

From: Ex. 6
on behalf of Alexander Nazaryan [a.nazaryan@newsweek.com]
Sent: 11/16/2017 8:30:52 PM
To: Wilcox, Jahan [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=88fd588e97d3405d869bcae98d391984-Wilcox, Jah]
CC: Bowman, Liz [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=c3d4d94d3e4b4b1f80904056703ebc80-Bowman, Eli]; Ferguson, Lincoln [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=08cd7f82606244de96b61b96681c46de-Ferguson, L]; Abboud, Michael [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b6f5af791a1842f1adcc088cbf9ed3ce-Abboud, Mic]
Subject: Re:

Jahan, I specifically asked about how many regulations he has cancelled or reviewed. Also, about how many regional offices he's visited specifically.

And, again, I'd like to put in a request to interview Mr. Pruitt for the article.

Thanks,

Alex

On Thu, Nov 16, 2017 at 3:28 PM, Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov> wrote:

We sent you an on-the-record statement in October and we will send you this on-the-record statement as well.

On-The-Record Statement ... "Administrator Pruitt has met with staff from every region and took the unprecedented step of meeting with EPA's criminal investigators – a department that Obama slashed by 24 percent – about how we can work together to protect the environment and American jobs." – EPA spokesman, Jahan Wilcox

On-The-Record Statement ... "We have a great working relationship with career EPA employees. In their own words, Mr. Cox said was planning his retirement before the new administration and Ms. Southerland said she was retiring due to a family issue. Despite the faux outrage, both employees will receive their six-figure taxpayer funded pension and we wish them the best." – EPA spokesman, Jahan Wilcox

BACKGROUND RESEARCH ...

According to career EPA employee Joel Scheraga, he has a great working relationship with EPA employees. “Staff from the EPA’s disbanded climate adaptation office are still doing the same work despite moving to different offices a few months ago, the head of the team told POLITICO. An EPA reorganization finalized last week revealed that the agency followed through with a plan set in the spring to reassign four climate change adaptation employees to two different sections of the Office of Policy, which is run by Samantha Dravis, a longtime political strategist and top aide to Administrator Scott Pruitt. ‘Unequivocally, the Office of Policy continues to support work on climate adaptation,’ said Joel Scheraga, a veteran EPA employee and the agency’s senior adviser for climate adaptation. ‘Samantha Dravis has asked me to continue working on climate adaptation issues. The bottom line is that climate adaptation work continues.’ ... Scheraga said the agency wants to help make sure that as communities “invest literally billions of dollars in new [water] systems that they in fact are better prepared for these extreme weather events so that they don’t overflow so that they don’t spill raw sewage into our lakes and streams,” for example. ‘We work with the communities to provide them with the information and the tools that they have told us they need to address their needs,’ Scheraga said. ‘They have told us they need to deal with these more intense precipitation events, these storm surges, so that in fact they can continue to protect public health and the environment, again consistent with EPA’s mission to ensure that they continue to protect water quality and can provide safe drinking water.’ (Politico Pro, 09/11/17)

Michael Cox said his retirement was planned before Administrator Pruitt was nominated and confirmed by the Senate. “Cox said his own retirement had been long planned even before Trump’s election, and that he’s not aware of any big exodus of EPA staff from the Seattle office.” (Seattle Times, 04/12/17)

In an email to an EPA colleague, Betsy Southland said she retired because she found out that she needed to help out with family medical care. “Maybe you did not receive my email about my retirement, but I sent it to you in June as soon as I found out I needed to retire to help out with family medical care.” (NTK Network, Email Obtained By FOIA, 07/26/17)

Have a good day Alexander and we look forward to reading your story.

Best,

Jahan Wilcox
EPA
Strategic Communications Advisor
Ex. 6

Work Email: wilcox.jahan@epa.gov

From: Alexander Nazaryan [<mailto:a.nazaryan@newsweek.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, November 15, 2017 9:08 PM
To: Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>
Subject:

Hi Jahan, I just want to make sure my requests are being taken seriously. That wasn't the impression I got when we spoke today.

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Alexander Nazaryan
Senior Writer, National Affairs
Newsweek

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