

November 1, 2023

Kent Hoover
1199 Street Rd
Kingston Springs, TN 37082-9242

Re: MALETA-related Public Records Request

Dear Mr. Hoover,

I am writing about the multiple public records requests the Department of General Services received from you via the MuckRock platform related to the MALETA project. (See the attached spreadsheet consolidating all the requests we received.)

Upon receiving your 14 different requests, we determined it would be best to aggregate these requests into one response since all the requests are related. I made multiple efforts to reach you, using two of the unique emails that were listed with a couple of your requests to explain this and provide an estimate on the time and fees associated with his request. It is our policy that we do not gather records in a circumstance like this without approval of the costs and receipt of payment. Absent a response approving the over 160 hours of work associated with the request, coming in at a cost of \$9,409.81, and said payment, DGS will hold these aggregated requests for 30 days before canceling them.

Absent a response from you, I also forwarded these emails to the general MuckRock email address. (See attached documentation.)

On Tuesday, October 24, our office received a response from someone named M Sostre with MuckRock, requesting the metadata of these emails, as opposed to the entire file.

According to the Tennessee Public Records Act, the State may provide public records to Tennessee citizens. There is no way to authenticate this via email. Therefore, to request the metadata of the same emails, it would need to be submitted as a new request by someone who has a valid Tennessee ID.

I will also note that if a second request was submitted for the metadata of these same records, it would be around 60+ hours of time and cost roughly \$3,500 for those files. Again, the State would not move forward to gathering any records until we received confirmation of the time and costs and receipt of

payment.

As I previously stated, without authorization and payment, the Department of General Services will cancel the previous requests submitted if we do not receive a response or payment in the next 30 days.

Also, if someone wants to pursue a similar request, it would need to be a new request submitted online through our portal at <https://www.tn.gov/generalservices/about-dgs/public-records-requests.html> and would again need to be requested by someone with a Tennessee residence with proof of ID.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact me. I've included my contact information below.

Sincerely,

Michelle Sanders Parks | Director of Communications
Tennessee Tower, 22nd Floor
312 Rosa L. Parks Ave., Nashville, TN 37243
p. 615-532-2527 c. 615-613-4502
michelle.parks@tn.gov
[tn.gov/generalservices/](https://www.tn.gov/generalservices/)

Enclosures (3)

November 1, 2023

Kent Hoover

Re: Multiple requests from Kent Hoover via MuckRock

To Whom It May Concern

I am writing about the multiple public record requests we received from Kent Hoover via the MuckRock platform related to the MALETA project. (See attached spreadsheet consolidating all the requests we received from Kent Hoover.)

Upon receiving these 14 different requests, we determined it would be best to aggregate these requests into one response since all the requests are related. I made multiple efforts to reach Kent Hoover, using two of the unique emails that were listed with a couple of the requests to explain this and provide an estimate on the time and fees associated with his request. It is our policy that we do not gather records in a circumstance like this without approval of the costs and receipt of payment. Absent a response approving the over 160 hours of work associated with the request, coming in at a cost of \$9,409.81, and said payment, DGS will hold these aggregated requests for 30 days before canceling it.

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Michelle Sanders Parks | Director of Communications

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Enclosures (2)

Date	Requestor Email	Request Details
10/3/2023	152597-31115334@requests.muckrock.com	<p>Pursuant to the Tennessee Public Records Act, I hereby request the following records:</p> <p>All emails from Tammy Robins (Tammy.Robbins@tn.gov) which include the keywords "MALETA", "Multi Agency Law Enforcement Training Academy" or "Cockrill Bend" between Jan 1, 2020 to Sept 28, 2023. Please include all email attachments.</p> <p>The requested documents will be made available to the general public, and this request is not being made for commercial purposes.</p> <p>In the event that there are fees, I would be grateful if you would inform me of the total charges in advance of fulfilling my request. I would prefer the request filled electronically, by e-mail attachment if available or CD-ROM if not.</p> <p>Thank you in advance for your anticipated cooperation in this matter. I look forward to receiving your response to this request within 7 business days, as the statute requires.</p> <p>The requested documents will be made available to the general public, and this request is not being made for commercial purposes</p>
10/3/2023	152595-82457474@requests.muckrock.com	<p>Pursuant to the Tennessee Public Records Act, I hereby request the following records:</p> <p>All emails which include both Tammy Robins (Tammy.Robbins@tn.gov) and anyone with an Anecdote Architectural Experience email address (*@anecdotexp.com) or anyone with a Anecdote Architectural Experience email address (*@ksarchitects.com) as either the sender, recipient, CCed, or BCCed from Jan 1, 2020 to Sept 29, 2023. Please include all email attachments.</p> <p>The requested documents will be made available to the general public, and this request is not being made for commercial purposes.</p> <p>In the event that there are fees, I would be grateful if you would inform me of the total charges in advance of fulfilling my request. I would prefer the request filled electronically, by e-mail attachment if available or CD-ROM if not.</p> <p>Thank you in advance for your anticipated cooperation in this matter. I look forward to receiving your response to this request within 7 business days, as the statute requires.</p> <p>Thank you in advance for your anticipated cooperation in this matter. I look forward to receiving your response to this request within 7 business days, as the statute requires.</p>

