



Posted to DOJ OIG
FOIA Reading Room After
Earlier FOIA Release

From: [Konstantinova, Nadia \(OIG\)](#)
To: [O'Neill, Michael S. \(OIG\)](#)
Subject: Document Request
Date: Thursday, October 1, 2020 5:34:00 PM
Attachments: [Document Request.docx](#)

Here is the document request. Happy to keep editing it, so let me know,

Nadia

From: [Miles, Adam \(OIG\)](#)
To: [Konstantinova, Nadia \(OIG\)](#); [O'Neill, Michael S. \(OIG\)](#); [Sumner, Patricia \(OIG\)](#); [Logan, Stephanie \(OIG\)](#)
Subject: FW: Letter to DOJ IG on Billy Reilly
Date: Friday, February 14, 2020 4:35:52 PM
Attachments: [DOJ OIG Response RE Reilly.pdf](#)

From: Miles, Adam (OIG)
Sent: Friday, February 14, 2020 4:35 PM
To: 'Toumajan, Ani (Stabenow)' <Ani_Toumajan@stabenow.senate.gov>
Cc: Schram, Zachary (HSGAC) <zachary_schram@hsgac.senate.gov>; Sabina, Greg (OIG)
(b) (6) <USDOJ.GOV>
Subject: RE: Letter to DOJ IG on Billy Reilly

Ani,

I've attached a response to the letter from Senator Stabenow, Senator Peters, and Rep. Slotkin on Billy Reilly.

Could you please circulate the letter to Ms. Slotkin's office?

Thank you, and please let me know if you have any questions.

Adam

(b) (6)

From: Toumajan, Ani (Stabenow) [mailto:Ani_Toumajan@stabenow.senate.gov]
Sent: Thursday, November 14, 2019 4:56 PM
To: Miles, Adam (OIG) <(b) (6) <USDOJ.GOV>>
Subject: Letter to DOJ IG on Billy Reilly

Hi Adam,

Please see the attached letter to Inspector General Horowitz from Senator Stabenow, Senator Peters, and Representative Slotkin. A copy of the letter has also been mailed.

Please confirm receipt when you have a moment.

Thank you, and please let me know if you have any questions.

Regards,
Ani

Ani Toumajan



Posted to DOJ OIG
FOIA Reading Room After
Earlier FOIA Release

Legislative Assistant
Office of U.S. Senator Debbie Stabenow
731 Hart Senate Office Building
202-224-4822



February 14, 2020

The Honorable Gary Peters
United States Senate

The Honorable Debbie Stabenow
United States Senate

The Honorable Elissa Slotkin
U.S. House of Representatives

Dear Senator Peters, Senator Stabenow, and Representative Slotkin:

I am writing in response to your letter dated November 14, 2019, in which you requested that the Department of Justice (DOJ) Office of the Inspector General (OIG) investigate the “nature and scope of Michigan resident William (Billy) Reilly’s work for the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), and the circumstances leading up to his death in Ukraine in July 2015.” We are carefully reviewing the information and concerns you raised, and will provide you with a more detailed response when we have completed our review. Thank you for bringing this matter to our attention.

If you have further questions, please feel free to contact me or Adam Miles, Counselor to the Inspector General, at (202) 514-3435.

Sincerely,

Michael E. Horowitz
Inspector General

From: [Sumner, Patricia \(OIG\)](#)
To: [Konstantinova, Nadia \(OIG\)](#)
Subject: FW: Letter to DOJ IG on Billy Reilly
Date: Monday, December 2, 2019 4:40:06 PM

From: Logan, Stephanie (OIG)
Sent: Friday, November 15, 2019 10:13 AM
To: Miles, Adam (OIG) (b) (6) USDOJ.GOV>; Horowitz, Michael E.(OIG) (b) (6) USDOJ.GOV>; Blier, William M.(OIG) (b) (6) USDOJ.GOV>; Sumner, Patricia (OIG) (b) (6) USDOJ.GOV>; O'Neill, Michael S. (OIG) (b) (6) USDOJ.GOV>
Cc: Sabina, Greg (OIG) (b) (6) USDOJ.GOV>
Subject: RE: Letter to DOJ IG on Billy Reilly

BTW, I got some questions from the WSJ reporter (b) (5)

Stephanie M. Logan

Senior Public Affairs Specialist
U.S. Department of Justice
Office of the Inspector General
Office: (202) 532-4564
Cell: (202) 579-7511

[@JusticeOIG](#)
[@OversightGov](#)

From: Miles, Adam (OIG)
Sent: Friday, November 15, 2019 8:28 AM
To: Horowitz, Michael E.(OIG) (b) (6) USDOJ.GOV>; Blier, William M.(OIG) (b) (6) USDOJ.GOV>; Sumner, Patricia (OIG) (b) (6) USDOJ.GOV>; O'Neill, Michael S. (OIG) (b) (6) USDOJ.GOV>
Cc: Logan, Stephanie (OIG) (b) (6) USDOJ.GOV>; Sabina, Greg (OIG) (b) (6) USDOJ.GOV>
Subject: Fwd: Letter to DOJ IG on Billy Reilly

(b) (5)

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Toumajan, Ani (Stabenow)" <Ani_Toumajan@stabenow.senate.gov>
Date: November 14, 2019 at 4:55:51 PM EST



To: (b) (6) [redacted]@usdoj.gov" (b) (6) [redacted]@usdoj.gov>

Subject: Letter to DOJ IG on Billy Reilly

Hi Adam,

Please see the attached letter to Inspector General Horowitz from Senator Stabenow, Senator Peters, and Representative Slotkin. A copy of the letter has also been mailed.

Please confirm receipt when you have a moment.

Thank you, and please let me know if you have any questions.

Regards,

Ani

Ani Toumajan

Legislative Assistant

Office of U.S. Senator Debbie Stabenow

731 Hart Senate Office Building

202-224-4822



From: [Sumner, Patricia \(OIG\)](#)
To: [Konstantinova, Nadia \(OIG\)](#)
Subject: FW: OIG in the News
Date: Monday, December 2, 2019 4:40:25 PM
Attachments: [Lawmakers Ask Watchdog to Probe Case of FBI Source Found Dead Overseas -....pdf](#)

From: Logan, Stephanie (OIG)
Sent: Friday, November 15, 2019 11:49 AM
To: Wood, Eli (OIG) <(b) (6)@USDOJ.GOV>; Horowitz, Michael E.(OIG) <(b) (6)@USDOJ.GOV>; Blier, William M.(OIG) <(b) (6)@USDOJ.GOV>; Malis, Jonathan M. (OIG) <(b) (6)@USDOJ.GOV>; Lavinsky, John S. (OIG) <(b) (6)@USDOJ.GOV>; Lee, Rene R. (OIG) <(b) (6)@USDOJ.GOV>; Miles, Adam (OIG) <(b) (6)@USDOJ.GOV>; Rich, Karen (OIG) <(b) (6)@USDOJ.GOV>; Sabina, Greg (OIG) <(b) (6)@USDOJ.GOV>; Sahinidis, Irene (OIG) <(b) (6)@USDOJ.GOV>; Calvo, Leah (OIG) <(b) (6)@USDOJ.GOV>; O'Neill, Michael S. (OIG) <(b) (6)@USDOJ.GOV>; Sumner, Patricia (OIG) <(b) (6)@USDOJ.GOV>
Subject: RE: OIG in the News

Sorry, I always forget to PDF. Attached.

