


From: Riemann, Matthew (CJ) matthew.riemann@cj.state.de.us 
Subject: RE: Wilmington, DE: FOIA Request for City of Wilmington Public Records
Date: March 13, 2018 at 11:42 AM
To: Sean Campbell scampbellfoia@gmail.com

MR

Mr. Campbell,

Attached are the records you requested regarding the FOIA request below. Some fields that you requested are not included in this report. The report that is executed to generate this information does not include any information on the victim(s) or suspect(s) in each homicide. Also, the report does not generate the names of all the responding officers nor the chief investigating officer.

The report also only goes back to the beginning of 2013 which is when we began to use this particular program to query crime statistics for our dept.

S/Cpl. Matthew Riemann
Wilmington Police Dept.
300 N. Walnut St.
Wilmington, DE 19801

From: Sean Campbell [mailto:scampbellfoia@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, March 13, 2018 10:57 AM
To: Riemann Matthew <matthew.riemann@CJ.State.de.us>
Subject: Re: Wilmington, DE: FOIA Request for City of Wilmington Public Records

Hello, Officer Riemann. It's been 10 business days since my last email and 27 total days since your request for more time. Do you have any idea how much more time you will need to fulfill my request and which fields you will be able to disclose?

I am willing to modify my request to conform with what your department is able to provide from its databases.

I want to remind you that even though Delaware's FOIA does not specify an exact amount of time a public body must respond to a public records request, it does explicitly say that a "[r]easonable access" to records be granted. 29 Del. C. § 10003(a). It has been determined — by analogy to the federal FOIA — that "reasonable access" means that a public body "should, within ten (10) days after the receipt of a definitive request, issue a written determination to the requestor stating which of the requested records will, and which will not, be released and the reasons for any denial of a request." Del. Op. Att'y Gen., No. 91-I003 (Feb. 1, 1991). See also Del. Op. Att'y Gen., No. 03-ib26 (Nov. 13, 2003).

We're not only past a "reasonable" amount of time for access, we've also past a "reasonable" amount of time for response.

I understand that it may take additional time to supply the records, but supplying a email with a status should only take a few days.

I am willing to work with your department to aid in the response to my request for public records but if I do not receive a reply I am immediately cut off and left without recourse for

records, but if I do not receive a reply, I am immediately cut off and left without recourse for access.

If I do not receive a response to this email by the end of this week, March 16, 2018, I will consider this a non-responsive denial to my request, and I reserve the right to use state law to bring compliance.

Again, I am willing to work with your department to aid in response to my request, but I am unable to do so if I do not receive a response to my communication.

Please let me know if there is anything I can do from my end to speed up the response to my request.

Best,
Sean Campbell

Sean Campbell
Reporter, The Trace Media
17-12 Suydam St.
Ridgewood, NY 11385
Cell: 561-866-1295
scampbellfoia@gmail.com

On Feb 27, 2018, at 10:45 AM, Sean Campbell <scampbellfoia@gmail.com> wrote:

Hello, Officer Riemann. I want to check in on this since it has been 17 business days since your request for more time.

Are there any updates on this? If there are any fields that are giving your department trouble, I may be willing to work with you to speed the response time.

I just sent a similar message replying to your other response to my request for records. I as I mentioned in my previous email, it would be great if we could use one email chain for correspondence on both requests. I wanted to reply to this email as well, though, to let you know that I am still interested in these homicide records.

Please let me know if there is anything I can do from my end to aid your response to my request.

Best,
Sean

Sean Campbell
Reporter, The Trace Media

17-12 Suydam St.
Ridgewood, NY 11385
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On Feb 2, 2018, at 2:45 PM, Riemann, Matthew (CJ)
<matthew.riemann@cj.state.de.us> wrote:

Sean,

Due to this volumonous request, I'm respectfully requesting
additional time to fulfill.

Thanks.

S/Cpl. Matthew Riemann
R.T.C.C./Technology Officer
Wilmington Police Dept.
300 N. Walnut St.
Wilmington, DE 19801
Work: (302) 576-3684
Cell: (302) 383-0130

From: noreply@wilmingtonde.gov [<mailto:noreply@wilmingtonde.gov>]

Sent: Thursday, January 11, 2018 1:09 AM

To: Riemann Matthew <matthew.riemann@CJ.State.de.us>

Subject: Wilmington, DE: FOIA Request for City of Wilmington
Public Records

A new entry to a form/survey has been submitted.

