

October 21, 2019

## Sent via email

Primary Records Access Officer Executive Office of Public Safety and Security One Ashburton Place, Suite 2133 Boston, MA 02108 eopss.rao@state.ma.us

Re: Public records request related to EOPSS grants to school districts.

Dear Primary Records Access Officer,

This is a request under the Massachusetts Public Records Law, G.L. c. 66, § 10, made on behalf of the American Civil Liberties Union Foundation of Massachusetts ("ACLU").

The ACLU seeks records<sup>1</sup> pertaining to Executive Office of Public Safety and Security ("EOPSS") grants awarded to school districts for the purposes of acquiring security equipment and technology.

Public reporting shows that EOPSS awarded \$7.2 million in grants "to more than 140 school districts across the Commonwealth to upgrade school security equipment and technology to bolster public safety resources for students and staff."<sup>2</sup>

We request the following records:

1. All successful and unsuccessful grant applications, and all their related documents and attachments.

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 fees. ACLU is a nonprofit §501(c)(3) organization dedicated to the protection of civil rights and liberties for all persons in the

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Throughout this request, the term "**records**" includes but is not limited to any paper or electronic information, reports, evaluations, memoranda, correspondence, letters, emails, charts, graphs, flyers, meeting agendas, meeting minutes, training materials, diagrams, forms, DVDs, tapes, CDs, notes, or other similar materials.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Baker-Polito administration awards \$7.2 million to 143 school districts to improve school safety, Framingham-Wicked Local, Oct. 15, 2019, available at <a href="https://framingham.wickedlocal.com/news/20191015/baker-polito-administration-awards-72-million-to-143-school-districts-to-improve-school-safety">https://framingham.wickedlocal.com/news/20191015/baker-polito-administration-awards-72-million-to-143-school-districts-to-improve-school-safety</a>



Commonwealth of Massachusetts. As the state's affiliate of the American Civil Liberties Union, the ACLU of Massachusetts is part of a nationwide network of advocates dedicated to defending and expanding the civil liberties of all.

If you decide not to waive fees, we request that you permit us to examine, at our election, the responsive documents before determining which portions to copy. We prefer the documents in electronic format.

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. As you know, a custodian of public records shall comply with a request within ten days after receipt.

If you have questions about this request, please contact me at (617) 482-3170 x402 or <a href="mailto:efalcon@aclum.org">efalcon@aclum.org</a>

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

Sincerely,

Emiliano Falcon Technology and Civil Liberties Policy Counsel Technology for Liberty Program ACLU of Massachusetts

