foster, case manager.

IV. Fee Waiver

Per 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(4)(A)(iii) and your agency's fee waiver regulations, under 28 C.F.R. §§ 513.67 and 16.10, AFL requests a waiver of all search and duplication fees. First, AFL is a qualified non-commercial public education and news media requester. Our officials routinely appear on national television and use social media platforms to disseminate the information they have obtained about federal government activities. AFL has demonstrated ability and intent to effectively convey information broadly to the public; other agencies have recognized AFL's status as a representative of the news media by granting fee waivers from the Departments of War, Education, Energy, Health and Human Services, Homeland Security, Interior, and your agency. In this case, AFL will make your records and responses publicly available for the benefit of citizens, scholars, and others, thereby enhancing the public's understanding of your policies and practices through AFL's analysis and publication of the requested records. As a non-profit organization, AFL has no commercial interest, and the request is made entirely to serve the public interest. We are, of course, available to provide additional information in writing or offline in support of this request. If AFL's request for a fee waiver is not granted in full, please contact us immediately upon making that determination.

V. Conclusion

If you have any questions about how to construe this request for records or believe further discussions regarding search and processing would facilitate a more efficient production of records of interest to AFL, please do not hesitate to contact us at FOIA@aflegal.org. Finally, if AFL's request for a fee waiver is not granted in full, please contact us immediately upon making that determination.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

/s/ Emily Percival

Emily Percival

Senior Counsel

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