From: Clark, Charity

To: <u>D. S.</u>

Subject: Response to public records requests April 29, 20 to May 5, 2020

 Date:
 Wednesday, May 20, 2020 7:08:39 PM

 Attachments:
 Shaddy PRA Response 4.29.20 to 5.5.20.pdf

Please see attached.

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STATE OF VERMONT OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL 109 STATE STREET MONTPELIER, VT 05609-1001

May 20, 2020

David Shaddy

Re: Vermont Public Records Act requests, dated April 29, 2020 to May 5, 2020

Dear Mr. Shaddy:

Please consider this our response to your eight requests for public records, dated April 29, 2020 to May 5, 2020.

1.	4/29/20	Records regarding the authority and jurisdiction of a "Judge Belcher" and a "State Prosecuting Attorney" of the "Office of State Prosecuting Attorneys."

As we have previously informed you here, our response to your April 20, 2020 request for "any public records of, or relating to, a 'Judge Belcher'" necessarily included all documents, not exempt from the Public Records Act, that would be responsive to your April 29, 2020 request. Again, that initial response is available on our website here.

2.	4/29/20	Records regarding or identifying what Vermont Court a "Judge Belcher" is
		assigned, appointed, and/or elected serve on the bench of.

See response in No. 1 above.

3.	4/29/20	Records of the interests of the people of the state of Vermont a "State Prosecuting Attorney" of the "Office of State Prosecuting Attorneys" represents.
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This request is one of five of your requests that references "State Prosecuting Attorney" and one of 16 that references "Office of State Prosecuting Attorney." As I informed you on <u>April 24, 2020</u> and again on <u>May 13, 2020</u>:

[T]here is no such office as the 'Vermont Office of State Prosecuting Attorneys.' You may be referring to 3 V.S.A. § 129(c)(2), which recognizes a 'State prosecuting attorney assigned by the Office of Professional Regulation [who] shall be responsible for prosecuting disciplinary cases before boards or administrative law officers.' Attorneys who perform this work may be referred to as 'State prosecuting attorneys.'

For the reasons stated above, the Attorney General's Office has no records responsive to your request.

4.	4/29/20	Records of Vermont laws which are "generally understood" not to apply to
		officers and staff of the Vermont Judicial Branch.

In order for us to effectively respond to this request, you will need to provide clarity as to the specific records you seek.

Also, your use of quotation marks indicate that you may be quoting a document. If that is the case, it would be helpful to see this document. You can email it to AGO.PublicRecords@vermont.gov.

As a reminder, the Attorney General's Office does not and cannot provide legal advice or legal research to constituents.

5.	4/29/20	Records of the creation and function of Vermont governmental entity named the "Staff Office of the Attorney General".

I am unfamiliar with a governmental entity named "Staff Office of the Attorney General." If you seek records related to the establishment of the Attorney General or their staff, these would be archival documents not in the custody of the Attorney General's Office. Instead, any such records responsive to your request would be in the custody of the <u>Vermont State Archives and Records Administration</u>. As a courtesy, you can find information about the work of the Attorney General on our website, <u>ago.vermont.gov</u>.

6.	5/1/20	Records of an official of the State of Vermont prior to 2015 named a "State Prosecuting Attorney".

See our response to No. 3 above.

7.	5/2/20	Pursuant to the Vermont Attorney General's statements re: historical information, please provide any records of a consent order or agreement, records of any parties entered into stated agreement, and any records defining their legal relationship.	
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As a preliminary matter, please let me know what "statements re: historical information" you refer to. It would be best if you could email us a copy of the documents you attribute to the Attorney General, if possible.

As written, your request is unclear and vague, rendering it unanswerable.

8.	5/5/20	Consistent with the Vermont Attorney General's statements re: "historical"
		value of documents at a web link provided by the Vermont Attorney
		General, please provide me with any records of a complaint made by the
		Vermont Secretary of State or Vermont Office of Professional Regulation or
		"Office of the State Prosecuting Attorneys" or "Chief State Prosecuting
		Attorney", to the Vermont State Board of Nursing concerning me and my
		nursing license.

As a preliminary matter, please let me know what "statements re: 'historical' value" you refer to. It would be best if you could email us a copy of the documents you attribute to the Attorney General, if possible. Also, be advised that you reference a "web link," but your request contained no links.

Also, as you have been informed on a number of occasions, the Attorney General's Office is not the custodian of records relating to professional regulation or nursing licensure. To the extent you seek documents prior to 2003, the custodian of these records would be the Vermont Archives and Records Administration. To the extent you seek documents after the date authority was transferred to the Secretary of State's Office of Professional Regulation, you will need to make that request directly to that office.

I hope this information is helpful to you.

/s/
Charity R. Clark
Chief of Staff