Stephanie M. Logan

Senior Public Affairs Specialist
U.S. Department of Justice
Office of the Inspector General
Office: (202) 532-4564
Cell: (202) 579-7511

[@JusticeOIG](#)
[@OversightGov](#)

From: Logan, Stephanie (OIG)
Sent: Friday, November 15, 2019 11:37 AM
To: Wood, Eli (OIG) <(b) (6)@USDOJ.GOV>; Horowitz, Michael E.(OIG) <(b) (6)@USDOJ.GOV>; Blier, William M.(OIG) <(b) (6)@USDOJ.GOV>; Malis, Jonathan M. (OIG) <(b) (6)@USDOJ.GOV>; Lavinsky, John S. (OIG) <(b) (6)@USDOJ.GOV>; Lee, Rene R. (OIG) <(b) (6)@USDOJ.GOV>; Miles, Adam (OIG) <(b) (6)@USDOJ.GOV>; Rich, Karen (OIG) <(b) (6)@USDOJ.GOV>; Sabina, Greg (OIG) <(b) (6)@USDOJ.GOV>; Sahinidis, Irene (OIG) <(b) (6)@USDOJ.GOV>; Calvo, Leah (OIG) <(b) (6)@USDOJ.GOV>; O'Neill, Michael S. (OIG) <(b) (6)@USDOJ.GOV>; Sumner, Patricia (OIG) <(b) (6)@USDOJ.GOV>
Subject: RE: OIG in the News

Lawmakers Ask Watchdog to Probe Case of FBI Source Found Dead Overseas
By Brett Forrest

<https://www.wsj.com/articles/lawmakers-ask-watchdog-to-probe-case-of-fbi-source-found-dead-overseas-11573829713?mod=mhp>

Stephanie M. Logan

Senior Public Affairs Specialist
U.S. Department of Justice
Office of the Inspector General
Office: (202) 532-4564
Cell: (202) 579-7511

[@JusticeOIG](#)
[@OversightGov](#)

From: Wood, Eli (OIG)

Sent: Friday, November 15, 2019 8:21 AM

To: Horowitz, Michael E.(OIG) <(b) (6) [REDACTED]@USDOJ.GOV>; Blier, William M.(OIG) <(b) (6) [REDACTED]@USDOJ.GOV>; Malis, Jonathan M. (OIG) <(b) (6) [REDACTED]@USDOJ.GOV>; Lavinsky, John S. (OIG) <(b) (6) [REDACTED]@USDOJ.GOV>; Lee, Rene R. (OIG) <(b) (6) [REDACTED]@USDOJ.GOV>; Miles, Adam (OIG) <(b) (6) [REDACTED]@USDOJ.GOV>; Rich, Karen (OIG) <(b) (6) [REDACTED]@USDOJ.GOV>; Logan, Stephanie (OIG) <(b) (6) [REDACTED]@USDOJ.GOV>; Sabina, Greg (OIG) <(b) (6) [REDACTED]@USDOJ.GOV>; Sahinidis, Irene (OIG) <(b) (6) [REDACTED]@USDOJ.GOV>; Calvo, Leah (OIG) <(b) (6) [REDACTED]@USDOJ.GOV>; O'Neill, Michael S. (OIG) <(b) (6) [REDACTED]@USDOJ.GOV>; Sumner, Patricia (OIG) <(b) (6) [REDACTED]@USDOJ.GOV>

Subject: RE: OIG in the News

Justice Dept. watchdog tells Russia report witnesses they can't give written feedback — then reverses course

By Matt Zapotosky and Devlin Barrett

https://www.washingtonpost.com/national-security/justice-dept-watchdog-wont-let-witnesses-give-written-feedback-on-report-about-fbis-russia-probe-sparking-fears-of-inaccuracy/2019/11/14/1236d0aa-070d-11ea-b17d-8b867891d39d_story.html

Trump and Attorney General Barr had an 'animated' talk, reportedly about the Horowitz report, in the Oval Office

By Peter Weber

<https://theweek.com/speedreads/878647/trump-attorney-general-barr-animated-talk-reportedly-about-horowitz-report-oval-office>

From: Wood, Eli (OIG)

Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2019 9:36 AM

To: Horowitz, Michael E.(OIG) <(b) (6) [REDACTED]@USDOJ.GOV>; Blier, William M.(OIG) <(b) (6) [REDACTED]@USDOJ.GOV>; Malis, Jonathan M. (OIG) <(b) (6) [REDACTED]@USDOJ.GOV>; Lavinsky, John S. (OIG) <(b) (6) [REDACTED]@USDOJ.GOV>; Lee, Rene R. (OIG) <(b) (6) [REDACTED]@USDOJ.GOV>; Miles, Adam (OIG) <(b) (6) [REDACTED]@USDOJ.GOV>; Rich, Karen (OIG) <(b) (6) [REDACTED]@USDOJ.GOV>; Logan, Stephanie (OIG) <(b) (6) [REDACTED]@USDOJ.GOV>; Sabina, Greg (OIG) <(b) (6) [REDACTED]@USDOJ.GOV>; Sahinidis, Irene (OIG)

(b) (6) <(b) (6)@USDOL.GOV>; Calvo, Leah (OIG) (b) (6) <(b) (6)@USDOL.GOV>; O'Neill, Michael S. (OIG) <(b) (6)@USDOL.GOV>; Sumner, Patricia (OIG) <(b) (6)@USDOL.GOV>
Subject: RE: OIG in the News

Grassley tweets about FISA Report

Chuck Grassley: If the Inspector General Report on FISA Abuse Isn't Done Soon, We Know It's a Game
By Katie Pavlich
<https://townhall.com/tipsheet/katiepavlich/2019/11/13/chuck-grassley-if-the-inspector-general-report-on-fisa-abuse-isnt-done-soon-we-know-its-a-game-n2556390>



ChuckGrassley
✓@ChuckGrassley

If FISA Inspector General Horowitz report doesn't come out next week when they said it would then I will be very disappointed & left to wonder WHAT THE GAME IS?? Is someone at FBI or DOJ tying IGs hands??



ChuckGrassley
✓@ChuckGrassley

To all the leakers in DOJ tell me IF the Horowitz report will EVER come out. I don't want a prediction on WHEN. I've had enough of those disappointments. Tell "IF"

From: Wood, Eli (OIG)
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2019 8:31 AM
To: Horowitz, Michael E.(OIG) <(b) (6)@USDOJ.GOV>; Blier, William M.(OIG) <(b) (6)@USDOJ.GOV>; Malis, Jonathan M. (OIG) (b) (6) <(b) (6)@USDOJ.GOV>; Lavinsky, John S. (OIG) (b) (6) <(b) (6)@USDOJ.GOV>; Lee, Rene R. (OIG) <(b) (6)@USDOJ.GOV>; Miles, Adam (OIG) <(b) (6)@USDOJ.GOV>; Rich, Karen (OIG) (b) (6) <(b) (6)@USDOJ.GOV>; Logan, Stephanie (OIG) <(b) (6)@USDOJ.GOV>; Sabina, Greg (OIG) (b) (6) <(b) (6)@USDOJ.GOV>; Sahinidis, Irene (OIG) (b) (6) <(b) (6)@USDOJ.GOV>; Calvo, Leah (OIG) <(b) (6)@USDOJ.GOV>; Malmstrom, Jason R. (OIG) (b) (6) <(b) (6)@USDOJ.GOV>; Hayes, Mark L. (OIG) (b) (6) <(b) (6)@USDOJ.GOV>; O'Neill, Michael S. (OIG) <(b) (6)@USDOJ.GOV>; Sumner, Patricia (OIG) (b) (6) <(b) (6)@USDOJ.GOV>
Subject: OIG in the News

Letter asking OIG to Investigate AG

-
Senate Dems to DOJ Watchdog: Is AG Barr Going After Trump Enemies?



