FOIA Officer
Office of Administration
725 17th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20503

Dear FOIA Officer:

Pursuant to the federal Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. § 552, I request access to and copies of:

1. All web server logs, in raw and unprocessed form, for the Whitehouse.gov Web site. These will list the IP addresses of all visitors, pages accessed, the version of the Web browser used to access the site as well as information indicating which other Web site referred the visitor to White House.

2. Any documents or reports based on the web server logs, this will include "web analytics" reports.

3. Any and all documents detailing the number of requests made to third party content providers by members of the public, which the White House paid for, as well as any billing statements, invoices or other information detailing the price paid for these services. This includes the use of Akamai's content distribution network for the hosting of White House videos, and Amazon's S3 system for hosting mp3/mp4 files of the President's weekly address.

4. Any contracts or other documents relating to the provision of services by Akamai to the White House. This will include any information and written communications related to the negotiation of those contracted services.

5. Any written policies relating to the retention, deletion and anonymization of the Web server logs for Whitehouse.gov

The scope of this request is for documents created between January 20 and March 26, 2009.

I would like to receive the information in electronic format.

As a representative of the news media I am only required to pay for the direct cost of duplication after the first 100 pages. Through this request, I am gathering information on
the use of third party technology providers by the White House, and on the impact this may have on end-user privacy which is of current interest to the public because of the significant amount of media attention that the White House’s use of YouTube has caused. I am seeking this information as an independent blogger for dissemination to the general public. My work on privacy and security is widely read and cited by other journalists in the tech and privacy community. Some of my past stories have lead to changes in White House policy, as well as an investigation by the House Oversight Committee.

Please waive any applicable fees. Release of the information is in the public interest because it will contribute significantly to public understanding of government operations and activities.

If my request is denied in whole or part, I ask that you justify all deletions by reference to specific exemptions of the act. I will also expect you to release all segregable portions of otherwise exempt material. I, of course, reserve the right to appeal your decision to withhold any information or to deny a waiver of fees.

As I am making this request as a journalist and this information is of timely value, I would appreciate your communicating with me by telephone, rather than by mail, if you have questions regarding this request.

Please provide expedited processing of this request which concerns a matter of urgency. As a blogger, I am primarily engaged in disseminating information. The public has an urgent need for information about the use of third party technology providers and the White House’s commitment to user privacy because of the potential impact that data collection by large corporations already has on our everyday lives. I certify that my statements concerning the need for expedited processing are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

I look forward to your reply within 20 business days, as the statute requires.

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Christopher Soghoian