

R000111-051420 - City Public Records Request

Message History (13)

← On 10/22/2020 3:48:59 PM, Shawn Williams wrote:

TO: "Emiliano Falcon-Morano"[efalcon@aclum.org]
CC: "City of Boston"[CityofBoston@govqa.us], [sarah.plowman@boston.gov], "Kade Crockford"[kcrockford@aclum.org], "Jessica Lewis"[jlewis@aclum.org]

Good Afternoon Emiliano:

Thank you for your email and I hope you are doing well. I will open this as a new request and will follow up immediately with OEM to begin the search.

Yours truly,

Shawn A. Williams, Esq.
Director of Public Records
Records Access Officer
City of Boston

One City Hall Square
Boston, MA 02201
publicrecords@boston.gov

On Thu, Oct 22, 2020 at 3:41 PM Emiliano Falcon-Morano wrote:

Hi Shawn,

Thank you for the response.

With regards to the emails we are looking for, what we want is OEM to search their emails for the phrase "Briefcam" and give us the responsive emails.

Is this possible?

Thank you.

Stay safe and healthy.

Best,
Emiliano


Emiliano Falcon-Morano
Pronouns: he, him, his

Policy Counsel
Technology for Liberty Program

American Civil Liberties Union of Massachusetts
211 Congress Street, Boston, MA 02110
617.482.3170 x402 | efalcon@aclum.org

[Website](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Youtube](#)

From: City of Boston
Sent: Thursday, October 22, 2020 3:11 PM
To: Emiliano Falcon-Morano
Cc: sarah.plowman@boston.gov
Subject: City of Boston Public Records Office City Public Records Request :: R000111-051420

 On 10/22/2020 3:42:55 PM, Emiliano Falcon-Morano wrote:

TO: "City of Boston"[CityofBoston@govqa.us], [shawn.williams@boston.gov]
CC: [sarah.plowman@boston.gov], "Kade Crockford"[kcrockford@aclum.org], "Jessica Lewis"[jlewis@aclum.org]

Hi Shawn,

Thank you for the response.

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From: City of Boston
Sent: Thursday, October 22, 2020 3:11 PM
To: Emiliano Falcon-Morano
Cc: sarah.plowman@boston.gov
Subject: City of Boston Public Records Office City Public Records Request :: R000111-051420

✉ On 10/22/2020 3:09:14 PM, City of Boston wrote:

CC: sarah.plowman@boston.gov

Subject: City of Boston Public Records Office City Public Records Request :: R000111-051420

Body:



City of Boston
Mayor Martin J. Walsh
Public Records

10/22/2020

RE: PUBLIC RECORDS REQUEST of May 14, 2020., Reference # R000111-051420

Dear Emiliano:

The City of Boston (City) has received your request for public records. This response applies only to records that exist and are in the custody of the City. See *A Guide to the Massachusetts Public Records Law*, p. 32, n.115. It is expected that a custodian of records must use her superior knowledge of her records with respect to responses to public records requests. 950 CMR 32.04(5). Specifically, you stated:

1. All emails pertaining to the City's use of BriefCam software, made or received any time on or after June 1, 2019.
2. All current contracts pertaining to BriefCam technology.

Upon receipt of your reply I again reached out to the Office of Emergency Management (OEM). As that office explains, there is a distinction to be made between the existence of the contract and whether the City of Boston uses the software. OEM holds a Regional contract with LAN-TEL for the Briefcam software, but OEM does not utilize the software itself. Therefore, OEM has no records responsive to request #1 (emails pertaining to the use of Briefcam).

OEM does possess emails pertaining to the creation of the contract and if you seek those records, we can provide them. But as we understand the request, any emails pertaining to the utilization of Briefcam would need to be directed to any of the Metro Boston Homeland Security Region community police departments. The utilization differs across communities; some may not use it at all. As such, you may wish to contact the individual communities to determine if any utilize Briefcam.

Very truly yours,

Shawn A. Williams, Esq.

Director of Public Records
Records Access Officer

↩ On 10/19/2020 5:52:17 PM, Shawn Williams wrote:

TO: "Emiliano Falcon-Morano"[efalcon@aclum.org]

CC: "City of Boston"[CityofBoston@govqa.us], [nancy.anderson@boston.gov], [sarah.plowman@boston.gov],

"Kade Crockford"[krockford@aclum.org], "Jessica Lewis"[jlewis@aclum.org], "Jessie Rossman"[JRossman@aclum.org]

You're welcome - hopefully, my promptness is a sign of good things to come now that I have a staff in my department!