By Sam Brodey

<https://www.thedailybeast.com/senate-dems-to-doj-watchdog-is-ag-barr-going-after-trump-enemies?ref=scroll>

Combined DNA Index System Audits

-

US Proposal to Collect DNA from Detained Immigrants Violates Privacy Rights

By Nicole Austin-Hillery (wrote letter to OLP from *Human Rights Watch*)

<https://www.hrw.org/news/2019/11/12/us-proposal-collect-dna-detained-immigrants-violates-privacy-rights#>

FISA Report

Justice Dept. inspector general invites witnesses to review draft of Russia report, signaling public release is close

By Matt Zapotsky and Devlin Barrett

https://www.washingtonpost.com/national-security/justice-dept-inspector-general-invites-witnesses-to-review-draft-of-russia-report-signaling-public-release-is-close/2019/11/12/0a2c246c-05a2-11ea-b17d-8b867891d39d_story.html

Report on probe into Russia investigation may be nearly finished

By David Shortell, Katelyn Polantz, and Evan Perez

<https://www.cnn.com/2019/11/12/politics/justice-department-inspector-general-russia-report-draft-witnesses/index.html>

Eli Wood
Front Office Program Specialist
US Department of Justice
Office of the Inspector General
(202) 514-3435

(b) (6) USDOJ.GOV

MEMBER MESSAGE

How would you fix college admissions? We want your suggestions on making the process more transparent and less stressful [Share Your Story](#)

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<https://www.wsj.com/articles/lawmakers-ask-watchdog-to-probe-case-of-fbi-source-found-dead-overseas-11573829713>

US

Lawmakers Ask Watchdog to Probe Case of FBI Source Found Dead Overseas

Letter seeks information on William Paul Reilly's work and expresses concern about officials' 'lack of candor'



Billy Reilly, at age 23, on a trip to Washington. He went missing in Russia in 2015 at age 28. PHOTO: REILLY FAMILY

By Brett Forrest

Updated Nov. 15, 2019 11:16 am ET

Lawmakers have requested that the Justice Department's independent watchdog investigate the case of William Paul Reilly, a Federal Bureau of Investigation counterterrorism source who went missing in Russia in 2015 and whose remains were discovered in a separatist territory of eastern Ukraine more than three years later.

The mystery surrounding Mr. Reilly's disappearance was the subject of a Page One article in *The Wall Street Journal* last month.

The letter requesting the probe—sent Thursday and addressed to the department's inspector general, Michael E. Horowitz, and signed by Sens. Debbie Stabenow (D., Mich.) and Gary Peters

(D., Mich.) and Rep. Elisa Slotkin (D., Mich.)—marks a new effort to get answers for Mr. Reilly’s parents, Theresa and William Reilly of Oxford Charter Township, Mich.

The letter requests an investigation into “the nature and scope” of Mr. Reilly’s work for the FBI and expresses concern about “the lack of candor and contradictory information provided by the FBI.”

“We continue to have serious questions about Billy’s disappearance and death,” Ms. Stabenow said. Mr. Peters said there are “important, unanswered questions about Billy Reilly’s work for the FBI and the circumstances surrounding his death.”

Ms. Slotkin couldn’t immediately be reached for comment.

A spokeswoman for the inspector general declined to comment. An FBI spokeswoman declined to comment on the letter.

In 2010, as previously reported by the Journal, agents from the FBI’s Detroit field office invited Mr. Reilly to join its confidential human source program, a group of freelance workers who aid agents in their investigations.

Mr. Reilly spent five years with the agency, working in counterterrorism and using online aliases to penetrate terror groups over computers and phones. Mr. Reilly also interacted with FBI targets in the field while wearing a wire and met regularly with agents.

In 2015, Mr. Reilly traveled to Moscow when he was 28 years old, telling his parents that he was interested in joining a humanitarian mission to aid civilians who were suffering in the war in eastern Ukraine.

He found his way to a volunteer-fighter camp in the Russian city of Rostov-on-Don, near the Ukrainian border. Mr. Reilly last spoke with his parents on June 24, 2015.

“The FBI never directed William Reilly to travel overseas to perform any work for the FBI,” an FBI spokesman, Brian P. Hale, later wrote the Journal in an email.

Shortly after Mr. Reilly’s disappearance, his FBI handler visited the Reilly home and confiscated a cell phone and laptop that Mr. Reilly had used. A text-message conversation between Mr. Reilly and his handler revealed that the two had discussed his Russia trip before his departure.

After receiving little assistance from the FBI, Mr. Reilly’s parents began their own search for their son, contacting government officials in Washington and Moscow, hiring private investigators, and in 2017 traveling to Russia. They found no answers.

In November last year, through a Journal investigation, a fingerprint match on a corpse revealed that it was Mr. Reilly's body. DNA tests in Russia and the U.S. confirmed the finding. He had been stabbed to death.

According to a Ukrainian medical examiner's report, Mr. Reilly's body was discovered on July 10, 2015, near the Ukrainian village of Dibrivka and then later buried by local authorities in a cemetery in the neighboring town of Shakhtarsk. His parents recovered his remains and returned them to Michigan in June for re interment.

Mr. and Mrs. Reilly said they welcomed the issuance of the letter by their Congressional representatives.

"We hope they will make a sincere effort to help," Mrs. Reilly said.

The letter asks the inspector general to investigate Mr. Reilly's reasons for traveling abroad, whether he was in contact with the FBI from Russia or Ukraine, and if his relationship with the agency had been terminated prior to his death.

"To date, the FBI has not been forthcoming in answering questions about Billy's disappearance and death despite their repeated requests for information and engagement from multiple congressional offices, and from the Reilly family," the letter read.

Write to Brett Forrest at brett.forrest@wsj.com

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From: [Miles, Adam \(OIG\)](#)
To: [O'Neill, Michael S. \(OIG\)](#); [Konstantinova, Nadia \(OIG\)](#)
Cc: [Sumner, Patricia \(OIG\)](#)
Subject: RE: Letter to DOJ IG on Billy Reilly
Date: Monday, February 10, 2020 1:39:38 PM

I'll flag for him.

From: O'Neill, Michael S. (OIG)
Sent: Monday, February 10, 2020 1:39 PM
To: Miles, Adam (OIG) <(b) (6) USDOJ.GOV>; Konstantinova, Nadia (OIG) <(b) (6) USDOJ.GOV>
Cc: Sumner, Patricia (OIG) <(b) (6) USDOJ.GOV>
Subject: RE: Letter to DOJ IG on Billy Reilly

Either good with me; defer to whatever preference Michael may have.

From: Miles, Adam (OIG)
Sent: Monday, February 10, 2020 1:06 PM
To: O'Neill, Michael S. (OIG) <(b) (6) USDOJ.GOV>; Konstantinova, Nadia (OIG) <(b) (6) USDOJ.GOV>
Cc: Sumner, Patricia (OIG) <(b) (6) USDOJ.GOV>
Subject: RE: Letter to DOJ IG on Billy Reilly

We can do that, or just use quotes, which will make it clearer that it's their assertion, and consistent with Nadia's comment.

From: O'Neill, Michael S. (OIG)
Sent: Monday, February 10, 2020 1:04 PM
To: Miles, Adam (OIG) <(b) (6) USDOJ.GOV>; Konstantinova, Nadia (OIG) <(b) (6) USDOJ.GOV>
Cc: Sumner, Patricia (OIG) <(b) (6) USDOJ.GOV>
Subject: RE: Letter to DOJ IG on Billy Reilly

Just one comment from me, (b) (5)

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] No issues otherwise.

