

Sharyl Attkisson is (Still) Getting Stonewalled by the Justice Department

Former CBS News correspondent Sharyl Attkisson made waves a few years ago when she alleged that her laptop was hacked in October 2012 during her reporting on the Benghazi story, a charge later [confirmed by CBS](#).

Attkisson, who [left CBS in 2014](#), later wrote [a book](#) about it. But she's not done. Attkisson apparently is seeking withheld communications in regards to the government probe of the alleged computer intrusion.

She was told by Department of Justice officials her request was denied because there was no evident "urgency to inform the public" about the alleged government activity. Judging from Attkisson's Twitter feed last night, she's not happy with that answer.

My request for expedited treatment of my FOIA request for info on my computer intrusions probe has been denied by the [@TheJusticeDept](#) 1/3

– Sharyl Attkisson (@SharylAttkisson) [April 28, 2017](#)

The reason? [@TheJusticeDept](#) says it's not of public interest. I first asked for info in '13, the law requires it be provided in 30 days. 2/3

– Sharyl Attkisson (@SharylAttkisson) [April 28, 2017](#)

So– same agency that's party to improperly withholding the material... decides that it's not of great public interest. 3/3
[@TheJusticeDept](#)

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I've definitely learned over the years the the bureaucracy runs deep. [@TheJusticeDept](#) <https://t.co/Xdg0BCrHZS>

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(By the way, separately, why is [@FBI](#) withholding my file without explanation as required by law?) [@TheJusticeDept](#)

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They owed me the material in 2013 when it was generated, but forced me to go thru FOIA to get it. See how that's worked out. [@TheJusticeDept](#) pic.twitter.com/cGJniNh4WT

– Sharyl Attkisson (@SharylAttkisson) [April 28, 2017](#)

My latest “Dear John” letter from [@TheJusticeDept](#) telling me they will continue to withhold my public info as long as they like. pic.twitter.com/6VRUFBl6jN

– Sharyl Attkisson (@SharylAttkisson) [April 28, 2017](#)

I'll be honest: there was always something a little bit cloak-and-dagger about Attkisson's allegations. They sounded far-fetched and too hard to believe. Some have suggested that the evidence Attkisson offered to support the hacking charge [appears weak](#). [Others suggest](#) the media and DOJ are turning a blind eye to a scandal.

All that said, why is the government withholding this evidence? The idea that this information is not in the public interest is absurd. A respected reporter for one of the biggest media companies in the world claimed she was hacked, presumably [by the feds](#).

It's very much in the public interest to know if these allegations have merit or not. Either way, the public wins. If the government is withholding evidence that can shed light on this question, that's a problem.