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Via email to 101045-99604118@requests.muckrock.com

September 4, 2020

Brian Waters MuckRock News DEPT MR 101045 411A Highland Ave Somerville, MA 02144-2516

Re: Vermont Public Records Act request, dated August 17, 2020

Dear Mr. Waters:

I write in response to your request for public records, dated August 17, 2020. You requested, "lists, tables, or data sets your agency may have compiled on the subject [of officer-involved shootings in Vermont], going back in time as far as data is available." I write seeking clarity as to the scope of your request. If it is easier to speak by phone, please call me at 802-917-1993.

As you may know, the Vermont Public Records Act provides that the first 30 minutes spent responding to a request for public records is free to the requester. Beyond that, the State is entitled to reimbursement for the cost of complying with the request. 1 V.S.A. § 316(c).

We have located some recent documents that include a table of officer-involved shooting incidents since Attorney General T.J. Donovan took office in January 2017. The time spent searching for and gathering these documents took 30 minutes, and is therefore free. Your request, however, was much broader, and proceeding with the request as written will therefore incur costs. If you wish to proceed further, please let me know the following so that we may prepare a cost estimate for you:

- Do you wish to receive drafts of the table of officer-involved shooting incidents mentioned above, or just the final table?
- The temporal scope of your request -- going back in time as far as data is available -- was very broad. It is possible records exist that are at the <u>Vermont State Archives and Records Administration</u>, and you may wish to contact them directly. I also wanted to mention that the online news blog, VTDigger, recently compiled historical data on this topic that you may find useful, available <u>here</u>.
- Do you wish for us to search for potentially responsive documents dating prior to Attorney General Donovan's tenure, i.e., prior to 2017?

Please let me know how you would like to proceed.

/s/
Charity R. Clark
Chief of Staff