

INVISIBLE INSTITUTE

Via: Email to copa-foia@chicagocopa.org
Attention: Freedom of Information Officer
Civilian Office of Police Accountability
1615 West Chicago Avenue, Fifth Floor
Chicago, Illinois 60622

January 4 2021

Dear Records Custodian

This is a request under the Illinois Freedom of Information Act. This request seeks data relating to every CR that COPA has access to in CLEAR or CMS, regardless of the investigating agency. Versions of this data have previously been produced by COPA, most recently under FOIA request 20-60-145, which FOIA Officer Tyra Peterson worked on. This request seeks an update of the data we have previously received, as well as some data points not previously received (denoted with *italics*).

Additionally, we are seeking an update of this data because COPA's last release appears to have inadvertently merged or removed some columns—specifically, in the spreadsheet provided under 20-060-145 labeled “clear_accused - 7/27/2020,” after the CR numbers transition from a six to a seven-digit ID number, the use of the “FINDING_DESC” and “PENALTY_DESC” columns shift. The “FINDING_DESC” column goes almost entirely blank, and the “PENALTY_DESC” column shifts from describing whether the penalty in the “PENALTY_CD” column is initial or final to occasionally providing a short reasoning for why a specific penalty was issued. Certainly we are interested in having that description present in the data, and a bullet point was added to this request to capture it—but the variations within a specific column, if they are indeed the result of an inadvertent merging or deletion of columns, are making it difficult to fully analyze the data. Please contact me for further clarification regarding this if needed.

I request all data subject to release under FOIA regarding every CR that COPA has access to in CLEAR or CMS, regardless of the investigating agency, dating back as far as COPA maintains data. This data includes but is not limited to the following for every CR, regardless of outcome and including those that have not been closed:

- CR number
- Date of incident
- Time of incident
- Date of notification/complaint
- Date investigation was closed, or an indicator it is ongoing

- Address of incident
- Geocoordinates of incident
- Beat of incident
- Location code of incident
- Category code
- Category name/description
- Case type
- *Narrative of incident*
- *Number of days passed between opening and close*
- *Any associated case numbers, and the type of case number (e.g., CB, RD, TRR, FRU)*
- *EEO Complaint number, if applicable*
- *Civil suit number, if applicable*
- *Date civil suit was settled, if applicable*
- *Whether the incident related to biased language*
- *Whether the incident related to bias-based profiling*
- *Whether the incident was alcohol-related*
- *Whether the incident was pursuit-related*
- *Whether the incident involved violence in the workplace*
- *Whether the incident involved domestic violence*
- Whether the case involved a police shooting
- Whether the complaint was made by a sworn officer of CPD or a civilian
- Whether the case was referred to the offices of the Cook County State's Attorney or U.S. Attorney for the Northern District of Illinois
 - If so, which
 - If so, date of referral
- Investigating agency (BIA, COPA/IPRA, OIG, FBI, etc.)
- Current status
- Current level of review (Superintendent, Department of Law, etc.) if applicable
- For each investigator assigned to each CR, please provide:
 - First name of investigator
 - Middle name or initial
 - Last name
 - Star or badge number
 - Any unique IDs associated with the investigator
 - Race
 - Gender
 - Agency
 - Year of birth
 - Unit, team, and division/district assignment at time of CR
 - Current unit, team, and division/district assignment
 - Rank or job title at time of CR
 - Current rank or job title
 - Date of appointment or hire
 - Date that each assigned investigator was assigned to the CR
 - Date that each assigned investigator was removed from the CR

- For every accused officer, please provide:
 - First name
 - Middle name or initial
 - Last name
 - Race
 - Gender
 - Star or badge number
 - *Date of appointment*
 - Any other unique IDs associated with the officer
 - Birth year
 - Unit, team, and division/district assignment at time of incident
 - Current unit, team, and division/district assignment
 - Rank at the time of the incident
 - Current rank
 - Whether the officer was on or off duty at the time of the incident
 - Whether the officer was arrested
 - Whether the officer was injured
 - If so, OBR report number
 - For every allegation against each officer, please provide for each allegation:
 - *Accusation ID*
 - Complaint category code
 - Category code description
 - Recommended investigatory finding
 - Recommended investigatory finding description
 - Final investigatory finding
 - Final investigatory finding description
 - Recommended disciplinary outcome
 - Recommended disciplinary outcome description
 - Final disciplinary outcome
 - Number of days suspended, if applicable
 - Final disciplinary outcome description
 - *Any columns available in the data showing reasoning for a disciplinary finding or recommendation, or lack thereof*
- For every civilian witness, please provide:
 - Race
 - Gender
 - Year of birth
 - Age
- For every witness who is a sworn CPD member, please provide:
 - First name
 - Middle name or initial
 - Last name
 - Any unique IDs associated with the officer
 - Race
 - Gender

- Birth year
- *Date of appointment*
- Unit, team, and district/division assignment at time of incident
- Current unit, team, and district/division assignment
- Rank at the time of the incident
- Current rank
- For all victims in each CR, please provide:
 - Race
 - Gender
 - Year of birth
 - Any injuries suffered
- For all complainants in each CR, please provide:
 - Race
 - Gender
 - Year of birth

I also request copies of the SQL data queries generated to produce this data.

In the event you deny or redact any of the requested information, please provide the legal reasoning behind every denial and/or redaction. I understand that this is a larger request and may take additional time to produce; I am, as always, happy to discuss a reasonable production timeline outside of the five-to-ten days allotted in ILFOIA with COPA, as the law allows us to do.

Please email the documents or files, and any communications, to foia@invisibleinstitute.com.

The Invisible Institute is an award-winning nonprofit journalistic production company based in Chicago's Woodlawn neighborhood. Our mission is to enhance the capacity of citizens to hold public institutions accountable. Because I, the requestor, am a journalist, and I seek the information in order to disseminate it to the public, and because the information regards the safety, welfare, and legal rights of the general public, I request a fee waiver for this data. It is not for commercial benefit because I am a member of the nonprofit news media whose principal purpose is to access and disseminate information regarding the general public's safety, welfare, and legal rights. To the extent you intend to assess any charges, please notify me to discuss first.

Thank you for your time and prompt attention to this matter. Please contact me should you have any questions related to this request.

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