



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Department of State Police

CHARLES D. BAKER
GOVERNOR

KARYN E. POLITO
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

DANIEL BENNETT
SECRETARY

COLONEL TIMOTHY P. ALBEN
SUPERINTENDENT

Office of the Chief Legal Counsel

470 Worcester Road

Framingham, Massachusetts 01702

Via Email Only:

todd.wallack@globe.com

March 10, 2015

Mr. Todd Wallack
The Boston Globe
P.O. Box 55819
Boston, MA 02205

RE: *SPR14/748*

Dear Mr. Wallack,

The Massachusetts Department of State Police (“Department”) is in receipt of correspondence from Supervisor of Records Shawn Williams dated February 23, 2015, which relates to your request for a copy of “the [Department’s] electronic log/list of public records requests” for “all years readily available.” As you know, the Department responded to your request on December 3, 2014. In its response, the Department provided its record request log as of October 31, 2014 in PDF at no cost to you. The Department also noted, however, that it is not possible to discern whether any of the log’s description information may be disclosed publicly without an in-depth review of each request entry and the associated records. Accordingly, the description information was redacted in its entirety. You were advised that if you seek any portion of the description information, the Department may be able to provide an estimate for generating such a response, but it is likely that a response would be very time-consuming and therefore very costly. Thereafter, you brought the above-referenced appeal.

Per the advisement of Supervisor Williams in his February 23, 2015 letter, the Department provides the following good faith estimate. Although the actual cost may be higher or lower, the Department estimates the cost of provide the nonexempt description information in its log to be approximately \$42,750.00

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As you know, the request log spans from 2009 through 2014 and therefore contains six (6) years of entries. I have subsequently reviewed the log and determined that there are approximately 4,500 total requests entered ("entries"). As stated above, an in-depth review of each of the entries and the associated file(s) is required to determine what, if any, portions of each of the entries may be publicly disclosed. I very conservatively allotted five (5) minutes of search time and 15 minutes of segregation time for each of the approximately 4,500 entries.

Thus, the Department's good faith estimate of the fee is based upon the following: 1) An employee of the Department, paid approximately \$24.00 an hour, will need approximately 375 hours of search time to locate, gather, and re-file the materials relating to all entries in the Department's log (375 hours multiplied by \$24.00 = \$9000.00); and 2) An employee of the Department, paid approximately \$30.00 an hour, will need approximately 1,125 hours of segregation time to review and redact exempt material from all entries in the log (1125 hours multiplied by \$30.00 = \$33,750.00). If you wish for the Department to commence this search process, please submit to this office the \$42,750.00 payment made payable to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

As stated previously, if you wish to narrow your request in an effort to reduce the estimated cost, please let me know and I will respond and/or provide an updated cost estimate as necessary. If, for example, you seek the nonexempt description information in the log for all entries made from January through October 2014 only, the Department estimates the cost of that response will be approximately \$7,372.00. The good faith estimate of this fee is based upon the following: 1) An employee of the Department, paid approximately \$24.00 an hour, will need approximately 65 hours of search time to locate, gather, and re-file the materials (65 hours multiplied by \$24.00 = \$1,552.00) and 2) An employee of the Department, paid approximately \$30.00 an hour, will need approximately 194 hours of segregation time to review and redact exempt material (194 hours multiplied by \$30.00 = \$5,820.00).

Your attention to this matter is appreciated.

Sincerely,



Jaclyn Zawada
Staff Counsel
Massachusetts State Police
(508) 820-2341

JRZ/st