Sean

From: Miles, Adam (OIG)
Sent: Monday, February 10, 2020 12:19 PM



To: Konstantinova, Nadia (OIG) <(b) (6)> [USDOJ.GOV](mailto:(b) (6)@USDOJ.GOV)>
Cc: O'Neill, Michael S. (OIG) <(b) (6)> [USDOJ.GOV](mailto:(b) (6)@USDOJ.GOV)>; Sumner, Patricia (OIG) <(b) (6)> [USDOJ.GOV](mailto:(b) (6)@USDOJ.GOV)>
Subject: RE: Letter to DOJ IG on Billy Reilly

Yes, thank you. We should use the language they used. Will make those changes.

From: Konstantinova, Nadia (OIG)
Sent: Monday, February 10, 2020 12:17 PM
To: Miles, Adam (OIG) <(b) (6)> [USDOJ.GOV](mailto:(b) (6)@USDOJ.GOV)>
Cc: O'Neill, Michael S. (OIG) <(b) (6)> [USDOJ.GOV](mailto:(b) (6)@USDOJ.GOV)>; Sumner, Patricia (OIG) <(b) (6)> [USDOJ.GOV](mailto:(b) (6)@USDOJ.GOV)>
Subject: RE: Letter to DOJ IG on Billy Reilly

(b) (5)

Nadia

From: Miles, Adam (OIG)
Sent: Monday, February 10, 2020 12:10 PM
To: Sabina, Greg (OIG) <(b) (6)> [USDOJ.GOV](mailto:(b) (6)@USDOJ.GOV)>; Horowitz, Michael E.(OIG) <(b) (6)> [USDOJ.GOV](mailto:(b) (6)@USDOJ.GOV)>; Blier, William M.(OIG) <(b) (6)> [USDOJ.GOV](mailto:(b) (6)@USDOJ.GOV)>; O'Neill, Michael S. (OIG) <(b) (6)> [USDOJ.GOV](mailto:(b) (6)@USDOJ.GOV)>; Sumner, Patricia (OIG) <(b) (6)> [USDOJ.GOV](mailto:(b) (6)@USDOJ.GOV)>; Konstantinova, Nadia (OIG) <(b) (6)> [USDOJ.GOV](mailto:(b) (6)@USDOJ.GOV)>
Subject: RE: Letter to DOJ IG on Billy Reilly

Greg put together the attached acknowledgment letter on the Reilly request.

Please let me know if this looks ok, and we'll prepare for signature.

From: Sabina, Greg (OIG)
Sent: Friday, February 7, 2020 8:52 AM
To: Miles, Adam (OIG) <(b) (6)> [USDOJ.GOV](mailto:(b) (6)@USDOJ.GOV)>
Subject: RE: Letter to DOJ IG on Billy Reilly

Please see attached draft. (b) (5)

(b) (5) Happy to revisit the draft if you have any additional thoughts/suggestions. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Greg Sabina
Congressional Affairs and Program Specialist
Immediate Office
Office of the Inspector General
U. S. Department of Justice

(b) (6) usdoj.gov

(202) 514-3435

From: Miles, Adam (OIG)
Sent: Thursday, February 6, 2020 11:04 AM
To: Sabina, Greg (OIG) <(b) (6) USDOJ.GOV>
Subject: Re: Letter to DOJ IG on Billy Reilly

Greg - can you please draft a short placeholder response on this? (b) (5)

[Redacted]

On Nov 14, 2019, at 5:20 PM, Miles, Adam (OIG) <(b) (6) usdoj.gov> wrote:

Greg, can you please circulate this one. I haven't read yet

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Toumajan, Ani (Stabenow)"
<Ani_Toumajan@stabenow.senate.gov>
Date: November 14, 2019 at 4:55:51 PM EST
To: (b) (6) usdoj.gov" (b) (6) usdoj.gov>
Subject: Letter to DOJ IG on Billy Reilly

Hi Adam,

Please see the attached letter to Inspector General Horowitz from Senator Stabenow, Senator Peters, and Representative Slotkin. A copy of the letter has also been mailed.

Please confirm receipt when you have a moment.

Thank you, and please let me know if you have any questions.

Regards,
Ani

Ani Toumajan



Posted to DOJ OIG
FOIA Reading Room After
Earlier FOIA Release

Legislative Assistant
Office of U.S. Senator Debbie Stabenow
731 Hart Senate Office Building
202-224-4822

<11-14-19 Letter to DOJ IG on Billy Reilly.pdf>



From: [O'Neill, Michael S. \(OIG\)](#)
To: [Sumner, Patricia \(OIG\)](#); [Konstantinova, Nadia \(OIG\)](#)
Subject: RE: Letter to DOJ IG on Billy Reilly
Date: Tuesday, January 14, 2020 4:47:40 PM

(b) (5)

I'll let you know what I hear back.

Sean

From: Sumner, Patricia (OIG)
Sent: Thursday, December 19, 2019 10:57 AM
To: Konstantinova, Nadia (OIG) (b) (6) USDOJ.GOV>
Cc: O'Neill, Michael S. (OIG) (b) (6) USDOJ.GOV>
Subject: FW: Letter to DOJ IG on Billy Reilly

Sean – I think I mentioned to you that Nadia is taking a look at this one.

From: Logan, Stephanie (OIG)
Sent: Wednesday, December 18, 2019 2:32 PM
To: O'Neill, Michael S. (OIG) (b) (6) USDOJ.GOV>; Miles, Adam (OIG) <(b) (6) USDOJ.GOV>; Horowitz, Michael E.(OIG) <(b) (6) USDOJ.GOV>; Blier, William M.(OIG) <(b) (6) USDOJ.GOV>; Sumner, Patricia (OIG) <(b) (6) USDOJ.GOV>
Cc: Sabina, Greg (OIG) <(b) (6) USDOJ.GOV>; Lavinsky, John S. (OIG) (b) (6) USDOJ.GOV>
Subject: RE: Letter to DOJ IG on Billy Reilly

All, I got a question about the status about the request from Members of Congress to look into the Billy Reilly case. (b) (5)

Stephanie M. Logan

Senior Public Affairs Specialist
U.S. Department of Justice
Office of the Inspector General
Office: (202) 532-4564
Cell: (202) 579-7511

[@JusticeOIG](#)
[@OversightGov](#)

From: O'Neill, Michael S. (OIG)
Sent: Friday, November 15, 2019 10:13 AM
To: Miles, Adam (OIG) (b) (6) USDOJ.GOV>; Horowitz, Michael E.(OIG)

(b) (6) [REDACTED] USDOJ.GOV>; Blier, William M.(OIG) <(b) (6) [REDACTED] USDOJ.GOV>; Sumner, Patricia (OIG) <(b) (6) [REDACTED] USDOJ.GOV>
Cc: Logan, Stephanie (OIG) <(b) (6) [REDACTED] USDOJ.GOV>; Sabina, Greg (OIG) <(b) (6) [REDACTED] USDOJ.GOV>
Subject: RE: Letter to DOJ IG on Billy Reilly

Worth discussing. We have the capacity. (b) (5) [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

From: Miles, Adam (OIG)
Sent: Friday, November 15, 2019 8:28 AM
To: Horowitz, Michael E.(OIG) <(b) (6) [REDACTED] USDOJ.GOV>; Blier, William M.(OIG) <(b) (6) [REDACTED] USDOJ.GOV>; Sumner, Patricia (OIG) <(b) (6) [REDACTED] USDOJ.GOV>; O'Neill, Michael S. (OIG) <(b) (6) [REDACTED] USDOJ.GOV>
Cc: Logan, Stephanie (OIG) <(b) (6) [REDACTED] USDOJ.GOV>; Sabina, Greg (OIG) <(b) (6) [REDACTED] USDOJ.GOV>
Subject: Fwd: Letter to DOJ IG on Billy Reilly

(b) (5) [REDACTED]

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Toumajan, Ani (Stabenow)" <Ani_Toumajan@stabenow.senate.gov>
Date: November 14, 2019 at 4:55:51 PM EST
To: (b) (6) [REDACTED] usdoj.gov" (b) (6) [REDACTED] usdoj.gov>
Subject: Letter to DOJ IG on Billy Reilly

Hi Adam,

Please see the attached letter to Inspector General Horowitz from Senator Stabenow, Senator Peters, and Representative Slotkin. A copy of the letter has also been mailed.

