



October 21, 2020

VIA FACSIMILIE

Records Custodian
Klickitat County Sheriff's Office
205 S Columbus Avenue MS-CH-7
Room 108
Goldendale, WA 98620
Fax: 509-773-6575

Re: Public Records Request

Dear Public Records Officer:

Pursuant to the Public Records Act (PRA), Chapter 42.56 Revised Code of Washington (RCW), American Oversight makes the following request for records.

Requested Records

American Oversight requests that the Office of Sheriff Bob Songer produce the following records within five business days:

1. All communications containing official or unofficial orders and directives communications sent by federal law enforcement (including any email address ending in @dhs.gov, @ice.dhs.gov, @doj.gov, or @fbi.gov) to any officials in the Klickitat County Sheriff's Office listed below:
 - a. Sheriff Bob Songer
 - b. Undersheriff Mike Kallio
 - c. Chief Civil Clerk Karen Elings
 - d. Deputy Sheriff Erik Beasley
 - e. Deputy Sheriff Robert Bianchi
 - f. Deputy Sheriff Ben Corning
 - g. Deputy Sheriff Pat Kaley
 - h. Deputy Sheriff Mitch Kegley
 - i. Deputy Sheriff Jim Leininger
 - j. Deputy Sheriff Chance Leroue
 - k. Deputy Sheriff Gaven Marble
 - l. Deputy Sheriff Dwayne Matulovich
 - m. Deputy Sheriff Jason Ritouch
 - n. Deputy Sheriff Dustin Vorce
 - o. Deputy Sheriff Randy Wells
 - p. Deputy Sheriff Melissa Wykes

2. All communications containing official or unofficial orders and directives sent by the Sheriff, Undersheriff, Chief Civil Clerk, or Deputy Sheriff to any subordinate



Sheriff's Office personnel or volunteers regarding investigations, evaluations, reviews, or probes into cases of potential election fraud or voter fraud, or otherwise concerning enforcement of election-related laws.

3. All communications sent by the Sheriff, Undersheriff, Chief Civil Clerk, or Deputy Sheriff containing any of the following key terms:
 - a. Voting
 - b. Vote
 - c. Election
 - d. Ballot
 - e. Poll

Please provide all responsive records from January 1, 2020 through date of search.

For items 2 and 3 of this request, in an effort to accommodate your office and reduce the number of potentially responsive records to be processed and produced, American Oversight has limited its request to communications sent by the officials listed above. To be clear, however, American Oversight still requests that complete email or text chains be produced, displaying both sent and received messages. This means, for example, that both Sheriff Songer's response to an email containing one of the listed key terms and the initial received message are responsive to this request and should be produced.

Where possible, please provide responsive material in electronic format by email or in PDF format on a USB drive. Please send any responsive material being sent by mail to American Oversight, 1030 15th Street NW, Suite B255, Washington, DC 20005. If it will accelerate release of responsive records to American Oversight, please also provide responsive material on a rolling basis.

Guidance Regarding the Search & Processing of Requested Records

In connection with its request for records, American Oversight provides the following guidance regarding the scope of the records sought and the search and processing of records:

- Please search all locations and systems likely to have responsive records, regardless of format, medium, or physical characteristics.
- In conducting your search, please understand the terms "record," "document," and "information" in their broadest sense, to include any written, typed, recorded, graphic, printed, or audio material of any kind. We seek records of any kind, including electronic records, audiotapes, videotapes, and photographs, as well as letters, emails, facsimiles, telephone messages, voice mail messages, and transcripts, notes, or minutes of any meetings, telephone conversations, or discussions.
- Our request for records includes any attachments to those records or other materials enclosed with those records when they were previously transmitted. To the extent that an email is responsive to our request, our request includes all prior messages sent or received in that email chain, as well as any attachments to the email.

- Please search all relevant records or systems containing records regarding agency business. Do not exclude records regarding agency business contained in files, email accounts, or devices in the personal custody of your officials, such as personal email accounts or text messages.
- In the event some portions of the requested records are properly exempt from disclosure, please disclose any reasonably segregable non-exempt portions of the requested records. If a request is denied in whole, please state specifically why it is not reasonable to segregate portions of the record for release.

Please take appropriate steps to ensure that records responsive to this request are not deleted by the agency before the completion of processing for this request. If records potentially responsive to this request are likely to be located on systems where they are subject to potential deletion, including on a scheduled basis, please take steps to prevent that deletion, including, as appropriate, by instituting a litigation hold on those records.

Conclusion

We share a common mission to promote transparency in government. American Oversight looks forward to working with your office on this request. If you do not understand any part of this request, have any questions, or foresee any problems in fully releasing the requested records, please contact Khahilia Shaw at records@americanoversight.org or 202.539.6507. Also, if American Oversight may be assessed fees in excess of \$100 please contact us immediately upon making such a determination.

Sincerely,



Austin R. Evers
Executive Director
American Oversight