



April 18, 2017

Public Records Access Officer

Executive Office of Public Safety and Security (EOPSS)

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

To Whom it May Concern:

This is a public records request. We are seeking information about arrests for a variety of low-level offenses in the Commonwealth. It is our understanding that EOPSS collects arrest data from over 300 police departments through the National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS) process. We ask that your office provide us with data showing how many arrests took place during a specific time period statewide, per those NIBRS or other arrest records, as well as where and when those arrests took place, and the demographic information of the persons arrested. The following request covers information EOPSS has collected from over 300 departments statewide.

Please provide the following records for the time period 2012-2016:

1. Electronic copies of data showing how many people, per records in your possession, were arrested for the following offenses in Massachusetts:
 - a. Drug possession (possession of any illicit drug or drug paraphernalia);
 - b. Driving with a suspended license, driving with expired registration, driving without a license, and driving without insurance;
 - c. Disorderly conduct (including the following: Affray, Disorderly Conduct, Misuse Of Flag, Disturb At School, Disturb Funeral Procession, Disturb At Public Assembly, Disturb Peace, Disorderly Person, Disturb Peace, Lewd & Lascivious Speech & Behavior);
 - d. Trespassing; and
 - e. Curfew/Loitering/Vagrancy Violations.
2. We also seek records or data containing the following information about each arrest referenced in request #1 above:
 - a. The race of each person arrested;
 - b. The nationality of each person arrested, where available;
 - c. The immigration status of each person arrested, where available;
 - d. The arresting police department for each arrest;
 - e. The location of each arrest, as precisely as possible; and

f. The time and date when each arrest took place.

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.”

As you know, a custodian of public records shall 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.

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 or rhall@aclum.org.

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

Sincerely,

Rahsaan Hall

Director

Racial Justice Program

ACLU of Massachusetts