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New Request Re Charles Green

1 message

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To: foia@chicagopolice.org

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To Whom It May Concern:

Please consider the following as a FOIA request submitted on behalf of Charles Green.

Seven years ago, Mr. Green requested any and all closed complaint register files that relate to Chicago Police Officers. We write on his behalf to request the identical set of documents, with the caveat that he requests only those complaint registers that were closed at the time of his initial request on November 17, 2015, excluding any records that were already produced in the prior litigation.

Mr. Green is a wrongfully convicted individual fighting to establish his innocence. Mr. Green was sentenced to natural life at the age of 16 years old under a theory of accountability murder based on testimony from a police officer who was convicted of crimes and fired in the 1990's.

Mr. Green is making this request in order to help him discover evidence of his innocence and to preserve and disseminate evidence of innocence to others wrongfully convicted.

City of Chicago officials seek to hide these records from the public as a means of avoiding accountability for corrupt Chicago Police Officers, a purpose incompatible with FOIA. Mr. Green believes that the City of Chicago Police Department, which wrongfully convicted him in the 1980's, has been wrongfully convicting persons on the basis of false and fabricated evidence for the life of its existence. City of Chicago officials know that this is true and know that the records Mr. Green seeks will likely be used as persuasive proof of the City's widespread misconduct.

In furtherance of the general effort to fund CPD's misconduct, the City has expended an estimated billion dollars of taxpayer funds, and in furtherance of the specific effort to hide complaint register files, the City has spent millions of dollars engaged in a proactive effort to deny justice to wrongfully convicted individuals by fighting FOIA requests for CR files, paying lawyers to keep public information out of view, widespread intentional FOIA abuse and violations, seeking court orders to limit dissemination of complaint register files, and intentionally misrepresenting the burden on the City to comply with Mr. Green's request.

The Fraternal Order of Police is aware of these records importance in undermining the credibility of CPD's police force and the deliberate indifference by City officials to widespread police misconduct, which is what led the FOP to negotiate for the destruction of these records and ultimately a failed effort to force the City to destroy the records.

City of Chicago officials know that their intentional delays deny justice to wrongfully convicted individuals because the passage of time makes the discovery and proof of wrongdoing more difficult. Their litigation strategy in response to Mr. Green's request has been to delay. And delay Mr. Green from making further offers of proof of his obvious innocence to ultimately deny him justice is the City's objective. The City's Chief Prosecutor admitted that Mr. Green's claims of innocence are compelling. The Illinois Supreme Court agreed that Mr. Green's trial was unfair. In 1988, the Illinois jurist Eugene Pincham wrote in dissent that Green's conviction, rested on "flagrantly egregious violations of the juvenile citizen's cherished, revered and basic Federal and State constitutional rights." *People v. Green*, 179 Ill. App. 3d 1, 21 (1988).

Rather than aid Mr. Green's effort to undo a conviction for his obvious innocence, the City's attorneys agreed to pay Mr. Green \$500,000 to bury and further conceal the records he needs to help him and others prove the City's misconduct. In furtherance of that effort, the City Law Department knowingly presented false information to the City Council about the circumstances of the settlement, and while Mr. Green accepted the City's offer, the City silently turned their back on Mr. Green again, with no explanation, because Mr. Green attempted to correct their false statements.

This request for all closed police misconduct files until November 17, 2015 is not for a commercial purpose as its principal purpose is to access evidence of innocence and disseminate information to the public about the performance of the police department. No fees for copying should be charged.

Mr. Green would accept the data electronically and could provide a storage device for that purpose.

Thank you for your time and prompt attention to this matter.

This request may be answered by electronic mail.