



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
County of Plymouth
Sheriff's Department
 Plymouth County Correctional Facility

24 Long Pond Road
 Plymouth, MA 02360
 Telephone: (508) 830-6200
 Fax: (508) 830-6201
 www.pcsdma.org



Joseph D. McDonald, Jr.
 Sheriff

Gerald C. Pudolsky
 Special Sheriff

November 24, 2021

Krista Oehlke
 ACLU of Massachusetts
 211 Congress Street
 Boston, Ma 02110

RE: Public Records Request

Dear Ms. Oehlke:

I am in receipt of your 2 page public records request dated November 22, 2021. In response to your request, the Department states the following:

1. The Department has attached an excel spreadsheet with the requested information.
2. The Department has attached the requested policy.
3. The Department has attached the policy related to inmate grievances as well as the handbook provided to every inmate that further details the grievance procedure¹. As it relates to PCCF 491, this is the internal procedure of the Plymouth County Correctional Facility and as such, not a public record. The request seeks information related solely to internal personnel rules and practices of the government unit, and proper performance of necessary government functions requires withholding of this information. G.L. c. 4 §7 cl. Twenty-sixth (b). The Secretary of the Commonwealth has recognized the need to limit public access to prison records, citing the need to protect the confidential nature of law enforcement methods: "One of the Department's primary functions is to maintain secure penal institutions. Information regarding the procedures used by correctional officers during law enforcement efforts relates solely to the internal workings of the Department. Moreover, disclosures of this information could prove detrimental to the Department's law enforcement efforts, as knowledge of the Department's security response procedures could enable an inmate to circumvent such procedures." (A Guide to the Massachusetts Public Records Law, William Galvin, Secretary of the Commonwealth, publisher, at 16 (March 2020).

To the extent that some of this response is a denial of your request, under G.L. c. 66, you have the right of appeal to the supervisor of records under subsection (a) of section 10A and the right to seek judicial review of an unfavorable decision by commencing a civil action in the superior court under subsection (c) of section 10A.

Sincerely,

/s/ Jessica L. Kenny

Jessica L. Kenny

¹ This request did not specify whether you were requesting Immigration Detainee guidelines and instructions or general inmates, so we have included both handbooks.

Deputy General Counsel
Plymouth County Sheriff's Department
24 Long Pond Road
Plymouth, Ma 02360
direct: 508-732-1867
jkenny@pcsdma.org

Accredited by:



American Correctional Association

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HULL KINGSTON LAKEVILLE MARION MARSHFIELD MATTAPOISETT MIDDLEBOROUGH NORWELL PEMBROKE PLYMOUTH
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