Please confirm receipt when you have a moment.

Thank you, and please let me know if you have any questions.

Regards,
Ani

Ani Toumajan
Legislative Assistant
Office of U.S. Senator Debbie Stabenow
731 Hart Senate Office Building



Posted to DOJ OIG
FOIA Reading Room After
Earlier FOIA Release

202-224-4822

From: [Felder, Allen \(OIG\)](#)
To: [Konstantinova, Nadia \(OIG\)](#)
Cc: [Hamilton, Brandy \(OIG\)](#)
Subject: RE: SCIF
Date: Thursday, February 13, 2020 12:53:18 PM

Hi Nadia,

I just spoke to Brandy and he said (b) (5)

Regards,

Allen

From: Felder, Allen (OIG)
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2020 4:32 PM
To: Konstantinova, Nadia (OIG) (b) (6) USDOJ.GOV>
Cc: Hamilton, Brandy (OIG) (b) (6) USDOJ.GOV>
Subject: RE: SCIF

Nadia,

I wanted to make sure you had something written from me about what we discussed. I attempted to get the information you requested off the CD in the SCIF several times today. The CD never read. I restarted my computer in the SCIF several times and could not get the CD to work. (b) (5)

. You can have them send it to Allen Felder and I could grab the documents from the email.

Brandy please let us know if you want something done otherwise as I am all out of options for the disc and this seems like the quickest solution.

Regards,

Allen

From: Konstantinova, Nadia (OIG)
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2020 10:43 AM
To: Felder, Allen (OIG) (b) (6) USDOJ.GOV>
Subject: RE: SCIF

Hi, Allen,

Can you try again (b) (5), please?

Separately, (b) (5)

Thanks,

Nadia

From: Felder, Allen (OIG)
Sent: Tuesday, February 11, 2020 9:49 AM
To: Konstantinova, Nadia (OIG) <(b) (6) [REDACTED]@USDOJ.GOV>; Hamilton, Brandy (OIG) <(b) (6) [REDACTED]@USDOJ.GOV>
Subject: RE: SCIF

No problem Nadia.

From: Konstantinova, Nadia (OIG)
Sent: Tuesday, February 11, 2020 9:48 AM
To: Felder, Allen (OIG) <(b) (6) [REDACTED]@USDOJ.GOV>; Hamilton, Brandy (OIG) <(b) (6) [REDACTED]@USDOJ.GOV>
Subject: RE: SCIF

Thanks, Allen.

From: Felder, Allen (OIG)
Sent: Tuesday, February 11, 2020 9:35 AM
To: Konstantinova, Nadia (OIG) <(b) (6) [REDACTED]@USDOJ.GOV>; Hamilton, Brandy (OIG) <(b) (6) [REDACTED]@USDOJ.GOV>
Subject: RE: SCIF

I was Nadia and I had issues viewing the contents of the disc again. Brandy is aware of the issue as I explained it to him. You will need those files. The issue is with the terminal setup. The computer may need to be restarted several times before the discs can be read as Brandy explained it to me.

Also, I am teleworking today. Perhaps Wesley can help you.

Regards,

Allen

From: Konstantinova, Nadia (OIG)
Sent: Tuesday, February 11, 2020 9:26 AM
To: Felder, Allen (OIG) <(b) (6) [REDACTED]@USDOJ.GOV>; Hamilton, Brandy (OIG) <(b) (6) [REDACTED]@USDOJ.GOV>
Subject: RE: SCIF

Hi, Allen,

Were you able to check (b) (5) [REDACTED]

Thanks,
Nadia

From: Felder, Allen (OIG)
Sent: Tuesday, February 4, 2020 2:27 PM
To: Hamilton, Brandy (OIG) (b) (6) [REDACTED] <(b) (6) [REDACTED]@USDOJ.GOV>; Konstantinova, Nadia (OIG) (b) (6) [REDACTED] <(b) (6) [REDACTED]@USDOJ.GOV>
Subject: RE: SCIF

Sure thing Brandy.

From: Hamilton, Brandy (OIG)
Sent: Tuesday, February 4, 2020 1:58 PM
To: Felder, Allen (OIG) <(b) (6) [REDACTED]@USDOJ.GOV>; Konstantinova, Nadia (OIG) <(b) (6) [REDACTED]@USDOJ.GOV>
Subject: RE: SCIF

Hi Allen,

When you return, can you please double check the disc and confirm there are no other files (b) (5) [REDACTED]. I've tried to view the content on the disc, but I could not get any of the workstations to recognize that a disc was in the disc drive.

Brandy F. Hamilton
Director, Investigative Support
Oversight and Review Division
Office of the Inspector General
U.S. Department of Justice
(b) (6) [REDACTED]

From: Felder, Allen (OIG)
Sent: Tuesday, February 4, 2020 12:00 PM
To: Konstantinova, Nadia (OIG) <(b) (6) [REDACTED]@USDOJ.GOV>
Cc: Hamilton, Brandy (OIG) (b) (6) [REDACTED] <(b) (6) [REDACTED]@USDOJ.GOV>
Subject: RE: SCIF

Hi Nadia,

Your documents are printed and in my office (b) (5) [REDACTED]. If I am not in my office the door will be locked.

Regards,

Allen

From: Konstantinova, Nadia (OIG)
Sent: Tuesday, February 4, 2020 10:06 AM
To: Felder, Allen (OIG) <(b) (6) [REDACTED]@USDOJ.GOV>
Subject: RE: SCIF

Will stop by in 10 minutes, okay?

From: Felder, Allen (OIG)
Sent: Tuesday, February 4, 2020 9:57 AM
To: Konstantinova, Nadia (OIG) <(b) (6) [REDACTED]@USDOJ.GOV>
Subject: RE: SCIF

Nadia,

I still need to talk to you when you get a minute.

Allen

From: Konstantinova, Nadia (OIG)
Sent: Tuesday, February 4, 2020 9:47 AM
To: Felder, Allen (OIG) <(b) (6) [REDACTED]@USDOJ.GOV>; Hamilton, Brandy (OIG) <(b) (6) [REDACTED]@USDOJ.GOV>
Subject: RE: SCIF

Disc is in the SCIF, (b) (5) [REDACTED] Let me know if you cannot find it.

From: Felder, Allen (OIG)
Sent: Tuesday, February 4, 2020 9:38 AM
To: Hamilton, Brandy (OIG) <(b) (6) [REDACTED]@USDOJ.GOV>
Cc: Konstantinova, Nadia (OIG) <(b) (6) [REDACTED]@USDOJ.GOV>
Subject: RE: SCIF

OK. Going now.

