



915 15th St. NW, 2nd Floor
Washington, D.C. 20005
202-457-0800
acludc.org

May 18, 2021

Via Public FOIA Portal

MPD FOIA Officer
Metropolitan Police Department
300 Indiana Avenue NW, Room 4125
Washington, D.C. 20001

Re: FOIA Request – Felon in Possession Project Documents

To whom it may concern:

This is a request under the D.C. Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), D.C. Code § 2-531 *et seq.*, on behalf of the American Civil Liberties Union of the District of Columbia (ACLU-DC). We request the following:

all documents, including any reports, teletypes, directives, bulletins, or other written communications, made to or by MPD members as part of the Felon in Possession Project or containing information related to the Felon in Possession Project, including all documents in the “Felon in Possession Project” folder on MPD’s server


Recent reporting on data leaks related to the MPD server suggests that such a folder of documents exists. We believe the requested records are public records and not exempt from disclosure under statutory exemptions found in the D.C. FOIA. If you determine that some or all of the records are exempt, you must provide a written explanation including a reference to the specific statutory exemption on which you rely. D.C. Code § 2-533(a). If a segregable portion of any record is not exempt, you must provide those portions along with your explanation of the exemption. D.C. Code § 2-534(b). We reserve the right to appeal any such decision.

We request a fee waiver pursuant to D.C. Code § 2-532(b), which permits you to waive or reduce any fee for searching and reproducing records if “furnishing the information can be considered as primarily benefiting the general public.” The ACLU is a nonprofit public interest organization dedicated to the protection of civil rights and civil liberties. The public is the primary beneficiary of the ACLU’s work to protect fundamental rights, whether by litigation, legislative advocacy, or publication. If this FOIA request discloses information of interest to the public—as we expect it will—we will make that information available to the public through our website and/or social media and/or by providing it to journalists. It is on this ground that federal and

state agencies, as well as courts, generally grant waivers of fees for ACLU FOIA requests. The present request satisfies the statutory criteria for a fee waiver.

If you determine no waiver is appropriate, and if the proposed fee is greater than \$25.00, we ask that you notify us prior to fulfilling the above requests.

Please furnish all applicable records to Megan Yan via email at myan@acludc.org. If you have questions, please contact me at myan@acludc.org. We look forward to your reply to this records request within 15 business days, as required by D.C. Code § 2-532(c). Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,


Megan Yan, Liman Fellow
ACLU-DC