



U.S. Department of Justice

National Security Division

UNCLASSIFIED

Washington, D.C. 20530

January 11, 2024

U.S. FOREIGN
INTELLIGENCE
SURVEILLANCE COURT
2024 JAN 11 PM 1:43

MAURA PETERSON
CLERK OF COURT

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 deployment of the Bridge was not fully completed by October 13, 2023, this filing constitutes the government's subsequent report in this matter.

(U) As previously reported in this matter, 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 FBI previously used the FISA Management System (FISAMS) to manage these processes, but due to the age of FISAMS, the FBI determined that deficiencies within FISAMS presented technological challenges in continuing to effectively manage the FISA workflow process. The Bridge is designed to remedy these deficiencies. Among other features, the Bridge uses a technical interface to communicate with Sentinel, the FBI's case management system. The technical interface is designed to provide users with a high level of data integrity

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

by automatically cross-referencing Bridge data with Sentinel case data. In addition, users can now complete FISA request forms and FISA verification forms directly in the Bridge application, which assists users in validating inputted data. The FBI also has integrated other technological improvements to its accuracy procedures with the Bridge; for example, the FBI's Electronic Woods capability, previously deployed in Sentinel in or around July of 2021, can interface with the Bridge and allows FBI personnel to export an accuracy subfile, which can be downloaded and transmitted to other personnel participating in the FISA process. As reported in the government's October 13, 2023 report, 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) On the Secret enclave, the FBI has provided all FBI field offices and relevant FBI Headquarters' Divisions with initial training on the Bridge, conducted significant testing of the Bridge's platform, and gathered initial feedback from operational users. As of the date of this filing, the Bridge team is focusing on addressing the user transition issues identified in the initial operational feedback. This feedback has indicated the need for further minor modifications to the Bridge to continue to improve usability. The feedback has also identified the continued need for additional training to address operational users' lack of awareness or comfort with the Bridge, as well as additional training for administrative users so that they can best perform their role.

(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, addressing the status of the planned deployment of the Bridge on that enclave, and, if applicable, providing updates on any material developments regarding the FBI's technological efforts to improve compliance with the FBI's accuracy and completeness procedures.

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

Respectfully submitted,



Kevin J. O'Connor
Chief, Oversight Section
Office of Intelligence
National Security Division
U.S. Department of Justice

UNCLASSIFIED