From: Hamilton, Brandy (OIG)
Sent: Tuesday, February 4, 2020 9:30 AM
To: Felder, Allen (OIG) <(b) (6) [REDACTED]@USDOJ.GOV>
Cc: Konstantinova, Nadia (OIG) <(b) (6) [REDACTED]@USDOJ.GOV>
Subject: FW: SCIF

Hi Allen,

When you have a moment, will you please stop by Nadia's office and retrieve the disc she's referencing in her email below and print the contents on the disc today? Please make this a priority for today.

Thanks,
Brandy

From: Hamilton, Brandy (OIG)
Sent: Tuesday, February 4, 2020 9:15 AM
To: Konstantinova, Nadia (OIG) <(b) (6) <[USDOJ.GOV](mailto:(b) (6)@USDOJ.GOV)>>
Subject: RE: SCIF

Yes, that can be done and I can have someone do that for you today.

From: Konstantinova, Nadia (OIG)
Sent: Tuesday, February 4, 2020 9:13 AM
To: Hamilton, Brandy (OIG) <(b) (6) <[USDOJ.GOV](mailto:(b) (6)@USDOJ.GOV)>>
Subject: RE: SCIF

If at all possible, I prefer this week (b) (5) [REDACTED]
(b) (5) [REDACTED] I am also okay with just printing them off the disc, (b) (5) [REDACTED]
(b) (5) [REDACTED] What do you think about that?

From: Hamilton, Brandy (OIG)
Sent: Tuesday, February 4, 2020 9:11 AM
To: Konstantinova, Nadia (OIG) <(b) (6) <[USDOJ.GOV](mailto:(b) (6)@USDOJ.GOV)>>
Subject: RE: SCIF

I can start the process, but I don't know if it will be available for your review this week. I'll have to check to see where Allen is (b) (5), (b) (6) [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Will early next week be okay?

Brandy

From: Konstantinova, Nadia (OIG)
Sent: Tuesday, February 4, 2020 9:05 AM
To: Hamilton, Brandy (OIG) <(b) (6) <[USDOJ.GOV](mailto:(b) (6)@USDOJ.GOV)>>
Subject: SCIF

Hi. Will you have time over the next few days to set me up with some documents in the SCIF? I have them on a disc, so they can get uploaded into Relativity, and then I'll probably want to print them out.



Posted to DOJ OIG
FOIA Reading Room After
Earlier FOIA Release

Let me know what works. Thanks in advance,

Nadia

Nadia A. Konstantinova

Department of Justice

Office of the Inspector General



Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20510

November 14, 2019

Mr. Michael E. Horowitz
Inspector General
U.S. Department of Justice Office of the Inspector General
950 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Suite 4706
Washington, D.C. 20530

Dear Inspector General Horowitz:

We are writing to request that your office initiate an investigation into the nature and scope of Michigan resident William (Billy) Reilly's work for the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), and the circumstances leading up to his death in Ukraine in July 2015.

We are disturbed by accounts from Billy's parents and in a story published in the *Wall Street Journal* on October 11, 2019, that details Billy's work with the FBI and his subsequent disappearance after traveling to Russia.¹¹ According to this reporting, in May 2015, Billy left the United States and arrived in Moscow, Russia with the apparent intent of making contact with Russians fighting in Ukraine. Billy corresponded with his family regularly over the subsequent few weeks. But by late June 2015, Billy had disappeared and his parents spent the next three years trying to determine his whereabouts. Finally, in November 2018, the *Wall Street Journal* discovered that Billy had been killed in Ukraine in July 2015, his remains buried in an unidentified grave in a small town in Ukraine. His parents brought his remains back to Michigan earlier this year.

According to Billy's parents and this report, Billy began working as a part-time, confidential source with the FBI's counterterrorism unit in Detroit, Michigan in the spring of 2010. It appears that Billy may have been in contact with the FBI about his travel to Russia in the weeks leading up to his death, both before and after his arrival in Russia. We are concerned about the lack of candor and contradictory information provided by the FBI regarding its knowledge of Billy's travel and subsequent disappearance in Russia. To date, the FBI has not been forthcoming in answering questions about Billy's disappearance and death despite their repeated requests for information and engagement from multiple congressional offices, and from the Reilly family.

We are therefore requesting that your office thoroughly investigate these outstanding questions about Billy's work for the FBI, his travel outside of the United States, his disappearance, and his death. These questions include how Billy was recruited and compensated, his chain of command within the FBI, the overall nature and scope of his work, whether and when his relationship with the FBI as a confidential source was terminated, his reasons for traveling abroad, and whether the FBI was actively in contact with him once he traveled to Russia and Ukraine. The investigation should also address whether the FBI is withholding information about his


¹¹ Brett Forrest, "The FBI Lost Our Son" October 11, 2019. <https://www.wsj.com/articles/the-fbi-lost-our-son-11570806358>





disappearance and death and whether it followed all protocols and procedures required when recruiting, handling, terminating, and otherwise interacting with sources and former sources, particularly those under the FBI's Confidential Human Source Policy Guide.

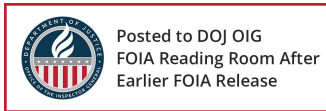
Given the circumstances of Billy's death, we believe that an independent investigation is critical. We ask that you give this matter your immediate attention.

Sincerely,


Debbie Stabenow
United States Senator


Gary C. Peters
United States Senator


Elissa Slotkin
Member of Congress



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Document: A Family's Pain: The FBI Lost Our Son --- Billy Reilly worked in... [Actions](#)

101 of 5,475 | [Results list](#)

A Family's Pain: The FBI Lost Our Son --- Billy Reilly worked in counterterrorism, infiltrating radical groups online. Then he disappeared.

The Wall Street Journal

October 12, 2019 Saturday

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U.S. EDITION

Section: Pg. A1

Length: 3186 words

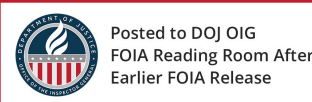
Byline: By Brett Forrest

Body

William and Theresa Reilly were biking on a leafy trail north of Detroit when their son, Billy, sent a text from his trip to Russia. The 28-year-old man had never lived away from home, and the Reillys fretted over his safe return.

Billy Reilly had yet to find a career, but his foreign-language and computer skills led to part-time work in counterterrorism for the Federal Bureau of Investigation in Detroit. He was one of the bureau's army of confidential sources, and the Reillys didn't know if his trip was somehow connected.

Over the years, Billy had delved into the Boston Marathon bombers, cultivated alleged Islamic State recruiters, analyzed Syria's civil war and conversed with Russian-backed separatists fighting in eastern Ukraine. He used online aliases to penetrate terror groups over computers from the family home in Oxford, Mich.



Billy planned to return soon, and his parents were relieved to hear from him. He had told them a vague story about joining a humanitarian mission into eastern Ukraine. Once abroad, Billy leaked alarming bits and pieces, mentions of fighting, drinking and bloody encounters with volunteer soldiers.

"Big news," Billy texted. His plans were changing. He wasn't leaving Russia just yet. Mrs. Reilly was so absorbed she didn't notice a dog approaching her on the trail. It bit her ankle, she recalled, drawing blood.

Billy sent the text on June 24, 2015. Mr. and Mrs. Reilly called and wrote him texts back over the following hours and the next day. They lost sleep, tethered to their phones, but heard nothing.

A day or two later, a government sedan pulled up to the Reilly home. FBI special agent Tim Reintjes introduced himself. The Reillys had never met him, but they knew from Billy that he was their son's FBI handler.

"Something happened to Billy," Mrs. Reilly recalled thinking. "They know about it, and he's here to tell us."

Instead, the agent asked if Billy was home. When the Reillys said he was in Russia, Agent Reintjes seemed surprised. He began asking questions, probing for details.