Form Name: Public Records Request - Police
Date & Time: 01/11/2018 1:08 AM
Response #: 111
Submitter ID: 9038
IP address: 72.229.209.68
Time to complete: 4 min. , 15 sec.

Survey Details

1. Requestor

Name	Sean Campbell
Mailing Address	17-12 Suydam St
Floor/Suite/Apt #	Not answered
City	Ridgewood
State	New York
Zip Code:	11385
Phone	(561) 866-1295
Email Address	scampbellfoia@gmail.com

2. Records Requested

Be as specific as you can, describing types of records, dates, party(ies) to correspondence, subject matter, etc. The City of Wilmington ("City") will make every reasonable effort to assist you in identifying the records being sought. Requests for voluminous records may be delayed.

1/11/18

Sean Campbell
Reporter
17-12 Suydam St.
Ridgewood, NY 11385
The Trace | 561-866-1295
scampbellfoia@gmail.com

To whom it may concern:

Pursuant to the Delaware Freedom of Information Act § 100001 et seq., we are requesting data, preferably in .csv, .xls, .xlsx, or .txt format, pertaining to all homicides—justifiable, negligent, and criminal—that have been handled by the Wilmington Police Department (WPD) from Jan. 1, 2005 through the date in which this request is filled.

This request is for individual data records, not aggregated statistics. This data should include all fields disclosable under the law, including but not limited to the following fields:

- Unique identifier (i.e. case number) for each incident
- Date and time of each incident
- Case status
- Clearance status
- Date of clearance
- The agency precinct or district where the incident took place
- The top offense code for the incident
- Any concurrent offense codes for each incident
- The statute cited
- The address in which the incident took place
- Unique identifier for each victim
- The name of the victim (as disclosable under the law for homicide victims)
- The race and ethnicity of the victim
- The gender of the victim
- The victim's birthdate
- The weapon(s) used
- Any injuries sustained

- Any injuries sustained
- Any information on the circumstances of the incident, such as whether it was related to drug or gang activity, and/or domestic violence
- The date and time of arrest
- The unique identifier for the individual arrested
- The name of the arrestee (as disclosable under the law)
- The race or ethnicity of the arrestee
- The gender of the arrestee
- The birthdate of the arrestee
- The race or ethnicity of the suspects
- The gender of the suspects
- The birthdate or age of the suspects
- The names of all investigators assigned to the incident
- A unique identifier for each assigned investigator (such as badge number)
- The names of all responding officers to the incident
- A unique identifier for each responding officer (such as badge number)

We are also requesting the data dictionary, code tables, record layouts, or any other type of documentation that lists and defines the fields and abbreviations used in the database. Essentially, we would like all code definitions that will allow me to understand the data that is responsive to this request. Many departments use different codes for their data (e.g. weapon codes or offense codes), so we will need the definitions to read each incident responsive to our request.

This request seeks information on violent crime in the city of Wilmington. The data obtained in this request will help the public understand the nature of violent crimes and how they have changed in the city, in addition to the police response to those crimes. This request is also a part of a nationwide analysis of violent crime in America and can help the public understand how violent crimes are committed and the subsequent police response has changed over time.

We would like to reiterate that we are asking for all fields disclosable under the law contained in WPD's database(s) and other methods of electronically recording violent crime incident data.

If one or more of the fields we requested above is not available in the WPD's database(s), please notify me via email and we will strike that field from our request.

Essentially, we are asking for an export of the database(s) containing information on all homicides. Only the fields that are confidential under the law should be redacted. That means the fields listed above, and fields that are not listed but would still be disclosable under the Delaware Freedom of Information Act.

Please note that the law requires you to disclose each field that will be redacted and the portion of the law that justifies the redaction.

If there is some information available only in more recent years as a result of upgrades to the system, our request asks that you include that information for the years it was available.

include that information for the years it was available.

We realize the WPD may use a complex system of databases, and that the information I've requested may be contained in multiple tables. We are not asking the department to join those tables together for me, or to conduct any type of analysis on the data. We are merely asking for the department to export the information as raw data, as it exists in the department's database, which should minimize the amount of programming necessary to fulfill our request.

