

From: DeSmet, Nicole <ndesmet@freepressmedia.com>
Sent: Monday, July 16, 2018 4:20 PM
To: AGO - Info <AGO.Info@vermont.gov>
Subject: Records request 07162018: the Dean Stearns (ex Principal South Royalton) case

CASE IDs: 18-4930 and 17-21380

I'm following up on the case of Dean Stearns, former principal in South Royalton, who pleaded not guilty of voyeurism and promoting sexual recordings of students on March 19. I see from court documents that audio recordings of students statements were made but not transcribed into the case record.

Det. Sgt. Michael Dion was the officer with VSP leading the investigation.

I am requesting according to the rights provided in V.S.A. §§ 315-320:

1. Copies of the audio recordings made on Feb. 26, 2018 of [REDACTED], [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. Electronic preferred, but I will accept whatever is the most timely.
2. I did not see in Det. Tpr. Eric Jollymore's analysis in the file anything that indicates if the images recorded by Stearns were shared to the internet or to others in general. Is this line of investigation being pursued?

Redacted material is exempt from public disclosure under 1 V.S.A. §§ 317(c)(1)-(2); see 21 V.S.A. § 495b(a) and 9 VSA § 2460(a)(4).

Reason for request: I believe that the recorded affidavits of the female students in the case State V. Dean Stearns ought to be made public as part of the case file of Dean Stearns. Redacted portions of the images and the videos of these young woman allegedly taken by Stearns have already been published in the public record for anyone to see and yet their oral statements are not also part of that record. If portions of images that were illegally obtained and contain the bodies of these young women, should not their voices also be part of that?

I first submitted the request to the VSP, who referred me to the A.G.'s office.

Sincerely,

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Reporter

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