Over the next months, Agent Reintjes returned a half-dozen times. He asked for the laptop and phone the FBI had given Billy. He also wanted to retrieve Billy's phone bill as soon as it arrived.

Agent Reintjes brought colleagues who assured the couple that the world's leading investigative agency was on the case. "They'll find him," Mrs. Reilly recalled thinking. "We don't have to worry."

Then the Reillys found another phone Billy had used. It contained text messages between Billy and a contact named "Tim." The number matched the one on Agent Reintjes's emails to Mrs. Reilly.

The parents scrolled through the texts and found a series of perplexing exchanges suggesting the FBI agents knew all along about their son's trip.

As Billy prepared to leave for Russia, Tim had sent a text in early May 2015.

"Do you have your trip itinerary yet?"

"I'm still waiting on visa," Billy replied.

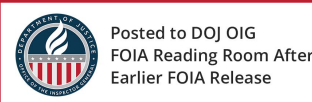
Two days before Billy flew to Moscow, Tim arranged a face-to-face meeting and wrote, "Bring your travel info."

The Reillys couldn't understand why Agent Reintjes hadn't told them.

After 9/11, Congress mandated the transformation of the FBI from a domestic law-enforcement agency into a global policing and intelligence body. The number of FBI confidential sources subsequently ballooned, a former senior bureau official said.

The FBI's counterterrorism work grew to preventing attacks. To help, the agency recruited workers like Billy Reilly, part-timers with the right skills to infiltrate terror or criminal networks, either in person or through online chat rooms and social media.

These sources work in a dangerous world, with little training and fewer of the institutional protections afforded full-time FBI agents. They draw no government benefits beyond an occasional paycheck and a pat on the back. Yet they are critical to the FBI's work to see plots in the fog of international jihad.



As an FBI source, Billy was required to report foreign travel, even vacations. The bureau has the authority to dispatch sources on foreign missions. It is one of the U.S. agencies responsible for disrupting terror cells abroad.

But over the course of four years, the Reillys would learn that no one in government wanted to take responsibility for their son's work or for his safety, and that the families of confidential sources have little recourse when the FBI severs ties with their loved ones.

Over time, Agent Reintjes turned curt on the phone and eventually stopped returning calls.

Growing up, the Reilly's only son wasn't like other kids. He rarely went to parties and preferred the company of his parents. They now began to fear they might never see him again. They weren't sure what to do.

Alarmed that Agent Reintjes was hiding information about their son's disappearance, Mr. Reilly, a retired Teamsters driver for Coca-Cola, and Mrs. Reilly, for years a stay-at-home mom, began a quest to find Billy themselves.

This account is based on dozens of interviews, including with current and former officials of the FBI, State Department and Central Intelligence Agency, as well as the Obama and Trump administrations, officials and militants in Russia and Ukraine, counterterrorism experts, private investigators and Billy Reilly's friends and family.

The Wall Street Journal also viewed FBI files, Russian and U.S. investigative reports and court records, social media and text messages.

The Journal posed more than 100 questions to the FBI. Brian P. Hale, a spokesman, responded in an email: "The FBI never directed William Reilly to travel overseas to perform any work for the FBI."

Billy Reilly entered a Catholic high school months before the September 11 terrorist attacks changed the world. Taken by the nation's patriotic mood, several of his school friends later enlisted in the military. Billy's curiosity stirred him to study Islam and begin teaching himself Arabic and Russian.

His parents watched as he developed an unconventional view of the world. Billy's sympathies settled on those he saw as disenfranchised, and he hung the flags of Chechnya and Palestine in his bedroom. He also wandered the radical edges of the internet. "Wherever he was getting his information," a school friend said, "it was different than the rest of us."

Billy told friends he had converted to Islam. During Ramadan, he fasted in the school lunchroom. In class, he read the Quran.

Mr. and Mrs. Reilly struggled to understand their two children. Mr. Reilly had Irish ancestry, and Mrs. Reilly's family was from Poland. They shared Detroit roots and since 1980 had lived in Oxford, a township of about 22,000.

In the spring of 2010, there was a knock at the door, and a man in a suit introduced himself to the Reillys as an FBI agent and held a printout of the senior Mr. Reilly's passport. After a raid on an al Qaeda position, the agent said, U.S. forces in the Middle East had recovered a hard drive that contained communications with someone using an IP address at the Reilly house.

Mr. and Mrs. Reilly looked at each other, and then toward Billy's second-floor bedroom.

Billy, then 23, explained to the agent how he had found his way into restricted jihadist chat rooms. During their conversation, the agent asked Billy if he had any interest in working with the FBI.



The bureau's Detroit office had roughly 200 agents, and its counterterrorism unit was one of its busiest. Billy, an American of European heritage, who had knowledge of Arabic and could approach potential terror targets online, had great potential value to the FBI.

After passing his tests, Billy eased into a role in counterterrorism. Billy told his parents that Agent Reintjes was his handler.

From the family home, Billy set to work, snooping in digital networks and social-media groups, exploring places where terror connections formed. He monitored Islamic fundamentalist sites and filed translations to Agent Reintjes via Dropbox and email. He passed on the names of Americans who joined jihad groups.

The work gave structure and meaning to Billy's interests and made him feel important. The Reillys were relieved to see their son find a calling with an organization they respected.

Billy's value to the FBI soared when the Arab Spring began unfolding at the end of 2010. In Syria, as an unpredictable uprising took root months later, Billy tried to see through the confusion. His FBI reports often read as though they were prepared for the CIA, including analyses about an emerging group of fighters that became known as Islamic State.

Billy created undercover identities on Facebook, Kik, Nimbuzz, Skype, Twitter and VKontakte, a Russian social-networking site. Billy took first names -- Bilal for the Arabic world, Vasily for the Russians -- that weren't so different from his own. He kept to covers he could fake: a Russian raised in the U.S., a convert to Islam seeking interpretation of the Quran.

Agent Reintjes regularly invited Billy to meetings with agents at restaurants around the suburban Detroit area, Panera Bread and Tim Hortons. Billy took on a bigger role yet earned little, and he pressed for a full-time job.

Agent Reintjes and his colleagues encouraged him, hinting that a permanent position might be in the cards.

"That really kept him going," Mr. Reilly said.

On July 17, 2014, Agent Reintjes texted Billy: "Can you look into this group . . . People's Republic of Donetsk."

Earlier that day, a Malaysia Airlines plane flying from Amsterdam to Kuala Lumpur was shot down over Ukraine, near the city of Donetsk, killing all 298 people aboard. The governments of Russia and Ukraine blamed one another.

War had been raging in eastern Ukraine after Russia seized the Crimean peninsula. The conflict engulfed Donetsk and the larger region of Donbas, a territory along the Ukraine-Russia border.

Russian tanks and soldiers were reported crossing the border and joining the fray against the Ukrainian military. Paramilitary groups coalesced on both sides. Militants seized police and military armories.

Billy discovered his own link to the war after his maternal grandfather died a few months later. He researched the family history using genealogy sites and was surprised to learn his great-grandfather was from Donbas.

After Billy's disappearance, a Journal examination of his texts, computer files and social-media traffic revealed conflicting impulses.

News reports of Ukrainian shells tearing through villages in the Donbas region stirred Billy's sympathies toward the Russian-backed separatists.



Yet in a Twitter chat, using the alias Abu Russi, Billy hinted to a contact that he was traveling to Ukraine to support an Islamic State-affiliated Chechen Muslim group fighting Russia.