We can do the joining on our own, so long as each table contains the unique identifier necessary to join the tables together, such as a case or incident number.

We realize there are confidentiality laws protecting the names of minors and the victims of sex crimes. We agree to redactions, done in accordance with the law, of their names. But the names of all other crime victims and arrestees should be included.

In line with a conclusion reached by the Delaware Attorney General (Del. Op. Att'y Gen., No. 91-1013 [Apr. 17, 1991]), we realize there are some fields that contain a mix of information that is confidential and disclosable. We are not asking the department to review each entry to make redactions. Such fields can be redacted in their entirety. However, these fields should still be included if the confidential information is easily segregated from the disclosable information — such as the names of juvenile arrestees, which can be easily redacted by filtering all arrestees under the age of 18 at the time of arrest.

Please inform us which fields are being withheld and the reason as to why, but continue with fulfilling our request.

We also realize that the department's databases contain multimedia information such as documents, photos, videos and audio recordings. We are not requesting this information. We are only requesting the type of information that can be exported in formats used for data analysis, such as .csv, .txt, .xml, or .xlsx.

We believe that the WPD has data in this format based on the information that the department regularly reports to the UCR and the data reported to the Statistical Analysis Center (<https://sac.delaware.gov/crime/>).

If there are fields that we did not request, but that are still disclosable under the Delaware Freedom of Information Act, our request asks that you include those fields as well.

We would like to receive this information in digital form, preferably in .csv, .xls, .xlsx, or .txt format, that we are entitled to under 29 Del. C. § 10002(g) which defines "public records" to include all information "regardless of the physical form or characteristic by which such information is stored, recorded or reproduced."

As a member of the media reporting on matters in the public interest, we are requesting a fee waiver and an expediting of our request. However, since we are requesting records in their original

request. However, since we are requesting records in their original electronic format whenever possible, we expect the costs, if any, to be limited. This information is not being sought for commercial purposes.

If access to the records I am requesting will take longer than a reasonable amount of time, please contact me with information about when I might expect copies or the ability to inspect the requested records.

We understand that homicide records are often recorded by police departments in different manner from other violent crimes, so this request being made apart from a concurrent request for other violent crimes. It should be treated as a separate request. Homicide records that are stored in departmental spreadsheets outside of a centralized database are responsive to this request.

If you deny any or all of this request, please cite each specific exemption you feel justifies the refusal to release the information and notify me of the appeal procedures available to me under the law. As I am sure you are aware, in the case of a denial, the law requires that you state in what manner your department is not able to fulfill my request. A request for public information cannot be outright without explanation.

If you deny any or all of this request, please cite each specific exemption you feel justifies the refusal to release the information and notify me of the appeal procedures available to me under the law.

We are requesting that communication regarding this request be conducted via email, and that the request be filled via email.

Thank you for considering our request.

Sincerely,

Sean Campbell
Reporter
17-12 Suydam St.
Ridgewood, NY 11385
The Trace | 561-866-1295
scampbellfoia@gmail.com

Sarah Ryley
Investigative + Data Reporter
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Jeremy Singer-Vine
Data Editor, BuzzFeed News
111 East 18th Street, Newsroom
New York, NY 10003
Phone: 646-757-2252
jeremy.singer-vine@buzzfeed.com

3. **There may be costs involved in responding to your request. Specifically, copies are \$.10 per page (the first 20 pages of**

standard-sized, black and white copies are provided free of charge). Payment shall be in cash, by money order, business check or certified check made payable to the City of Wilmington. (Identification may be requested.) You may be required to examine the records at City offices.

Please contact me if 25
costs will be greater
than \$

Within 15 *business days* from receipt of your request, the City will: provide you with access to the records, deny your request, or state that additional time is needed.

NOTICE: Under Delaware's Freedom of Information Act, [29 Del. C. §§10001-10006](#) ("FOIA"), a FOIA request or petition, along with any information contained therein or any documents attached thereto, submitted to any "public body" subject to FOIA, including, without limitation, any board, bureau, commission, department, agency or committee of the State, may itself be deemed a "public record" subject to disclosure under FOIA.

- [FOIA Contact Persons by Department](#)

Thank you,
Wilmington, DE

This is an automated message generated by the Vision Content Management System™. Please do not reply directly to this email.



City of
Wilmin...nt.xlsx

