

6/10/20

City Of Orangeburg, South Carolina

Public Records Officer

[lmcdaniel@orangeburg.sc.us](mailto:lmcdaniel@orangeburg.sc.us)

## **Re: FOIA Request**

Pursuant to the state open records law S.C. Code Ann. Secs. 30-4-10 to 30-4-165 and the implementing regulations of your agency, Accountable.US requests access to the following records dated from March 15, 2020 until Jun 5, 2020:

### **Records Requested:**

1. All email correspondence and their attachments (but excluding press releases, daily press clips, daily newsletters, and other mass listserv emails<sup>1</sup>) between Mayor Michael Butler as well as the City Council with the Missouri Department Of Health And Senior Services as well as the Missouri Governor's Office which mention any of the following phrases:
  - a. "black residents"
  - b. "black citizens"
  - c. "black people"
  - d. "black community"
  - e. "black businesses"
  - f. "black communities"
  - g. "African American" OR "African Americans"
  - h. "coronavirus" AND "testing"
  - i. "covid" AND "testing"

If possible, we would prefer to receive this information electronically via e-mail at [FOIA@accountable.us](mailto:FOIA@accountable.us). Alternatively, we prefer PDF files on a USB drive or CD/DVD sent by mail to Accountable.US, 1919 M St. NW, Suite 450, Washington, DC 20036. If you have questions or need additional information, please feel free to call me at (312) 772-5218.

### **Fee Waiver Request**

The disclosure of the requested information is in the public interest. The disclosure of the information sought under this request will document and reveal the operations of the federal government, including how public funds are spent and how officials conduct the public's business. There is public interest in the poor handling of coronavirus pandemic in black communities by state governments led to horrific outcomes in cities as evidenced by coverage in the [Washington Post](#).

This request is primarily and fundamentally for non-commercial purposes. In May 2020, Accountable.US was recognized as a not for profit, 501(c)(3) organization, with the Internal Revenue Service. Accordingly, Accountable.US does not have a commercial purpose and the release of the information requested is not in Accountable.US's financial interest. Accountable.US's mission is to ensure public officials are advancing policies in the public's interest not for special interests.

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<sup>1</sup> For clarification on this clause please feel free to call or email me at (312) 772-5218 or [FOIA@accountable.us](mailto:FOIA@accountable.us) respectively.

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Accordingly, Accountable.US qualifies for a fee waiver.

## **Conclusion**

If you have any questions regarding this request, including how to construe the records sought or appropriate searches to locate them, please contact Accountable.US.

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Kayla Hancock