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February 27, 2013

Sheriff Lewis G. Evangelidis
Worcester County Sheriff's Office
5 Paul X. Tivnan Drive
West Boylston, MA 01583

Dear Sheriff Evangelidis ,

This is a public records request on behalf of the American Civil Liberties Union Foundation of Massachusetts ("ACLU") for records made or received by the Worcester County Sheriff's Office ("Worcester County") concerning its SWAT Team. ACLU makes this request under the Massachusetts Public Records Law, G.L. c. 66, § 10.

In order to learn more about the Worcester County SWAT team, its activation and the allocation of resources to it, ACLU requests the following public records from the formation of the SWAT team until the present:

1. Incident reports, call-out reports or other written reports documenting each time the SWAT team was deployed.
2. Any reports showing breakdowns of SWAT deployments by crime, requesting agency, or purpose for the raid (i.e. to serve a warrant, arrest someone, diffuse a hostage crisis, etc.) and any post-deployment documentation.
3. Records including procedures, regulations and guidelines relating to SWAT team deployments and training, including protocols for SWAT team activation, responding to "high risk" situations, and use of deadly force.

4. Training materials and records of STOP team trainings from 2001 to the present, including records of trainings with outside agencies and including trainings led by STOP.
5. Records relating to the procurement, maintenance or deployment of SWAT team weapons and other equipment, including guns, vehicles, personal protective equipment and uniforms, surveillance and reconnaissance equipment, less than lethal devices, and forced entry tools. Please include documents showing how and when SWAT equipment is used, whether it was purchased, leased or borrowed from outside agencies, how it is stored, and who has access to it.
6. All records pertaining to acquisitions of weapons, tactical and surveillance/reconnaissance equipment via the Defense Department's "1033 Program" and "1122 Program."
7. Any written mutual aid agreements or memoranda of understanding with federal, state and local agencies, including any branch of the US Armed Forces and private entities pertaining to the STOP team.
8. The annual budget for the operation of the State Police STOP team from 1971 to the present.
9. Any internal or external audits of STOP team performance or disciplinary records.

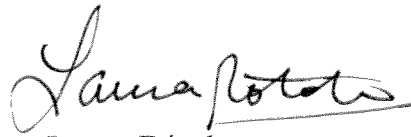
Please provide records in electronic form wherever possible. Because this request involves a matter of public concern and because it is made on behalf of a nonprofit organization, we ask that you waive any copying costs pursuant to 950 C.M.R. § 32.06(5). ACLUM is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to the protection of civil rights and liberties for all persons in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

If you decide not to waive copying costs, we request that you permit us to examine, at our election, the responsive documents before deciding which portions to photocopy.

Should you determine that some portion of the documents requested are exempt from disclosure, we ask you to 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.

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Laura Rótolo". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath the name.

Laura Rótolo

Attorney

ACLU of Massachusetts