



April 21, 2016

Via E-Mail

Ms. Chaclyn Hunt

chaclynhunt@gmail.com

Re: Freedom of Information Act
IPRA File No.: 16-056-218

Dear Ms. Hunt:

On behalf of the Independent Police Review Authority ("IPRA") this letter is in response to your Freedom of Information Act ("FOIA") request received in our offices on April 7, 2016. IPRA timely requested a five day extension on April 14, 2016. IPRA is now timely responding to your request seeking:

"...records pertaining to investigations of citizen complaints against officers of the Chicago Police Department....For each complaint incident between April 07, 2012 and the date of production, please provide the following data: [outline of data requested]."

At this time, IPRA is providing you with the requested spreadsheets that we believe to be responsive based on your request. IPRA is providing six separate spreadsheets. All include information related to your request. There are five spreadsheets related to each requested year and one spreadsheet related to IPRA investigators.

The spreadsheets relating to each requested year have the following categories: complaint number, beat, incident address, location code, incident date and time, notification date, IPRA closed date, IPRA investigator name, accused officer name, accused star, accused detail, accused appointment date, accused position, initial category code, initial category, current category code, current category, current status, finding code, discipline code, recommended number of days, involved officer name, involved officer unit, involved officer detail, involved officer position, involved officer age, involved officer sex, and involved officer race. The IPRA investigators spreadsheet has the following categories:



badge number, name, title, name, position, hire date city, hire date IPRA, employment status, and date left.

Please be advised that several points should be noted. First, the portion of your request seeking “the date that the complaint was received” at IPRA is the “notification date.” Second, the portion of your request seeking “[u]nit of assignment of Investigator...” does not exist. IPRA investigators do not receive an unit of assignment. Third, all unit of assignments and ranks of officers are given as of today, not as of the date of the complaint because our IT personnel cannot determine whether it is accurate. Next, the portion of your request seeking “the outcome of the investigation” is the “finding code.” Fifth, the portion of your request seeking “the recommended discipline” is the “discipline code” and the “recommended number of day.”

Moreover, please be advised that all employee numbers are exempt pursuant to Section 7(1)(b). FOIA provides numerous exemptions to the requirement that public records be made available to the public for inspection and copying. Under subsection (7)(1)(b), “[p]rivate information, unless disclosure is required by another provision of this Act, a State or federal law or a court order” shall be exempt from inspection and copying. Therefore, IPRA is not providing employee numbers as it is exempt information.

While we believe the information provided to you is correct, there may be some inaccuracies given our search limitations with CLEAR. IPRA cannot be sure of the accuracy or completeness of our data queries as IPRA has only been granted partial access to the CLEAR database. Also, the Chicago Police Department (CPD) has not provided us with the relationships between tables in the CLEAR database, thereby limiting our search capabilities. Nonetheless we have, to the best of our knowledge, not intentionally excluded any files or erroneously included any files.

In addition, please be advised that IPRA is unable to provide you with the accused officers’ gender, race, and age/year of birth and the involved officers’ star number and date of appointment. Some field(s) that are requested/required are not associated with that/those specific table(s) which inhibits the ability to extract the data from a query build stand-point. To obtain the information (most of the time) will require manual manipulation, which is unduly burdensome. As well, IPRA is unable to provide you with



information related to “the final outcome of the investigation” and “the final discipline imposed” because our CLEAR database does not track this information. More importantly, IPRA only tracks its investigations’ findings and recommendations. Similarly, IPRA is unable to provide you with information related to complaining witness’ gender, race, and age/year of birth as IPRA and our CLEAR database does not track such information. As such, IPRA is not in possession of documents responsive to these portions of your request.

Also, there are instances in which a log number is listed multiple times because (1) a log number may contain multiple allegations for multiple officers or (2) a date, a victim’s name, an address, or any number of data fields may have been updated or added throughout the process of the investigation.

Finally, the finding code is associated with the log number, not an officer or allegation within the log number. For example, if there are multiple allegations for multiple officers and any one of those allegations against any single officer was sustained, the finding code shows sustained on the spreadsheet. A sustained finding code does not mean that all allegations against all officers were sustained. IPRA cannot determine which allegation or officer the sustained finding is connected to without manually going through each file individually, which would be burdensome.

Please be advised that the six spreadsheets are too large to send through email. IPRA has copied the spreadsheets onto a CD. The CD is available for pick up at our office, which is located at 1615 W. Chicago Avenue, 4th floor, Chicago, Illinois. A staff member will be available to assist you between the hours of 9:00am and 5:00 pm. Please notify me of the time you will be arriving.



To the extent that you consider this a denial of your FOIA request, you have a right of review by the Illinois Attorney General's Public Access Counselor, who can be contacted at 500 South Second Street, Springfield, Illinois 62706, or by telephone at (217) 558-0486. You may also seek judicial review of a denial under 5 ILCS 140/11 of FOIA.

Sincerely,

Anish Shah

Paralegal II/FOIA Officer, Independent Police Review Authority