



JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY CABINET

Matthew G. Bevin
Governor

Department of Corrections

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October 11, 2019

Emma Best
MuckRock News
DEPT MR 76186
411A Highland Ave
Somerville, MA 02144-2516

RE: Open records request (Log 19-123 received 9/24/2019)

Dear Ms. Best,

Your open records request was received by the Department of Corrections on September 24, 2019. You requested the following:

“Pursuant to the Kentucky Open Records Act, I hereby request the following records:

Records describing, authorizing or mentioning expenses or personnel assignments in response to or accommodation of visits from officials in the federal government between January 1, 2001 and the present.

I am a member of the news media and request classification as such. I have previously written about the government and its activities, with some reaching over 100,000 readers in outlets such as Gizmodo, MuckRock, Motherboard, Property of the People, Unicorn Riot, and The Outline, among others. As such, as I have a reasonable expectation of publication and my editorial and writing skills are well established. In addition, I discuss and comment on the files online and make them available through non-profits such as the library Internet Archive and the journalist non-profit MuckRock, disseminating them to a large audience. While my research is not limited to this, a great deal of it, including this, focuses on the activities and attitudes of the government itself. As such, it is not necessary for me to demonstrate the relevance of this particular subject in advance.

As my primary purpose is to inform about government activities by reporting on it and making the raw data available, I request that fees be waived.

The requested documents will be made available to the general public, and this request is not being made for commercial purposes.

In the event that there are fees, I would be grateful if you would inform me of the total charges in advance of fulfilling my request. I would prefer the request filled electronically, by e-mail attachment if available or CD-ROM if not.

Thank you in advance for your anticipated cooperation in this matter. I look forward to receiving your response to this request within 3 business days, as the statute requires.”

We do not have documents that are responsive to your request. A public agency cannot afford a requester access to a record that it does not possess or which does not exist. Therefore, the agency discharges its duty under the Open Records Act by affirmatively so stating. 04-ORD-43

If you have any questions or require further information, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Katherine Williams".

Katherine Williams
Open Records Coordinator