

Contact: Elizabeth Tulis
Partner, Perry Law
(203) 843-4997
etulis@danyaperrylaw.com
445 Park Ave, Floor 7
New York, NY 10022

***FBI AGENTS FIRED OVER TRUMP INVESTIGATION FILE FEDERAL LAWSUIT
ALLEGING FIRST AMENDMENT RETALIATION***

*Complaint Alleges FBI Director Kash Patel Terminated Respected Career Agents Based Solely
on Perceived Political Disloyalty to President Trump*

(WASHINGTON, D.C.) — Perry Law and Koskoff Koskoff & Bieder PC today filed a federal lawsuit on behalf of two experienced and respected FBI Special Agents who were summarily fired in late 2025. According to the complaint, the agents were fired for no reason other than their assignment to a criminal investigation that involved Donald Trump. The complaint, filed in the United States District Court for the District of Columbia, names FBI Director Kash Patel, Attorney General Pamela Bondi, the FBI, and the U.S. Department of Justice as defendants, and alleges that the firings violated the agents’ First Amendment rights to free speech and association and their Fifth Amendment rights to due process.

From approximately November 2022 to June 2023, the agents, who are proceeding as John Does to protect their safety, were assigned to “Arctic Frost,” an investigation into a suspected conspiracy to overturn the results of the 2020 Presidential Election. The investigation ultimately led to an indictment of then-former President Trump. After Trump’s reelection in November 2024, the Department of Justice moved to dismiss the indictment, citing a policy against prosecuting a sitting President.

As the complaint details, in October and November 2025, Patel fired the agents—with no internal investigation, no notice, and no hearing.

“These agents did exactly what they were trained to do: they accepted an assignment from their supervisors and carried it out professionally and apolitically,” said Elizabeth Tulis, Partner at Perry Law. *“The government fired them not because they did anything wrong, but solely because of their assignment to an investigation involving then-former President Trump, and a perception that the agents were therefore political non-supporters of President Trump. The First Amendment forbids this kind of political retaliation.”*

Margaret Donovan, of Koskoff, said: *“At his confirmation hearing and in later testimony, Patel looked Congress and the American public in the eye, swore an oath, and promised he would not do exactly what he then did—fire FBI agents based on the cases to which they were assigned. Our clients were among the Bureau’s finest, and they deserve better.”*

Fired for Perceived Political Disloyalty

The complaint’s first claim is that the firings violated the First Amendment’s prohibition against retaliation based on actual or perceived political affiliation. Here, the complaint alleges, the

Defendants treated the agents' assignment to Arctic Frost as a proxy for political disloyalty to Trump. Notwithstanding statements in their termination letters, the agents' FBI service tells a real story of nonpartisan competence. Both received exemplary performance ratings throughout their careers, and neither was ever the subject of a disciplinary action or complaint.

Terminated Without Due Process

The complaint also alleges that the firings violated the agents' Fifth Amendment due process rights. As the complaint alleges, based on the FBI's own policies and practices, the agents reasonably understood that they could not be fired without cause, and each agent therefore had a protected property interest in his continued employment as an FBI Special Agent. The Defendants fired the agents without notice or an opportunity for a hearing, denying them due process of law.

The complaint further alleges that, in the course of unlawfully firing the agents, the Defendants stigmatized the agents by purporting to remove them from "federal service" and connecting them to the alleged "weaponization" of government—preventing the agents from taking advantage of other employment opportunities in the Executive Branch and/or law enforcement.

Claims

The complaint asserts four causes of action: (1) First Amendment retaliation based on perceived political affiliation; (2) Fifth Amendment procedural due process (property interest); (3) Fifth Amendment procedural due process (liberty interest/stigma-plus); and (4) as to John Doe-1, Fifth Amendment procedural due process (liberty interest/reputation-plus). The lawsuit seeks reinstatement, rescission of the termination actions, a name-clearing hearing, and other equitable relief; declaratory relief; and attorneys' fees.

Perry Law, of New York, NY, and Koskoff Koskoff & Bieder of Bridgeport, CT, represent the plaintiffs John Doe 1 and John Doe 2.

###

Perry Law is an innovative, elite litigation boutique built by lawyers who love to litigate, are committed to excellence, and know how to win. Our team brings deep experience across government service, criminal defense, civil litigation, and academia, with a shared commitment to bringing justice to our clients.

Koskoff, Koskoff & Bieder, based in Connecticut, is a nationally recognized law firm that has achieved landmark legal victories on behalf of victims of gun violence, civil rights violations, medical malpractice, and governmental abuse. The firm is committed to holding powerful institutions accountable and securing justice for individuals and communities harmed by negligence and injustice.

Prior results do not guarantee a similar outcome.

Find the full complaint [here](#).

<https://www.danyaperrylaw.com/team/> | <https://www.koskoff.com/>