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June 24, 2011

Commissioner Edward Davis
Boston Police Department
1 Schroeder Plaza
Boston, MA 02120

Re: Public Records Request

Dear Commissioner Davis:

This is a request under G.L. c. 66, §10 made on behalf of the American Civil Liberties Union of Massachusetts (ACLUM), CODEPINK – Greater Boston (CODEPINK), Veterans for Peace, Chapter 9 Smedley Butler Brigade (Veterans for Peace), Greater Boston Stop the Wars Coalition, Boston Coalition for Palestinian Rights and United for Justice with Peace (UJP) for the records of the Boston Police Department described below concerning the surveillance and recording of political activity.

1. Records relating to political demonstrations

For many years, Boston police officers, plainly identified as such, have made photographic, video and other recordings of political demonstrations and of individuals who have participated in those activities within the city of Boston. By this request, we are seeking copies of all records of the Boston Police Department concerning surveillance and recording of political meetings, parades, protests, demonstrations or other, similar activities during the period from January 1, 2008 to the present. This request includes (a) any applicable rule, regulation, policy, directive or bulletin issued by the Department or its commanding officers concerning such surveillance or recording (b) video recordings, (c) photographs, including digital images, (d) audio recordings, and (e) FIOFS and incident reports. In the event that any of the foregoing records have been destroyed or disseminated to other agencies, we request records documenting such destruction or dissemination. While this request seeks records of all surveillance during this period, we request initial disclosure of records concerning the following events:

Date / Time	Location
June 15, 2011 - 6 PM	JFK Federal Building
May 1, 2011	Rose Kennedy Greenway and March

March 30, 2011	Boston Common (near Park Street Station)
March 20, 2011 (St. Patrick's Peace Parade 2 – 4 PM)	Broadway Station and March through Boston
January 25, 2011 - Noon to 1	JFK Federal Building
January 25, 2011	Boston Common/Park Street
December 31, 2010	Boston Common (near Park Street Station)
September 27, 2010	JFK Federal Building
July 10, 2010	Copley Square
June 10, 2010	Boston Common (near Park Street Station)
June 1, 2010 - 12:30 PM	Israeli Consulate, Park Plaza
May 31, 2010 - 4 PM	Boston Common (near Park Street Station)
May 12, 2010 - 6 PM	Boston Public Library
March 7, 2010	Copley Square
January 13, 2010 - 12:30 PM – 1:30 PM	Israeli Consulate, Park Plaza
December 31, 2009 - 4:30 PM	Copley Square
December 2, 2009	Boston Common/Park Street
October 17, 2009	Copley Square
May 17, 2009 - 4:30 PM	Westin Copley
January 16, 2009 – 4:30	Israeli Consulate, Park Plaza
January 8, 2009	Israeli Consulate, Park Plaza
December 31, 2008 – 6 PM	Boston Common (near Park Street Station)
December 30, 2008 - 5 PM	Israeli Consulate, Park Plaza
December 29, 2008 – 5 – 7 PM	Boston Common (near Park Street Station)
December 28, 2008 - 2 – 4 PM	Boston Common (near Park Street Station)
December 10, 2008	Israeli Consulate, Park Plaza

2. Records relating to political activity

In addition to the foregoing records concerning public activities, this request also seeks disclosure of all separately maintained records and records that are retrievable by an electronic search relating to the activities of five of the organizations making this request: CODEPINK, Veterans for Peace, Greater Boston Stop the Wars Coalition and Boston Coalition for Palestinian Rights and United for Justice with Peace. As part of their advocacy, these organizations have participated in and/or led some of the activities listed above.

CODEPINK is a lawful political organization that works to end U.S. funded wars and occupations, to challenge militarism globally, and to redirect resources into health care, education, green jobs and other life-affirming activities, and has participated in some of the activities described above. CODEPINK of Greater Boston is the area's chapter of this organization.

Veterans for Peace is a lawful political organization founded in 1985 and dedicated to the abolishment of war. It is structured around a national office in Saint Louis, MO and comprised of members across the country organized in chapters or as at-large members. The Chapter 9 Smedley D. Butler Brigade of Veterans for Peace is the chapter of Veterans For Peace in the Boston, Massachusetts area.

Greater Boston Stop the Wars Coalition is a lawful political organization that calls for an end to the wars in Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Iraq, the immediate and unconditional withdrawal of all U.S. occupation forces and the closing of all U.S. military bases.

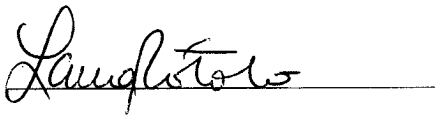
The Boston Coalition for Palestinian Rights is a lawful political organization working for justice for the Palestinian people. The organization sponsors rallies, vigils, teach-ins, forums and other events throughout the Boston area to educate people about the history of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict.

United for Justice with Peace is a Boston-area coalition that is committed to nonviolence in all its actions and works to further the cause of global peace and social and economic justice.

As you know, a custodian of public records shall comply with a request within ten days after receipt. Should you determine that some portion 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.

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

Sincerely,



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