

July 16, 2019

Via Online Portal

Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities ATTN: Rachel Cottle and Carline Lemoine, Records Access Officers DPU.RAO@state.ma.us

Re: Public Records Request

To Whom It May Concern:

This is a public records request pursuant to G.L., c. 66, § 10, the Massachusetts Public Records Law, on behalf of the American Civil Liberties Union of Massachusetts, Inc. ("ACLUM").

This request concerns G.L., c. 159B, § 6B, which mandates "[e]very person engaged in the towing away of motor vehicles" to submit annually "a financial statement . . . reflecting the net profits for the preceding year from such towing operation." We ask that your office provide us with the following records:

- 1. Records revealing the names, addresses, and contact information of "[e]very person engaged in the towing away of motor vehicles" pursuant to government authority in the past three years.
- 2. Pursuant to G.L., c. 159B, § 6B or any other state law, regulation, or policy, all annual reports, financial statements, or other documents revealing revenues and/or net profits filed by "[e]very person engaged in the towing away of motor vehicles" pursuant to government authority between January 1, 2016 and July 16, 2019.
- 3. All documents necessary to reveal the demographics (including race, ethnicity, and gender) of all persons whose cars were impounded in the past three years pursuant to an order by the police and the offense for which they were arrested.
- 4. Any state laws, regulations, or policies that regulate tow companies and/or vehicle impoundment.

I ask that you waive any copying costs pursuant to 950 C.M.R. 32.06(5), which encourages all custodians of public records to "waive fees where disclosure would benefit the public interest."

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As you know, a custodian of public records is required to permit inspection or furnish a copy of any requested public record, or any segregable portion of a public record, no later than ten business days following receipt of the request. To the extent possible, we ask to receive any documents in electronic format.

Should you withhold some portions of the requested documents on the grounds that they are exempt from disclosure, please specify which exemptions apply and release any portions of the records for which you do not claim an exemption.

If you have questions about this request, please contact me at (617) 482-3170 ext. 334 or jlewis@aclum.org.

Thank you for your assistance. We look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

Jessica Lewis