

March 7, 2019

Shawn Williams  
Director of Public Records  
Records Access Officer  
City of Boston  
1 City Hall Place, Room 615  
Boston, MA 02201  
publicrecords@boston.gov

Martha DeMaio  
Director of Public Information  
Boston Police Department  
One Schroeder Plaza  
Boston, MA 02120  
publicrecordrequest@pd.boston.gov

Re: Public Records Request Regarding BPD-ICE Cooperation

Dear Mr. Williams and Ms. DeMaio:

This letter is a request under the Public Records Law, G.L. c. 66, § 10, for documents in the possession of the City of Boston and the Boston Police Department (BPD) regarding cooperation between the BPD and Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). The request is made on behalf of the American Civil Liberties Union of Massachusetts, Inc., and Greater Boston Legal Services.

The City of Boston and the BPD have pledged to make Boston a safe place for immigrants. Nevertheless, in a federal district court complaint filed on February 27, 2019, the U.S. Department of Labor alleges that a Boston employer unlawfully retaliated against an injured worker by causing the worker to be arrested by ICE, and that this arrest was orchestrated by two BPD officers, one of them a member of a BPD-ICE “task force.” If true, the alarming allegation that the BPD facilitated ICE’s arrest of an injured worker who sought legal remedies calls into question the City of Boston’s commitment to workers and immigrant communities.

The requested documents will help educate the public about the relationship between the BPD and ICE and provide a snapshot of communication between the two agencies during discrete time periods. We request the following:

1. All documents relating to the creation, purpose, membership, management, responsibilities, operations, effectiveness, and/or desirability of a BPD-ICE task force, or any other grouping or designation of BPD officers who communicate with ICE more frequently than their colleagues do.

2. All documents relating to the designation and/or role of particular BPD officers as points of contact or liaisons for ICE, and/or the responsibilities of said officers.

3. All communications between Boston City Hall and the BPD regarding the BPD's cooperation and/or communication with ICE, including communications about the BPD-ICE task force.

4. Any document describing the BPD's cooperation and/or communication with ICE.

5. Any document relating to specific circumstances in which BPD or other City of Boston employees are restricted in cooperating or sharing information with ICE.

6. All documents relating to any ICE employee's access to information created or maintained by the BPD, including through the Boston Regional Intelligence Center (BRIC), COPLINK, or any other information sharing system.

7. All documents relating to requests for information or action made by ICE to the City of Boston or the BPD (including BRIC), and vice versa, since January 1, 2019, including the responses to these requests.

8. All documents relating to Tara Construction, Inc., ICE's arrest of José Martin Paz Flores, and/or the U.S. Department of Labor's investigation into these matters since March 29, 2017.

9. All emails, text messages, and records of other communications between employees of ICE and

(a) Sergeant Detective Gregory Gallagher;

(b) any officer who is a member of a BPD-ICE task force (or other comparable grouping described in paragraph 1 of this request); and/or

(c) any officer serving as a point of contact or liaison to ICE

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during the following time periods: May 1, 2017 to May 14, 2017, and February 15, 2019 to March 1, 2019.

Even where not specifically indicated, this request includes documents that are in electronic format, such as emails, and includes documents in the possession of the BRIC or any other division of the BPD. Unless otherwise specified, the request includes documents created between the time that this request is made and the time that the search is concluded.

Because this request involves a matter of public concern and is made on behalf of nonprofit organizations, we ask that you waive any fees. Please provide documents in electronic format where possible. Should you determine that some portions of the documents requested are exempt from disclosure, please release any reasonably segregable portions that are not exempt. In addition, please note the applicable statutory exemption and explain why it applies to the redacted portions. As you know, a custodian of public records shall comply with a request within ten days after receipt.

Please reply to this request by contacting Adriana Lafaille at [alafaille@aclum.org](mailto:alafaille@aclum.org) or 617-482-3170 x 308.

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

Sincerely,



Adriana Lafaille  
ACLU Foundation of Massachusetts, Inc.



Audrey Richardson  
Greater Boston Legal Services