Yours truly,

Shawn A. Williams, Esq.
Director of Public Records
Records Access Officer
City of Boston

One City Hall Square
Boston, MA 02201
publicrecords@boston.gov

On Mon, Oct 19, 2020 at 5:49 PM Emiliano Falcon-Morano wrote:

Thank you very much, Shawn!

Looking forward to hearing from them.

Best,
Emiliano

Emiliano Falcon-Morano
Pronouns: he, him, his

Policy Counsel
Technology for Liberty Program

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Website | Twitter | Facebook | Instagram | Youtube

EmilianoFrom: Shawn Williams
Sent: Monday, October 19, 2020 5:47 PM
To: Emiliano Falcon-Morano

Cc: City of Boston; nancy.anderson@boston.gov; sarah.plowman@boston.gov; Kade Crockford; Jessica Lewis; Jessie Rossman
Subject: Re: City of Boston Public Records Office City Public Records Request :: R000111-051420 Thank you, Emiliano. I see that my contacts in Emergency Management are copied on this email thread so I will consult with that department and we will get back to you.

Yours truly,

Shawn A. Williams, Esq.
Director
of Public Records
Records Access Officer
City of Boston

One City Hall Square
Boston, MA 02201
publicrecords@boston.gov

On Mon, Oct 19, 2020 at 5:43 PM Emiliano Falcon-Morano wrote:

Hi Shawn,

Thanks for the prompt answer.

The records that the City of Boston sent on Friday show that on May 29, 2019, the Mayor approved the award of a contract to Lan-Tel Communications, Inc. "to provide BriefCam maintenance coverage and technical support, BriefCam version upgrade to V4.3.0, procurement of an additional 100 BriefCam licenses including maintenance support, and corresponding training, for the period of May 15, 2019 through May 14, 2020." (emphasis added). This contract was extended to November 14, 2020, on May 12.

The emails we asked for pertain to "the City's use of BriefCam software." (emphasis added). Whether the City contracts with Lan-Tel, with BriefCam itself, or with any other third party is not important for purposes of the request, i.e., the key issue is whether the City uses the software—which it does.

Hence, if there are emails related to such use, those emails should be considered to be part of the request.

Thank you very much.

Stay safe and healthy.
Best,
Emiliano

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From: Shawn Williams
Sent: Monday, October 19, 2020 5:05 PM
To: Emiliano Falcon-Morano
Cc: City of Boston;
nancy.anderson@boston.gov;
sarah.plowman@boston.gov; Kade Crockford; Jessica Lewis
Subject: Re: City of Boston Public Records Office City Public Records Request :: R000111-051420Good Evening Emiliano:

Nice to hear from you and I hope you are well. The Office of Emergency Management informed me there would be no emails as the City has never had a contract with BriefCam.

Your request:

1. All emails pertaining to the City's use of BriefCam software, made or received any time on or after June 1, 2019.

Yours truly,

Shawn A. Williams, Esq.
Director
of Public Records
Records Access Officer
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One City Hall Square
Boston, MA 02201
publicrecords@boston.gov

On Mon, Oct 19, 2020 at 3:38 PM Emiliano Falcon-Morano wrote:

Hi Shawn,

Good afternoon.

Thank you for the response. We are going to review it. However, we noticed that there are no emails (request #1) in the records uploaded to the Public Records Center. Can you please let us know when you are planning to upload those?

Thank you very much.

Stay safe and healthy.

Best,
Emiliano

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Best,

EmilianoFrom: City of Boston
Sent: Friday, October 16, 2020 2:14 PM
To: Emiliano Falcon-Morano
Cc: nancy.anderson@boston.gov;
sarah.plowman@boston.gov
Subject: City of Boston Public Records Office City Public Records Request :: R000111-051420

← On 10/19/2020 5:49:15 PM, Emiliano Falcon-Morano wrote:

TO: "Shawn Williams"[shawn.williams@boston.gov]
CC: "City of Boston"[CityofBoston@govqa.us], [nancy.anderson@boston.gov], [sarah.plowman@boston.gov], "Kade Crockford"[krockford@aclum.org], "Jessica Lewis"[jlewis@aclum.org], "Jessie Rossman"[JRossman@aclum.org]

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To: Emiliano Falcon-Morano
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Subject: City of Boston Public Records Office City Public Records Request :: R000111-051420

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Subject: City of Boston Public Records Office City Public Records Request :: R000111-051420

← On 10/19/2020 5:46:10 PM, Emiliano Falcon-Morano wrote:

TO: "Shawn Williams"[shawn.williams@boston.gov]
CC: "City of Boston"[CityofBoston@govqa.us], [nancy.anderson@boston.gov], [sarah.plowman@boston.gov],
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Sent: Monday, October 19, 2020 5:05 PM
To: Emiliano Falcon-Morano
Cc: City of Boston; nancy.anderson@boston.gov; sarah.plowman@boston.gov; Kade Crockford; Jessica Lewis
Subject: Re: City of Boston Public Records Office City Public Records Request :: R000111-051420 Good Evening Emiliano:

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publicrecords@boston.gov

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Subject: City of Boston Public Records Office City Public Records Request :: R000111-051420

← On 10/19/2020 5:07:16 PM, Shawn Williams wrote:

TO: "Emiliano Falcon-Morano"[efalcon@aclum.org]
CC: "City of Boston"[CityofBoston@govqa.us], [nancy.anderson@boston.gov], [sarah.plowman@boston.gov],
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To: Emiliano Falcon-Morano
Cc:nancy.anderson@boston.gov; sarah.plowman@boston.gov
Subject: City of Boston Public Records Office City Public Records Request :: R000111-051420

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TO: "City of Boston"[CityofBoston@govqa.us], [shawn.williams@boston.gov]
CC: [nancy.anderson@boston.gov], [sarah.plowman@boston.gov], "Kade Crockford"[kcrockford@aclum.org],
"Jessica Lewis"[jlewis@aclum.org]

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Best,

EmilianoFrom: City of Boston

Sent: Friday, October 16, 2020 2:14 PM

To: Emiliano Falcon-Morano

Cc: nancy.anderson@boston.gov; sarah.plowman@boston.gov

Subject: City of Boston Public Records Office City Public Records Request :: R000111-051420

✉ On 10/16/2020 2:14:03 PM, City of Boston wrote:

CC: nancy.anderson@boston.gov; sarah.plowman@boston.gov

Subject: City of Boston Public Records Office City Public Records Request :: R000111-051420

Body:



*City of Boston
Mayor Martin J. Walsh
Public Records*

10/16/2020

RE: PUBLIC RECORDS REQUEST of May 14, 2020., Reference # R000111-051420

Dear Emiliano:

The City of Boston (City) has received your request for public records. This response applies only to records that exist and are in the custody of the City. See A Guide to the Massachusetts Public Records Law, p. 32, n.115. It is expected that a custodian of records must use her superior knowledge of her records with respect to responses to public records requests. 950 CMR 32.04(5). Specifically, you stated:

- 1. All emails pertaining to the City's use of BriefCam software, made or received any time on or after June 1, 2019.*
- 2. All current contracts pertaining to BriefCam technology.*

As previously indicated, the City does not use BriefCam technology, and as such would not have any records responsive to request 1. While there are no records responsive to request 2, I provide with this letter a copy of the agreement with Lan-Tel for services used by the Metro Boston Homeland Security Region (MBHSR).

There are nine cities and towns in the MBHSR, including Boston. Boston does not have access to BriefCam technology nor does Boston use BriefCam technology.

The records have been released to the [Public Records Center](#). Click the link below to login to the Records Center and retrieve the requested records.

[City Public Records Request - R000111-051420](#)

Very truly yours,

Shawn A. Williams, Esq.
Director of Public Records
Records Access Officer

✉ On 10/15/2020 1:38:47 PM, City of Boston wrote:

CC: nancy.anderson@boston.gov; sarah.plowman@boston.gov

Subject: City of Boston Public Records Office City Public Records Request :: R000111-051420

Body:



City of Boston
Mayor Martin J. Walsh
Public Records

10/15/2020

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- 1. All emails pertaining to the City's use of BriefCam software, made or received any time on or after June 1, 2019.*
- 2. All current contracts pertaining to BriefCam technology.*

I contacted the Office of Emergency Management. That office informed me that the City does not have a contract with BriefCam. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Very truly yours,

Shawn A. Williams, Esq.
Director of Public Records
Records Access Officer

 On 5/14/2020 4:02:00 PM, City of Boston wrote:

Dear Kade Crockford

Thank you for your interest in public records of City of Boston. Your request has been received and is being processed. Your request was received in this office on 5/14/2020 4:01:58 PM and given the reference number R000111-051420 for tracking purposes.

1. All emails pertaining to the City's use of BriefCam software, made or received any time on or after June 1, 2019.
2. All current contracts pertaining to BriefCam technology.

You can monitor the progress of your request at the link below and you'll receive an email when your request has been completed. Again, thank you for using the Public Records Center.

Director of Public Records

Records Access Officer

City of Boston

Track the issue status and respond at: https://bostonma.govqa.us/WEBAPP/_rs/RequestEdit.aspx?rid=4845

 On 5/14/2020 4:01:59 PM, City of Boston wrote:

Request was created by staff