Billy showed his sister a printout of an email he said was in Russian. He said it concerned the Federal Security Service, Russia's main domestic intelligence agency known as the FSB. Billy's sister said she jokingly asked her brother if he planned to become a double agent. Billy shrugged.

In the winter of 2015, Billy told his parents he was going to Russia. He mentioned work with humanitarian convoys that rolled through Rostov-on-Don, a staging point for the war across the border in eastern Ukraine. Trucks ferried food, clothes, and medical supplies to civilian victims of the conflict. The convoys also allegedly smuggled weapons.

Billy was excited. His parents found his plan half-baked. "As much as we tried," Mrs. Reilly said, "we could not talk him out of it."

As the Reillys later learned, Billy discussed the trip with Agent Reintjes. The evening after their final meeting, Agent Reintjes texted Billy: "Whatsapp, skype, viber?" Billy replied, "Once I load the apps, I'll msg u the info."

He landed in Moscow on May 15, 2015. That evening he walked into Kursky train station and left for Rostov-on-Don, about 45 miles from the Russian border with Ukraine.

On June 5, he sent his parents a photo of himself with a shaved head. He told his mother in a text about his craving for adventure. His mother replied: "No adventure [if] your throats slashed. Please reconsider. This really scares me."

"If I leave now this whole trip would just be a bad memory," Billy wrote.

He spoke again of a humanitarian convoy. In fact, he had been at a camp in Rostov-on-Don that housed volunteers seeking to join separatist units fighting Ukraine forces. The Russian city had become a destination for FSB agents and all manner of thugs and adventurers, drawn by the war across the border in Donbas.

On June 19, Billy wrote, "Waiting. Everything moves slow." The next day, he messaged, "I really want to go now. Soooo bad."

Billy finally said he was ready to give up and go home.

Five days later, he reached his parents on the bike trail and told them about his change of plans. Then he went silent.

After finding Billy's phone and spooling through his messages with Tim, the Reillys couldn't understand why Agent Reintjes had kept quiet about the Russia trip. They believed the FBI owed them answers.

Agent Reintjes, on his first visit to the Reilly house, had asked a question that further confused them: "What side is Billy on?"

If the FBI knew, the bureau didn't share it.

Looking back, the Reillys suspected the agents who took Billy's phone and laptop weren't searching for clues -- they were trying to hide them.

Yet Agent Reintjes and his colleagues had overlooked not only Billy's second phone, but also a laptop and the Reillys' desktop computer. Stored on these devices were more than a thousand files connected to Billy's work.



Billy's final phone bill arrived, and it listed several Russian numbers. With the help of an interpreter, the Reillys called each one. After trying the phone numbers with little luck, the Reillys widened their search.

Matt Steele, an official at the State Department's Bureau of Consular Affairs, which assists U.S. citizens abroad, sounded like he wanted to help.

Later, after Mr. Steele told them he had contacted the FBI, the Reillys said his enthusiasm waned. Mr. Steele declined to comment.

An official at the U.S. Embassy in Moscow told the Reillys he wasn't involved in the case and didn't know who was.

The parents tried Capitol Hill, petitioning their two Democratic senators, Gary Peters and Debbie Stabenow, as well as Mike Bishop, at the time their Republican congressman. The Reillys said staffers for all three lawmakers seemed to lose enthusiasm after learning of Billy's FBI connection.

"We couldn't get any information," Mr. Bishop said. Spokeswomen from Mr. Peters's and Ms. Stabenow's offices declined to comment.

An official at the Russian embassy in Washington, D.C., told the Reillys he had no information; neither did the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Moscow. The Red Cross offices in Washington, Moscow and Kyiv declined to help.

The following spring, after Billy had been missing for nearly a year, the U.S. government's indifference overwhelmed the Reillys.

"We were mad," Mrs. Reilly said, "so angry at these people for doing nothing."

In July 2017, the parents boarded a plane at Detroit Metropolitan Airport and, as Billy had done before them, flew to Moscow.

Arriving in Russia's capital, the Reillys had a single goal, Mrs. Reilly said, "to get the police to start an investigation."

In Rostov, the Reillys visited a branch of the Investigative Committee of the Russian Federation. The federal investigators showed little enthusiasm. Yet with urging from an interpreter, they agreed to open a missing-persons case.

After Billy had been gone three years, Mr. and Mrs. Reilly made an unannounced visit in July 2018 to the Patrick V. McNamara Federal Building in Detroit.

The woman behind the bulletproof glass asked why they wanted to see Agent Tim Reintjes. It had been a year since they had spoken with him.

"He knows us," Mrs. Reilly said.

The woman left and in a few moments returned. "He has nothing to say to you," she said.

"We have things to say to him," Mrs. Reilly said.

The receptionist waved them off. "He doesn't want to hear what you have to say," she said.

On the ride back to Oxford, Mrs. Reilly broke down.

"He didn't even have the decency to come out and talk to us," she said.

Last fall, the FBI finally called again. Tim Waters, who headed the Detroit office's national security program, wanted to talk. He asked the Reillys if they knew about inquiries about Billy from the Journal.



In a later call, Agent Waters said Billy had gone to Russia "to tour the countryside." Mr. Reilly asked why Agent Reintjes came to their house so soon after he disappeared.

Agent Waters stuttered in a recording of the call.

"Did you? Did you all . . . ? Well It was It was It was not, um I'll Let me get back with Tim and get some further details."

The Reillys were invited to a meeting at the FBI's Detroit office. Agent Reintjes was there but said little. Suspicious of the agents' intentions, the Reillys didn't mention the additional electronics Billy had left behind or the many clues they held, including the text exchanges with "Tim."

"Billy was doing work for us," Agent Waters said, according to the Reillys. "He was extremely helpful to our country." He added that the Russia trip wasn't related to Billy's work for the bureau.

In a subsequent meeting, Agent Reintjes said it was a coincidence that he had come to the Reillys' house shortly after Billy disappeared. He told the parents he was checking up on Billy because he, too, hadn't heard from him.

Agent Waters again raised the prospect of a Journal article, cautioning against any publicity about Billy's ties to the FBI. "He could be killed," he said.

Last fall, the Journal contacted Valery Prikhodko, head of the Center for Assistance to the State in Countering Extremist Activities.

The group, based in the Rostov region, helped Russian authorities in such tasks as capturing fugitives hiding in the chaos of the war in Donbas, he said.

Mr. Prikhodko asked for fingerprints. By chance, Billy had provided prints when he applied for a gun license. The state of Michigan made them available, and the Journal sent them to Mr. Prikhodko.

At 6:33 a.m. on Nov. 21, the Journal received a message over WhatsApp, the encrypted messaging service.

It was a single word, in Russian: "found."

An email from Mr. Prikhodko followed: "We found Reilly. Unfortunately, he has been killed."

He shared a document that said the body had been recovered outside the Ukrainian village of Dibrivka, near the Russian border, on July 10, 2015. That was 16 days after Billy's final text to his parents.

The remains were buried in Shakhtarsk, 36 miles from Dibrivka on the road to Donetsk.

The cause of death was listed as "assault with intent of murder or injury." The death certificate described "penetrating stab wounds to the chest bones."

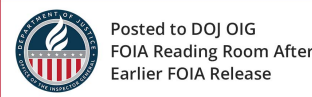
In December, the Reillys phoned the FBI's Detroit office. A receptionist transferred them to Agent Waters. The call went to voice mail, and Mrs. Reilly asked the agent to return her call.

Moments later, Agent Waters phoned. He asked what happened.

"You murdered our son," Mrs. Reilly yelled. "Don't ever talk to us again."

Lisa Schwartz contributed to this article.

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