10/4/2023	152633-45346856@requests.muckrock.com	<p>Pursuant to the Tennessee Public Records Act, I hereby request the following records:</p> <p>All email communications where Peter Heimbach is either the sender, recipient, CC'ed, or BCC'ed, sent between the dates of 1/1/2020 and 9/30/2023 and containing at least one of the following keywords: "MALETA", "Multi Agency Law Enforcement Training Academy", "529/017-01-2021-06" or "TDOC." Please include any variations that are not case sensitive. Please include all email attachments.</p> <p>The requested documents will be made available to the general public, and this request is not being made for commercial purposes.</p>
10/4/2023	152626-46771957@requests.muckrock.com	<p>All contracts, licenses, MOUs, MOAs, RFP submissions, agreements, letters of intent, and other agreement documents with the following entities for the construction of the Multi Agency Law Enforcement Training Academy (SBC Project No.: 529/017-01-2021-06):</p> <p>AECOM Technical Services, Inc. TMPartners, PLLC Earl Swensson Associates, Inc Tuck Hinton Architects, PLC or Anecdote Reeves+Young Hoar Construction, LLC Turner Construction Co</p> <p>The requested documents will be made available to the general public, and this request is not being made for commercial purposes.</p>
10/4/2023	152635-04143077@requests.muckrock.com	<p>Pursuant to the Tennessee Public Records Act, I hereby request the following records:</p> <p>All email communications where Penny DiPiazza is either the sender, recipient, CC'ed, or BCC'ed, sent between the dates of 1/1/2020 and 9/30/2023 and containing at least one of the following keywords: "MALETA", "Multi Agency Law Enforcement Training Academy", "529/017-01-2021-06" or "TDOC." Please include any variations that are not case sensitive. Please include all email attachments.</p> <p>The requested documents will be made available to the general public, and this request is not being made for commercial purposes.</p> <p>In the event that there are fees, I would be grateful if you would inform me of the total charges in advance of fulfilling my request. I would prefer the request filled electronically, by e-mail attachment if available or CD-ROM if not.</p> <p>Thank you in advance for your anticipated cooperation in this matter. I look forward to receiving your response to this request within 7 business days, as the statute requires.</p>

<p>10/4/2023</p>	<p>152596-67858041@requests.muckrock.com</p>	<p>Pursuant to the Tennessee Public Records Act, I hereby request the following records:</p> <p>To Whom It May Concern:</p> <p>This is a request under the Freedom of Information Act. I hereby request the following records: All proposals submitted for consideration (both denied and approved) in response to SBC Project No.: 529/017-01-2021-06 for the project titled Multi Agency Law Enforcement Training Academy (MALETA) at Cockrill Bend, as well as all response documents and ensuing correspondence relating to those proposals. The requested documents will be made available to the general public, and this request is not being made for commercial purposes. In the event that there are fees, I would be grateful if you would inform me of the total charges in advance of fulfilling my request. I would prefer the request filled electronically, by e-mail attachment if available or CD-ROM if not. Thank you in advance for your anticipated cooperation in this matter. I look forward to receiving your response to this request within 20 business days, as the statute requires. Sincerely,</p> <p>The requested documents will be made available to the general public, and this request is not being made for commercial purposes.</p> <p>In the event that there are fees, I would be grateful if you would inform me of the total charges in advance of fulfilling my request. I would prefer the request filled electronically, by e-mail attachment if available or CD-ROM if not.</p> <p>Thank you in advance for your anticipated cooperation in this matter. I look forward to receiving your response to this request</p>
<p>10/4/2023</p>	<p>152638-07074740@requests.muckrock.com</p>	<p>Pursuant to the Tennessee Public Records Act, I hereby request the following records:</p> <p>All email communications where John Hull is either the sender, recipient, CC'ed, or BCC'ed, sent between the dates of 1/1/2020 and 9/30/2023 and containing at least one of the following keywords: "MALETA", "Multi Agency Law Enforcement Training Academy", "529/017-01-2021-06" or "TDOC." Please include any variations that are not case sensitive. Please include all email attachments.</p> <p>The requested documents will be made available to the general public, and this request is not being made for commercial purposes.</p> <p>In the event that there are fees, I would be grateful if you would inform me of the total charges in advance of fulfilling my request. I would prefer the request filled electronically, by e-mail attachment if available or CD-ROM if not.</p> <p>Thank you in advance for your anticipated cooperation in this matter. I look forward to receiving your response to this request within 7 business days, as the statute requires.</p>

<p>10/4/2023</p>	<p>152634-70047263@requests.muckrock.com</p>	<p>Pursuant to the Tennessee Public Records Act, I hereby request the following records:</p> <p>All email communications where Gwen Sanders is either the sender, recipient, CC'ed, or BCC'ed, sent between the dates of 1/1/2020 and 9/30/2023 and containing at least one of the following keywords: "MALETA", "Multi Agency Law Enforcement Training Academy", "529/017-01-2021-06" or "TDOC." Please include any variations that are not case sensitive. Please include all email attachments.</p> <p>The requested documents will be made available to the general public, and this request is not being made for commercial purposes.</p> <p>In the event that there are fees, I would be grateful if you would inform me of the total charges in advance of fulfilling my request. I would prefer the request filled electronically, by e-mail attachment if available or CD-ROM if not.</p> <p>Thank you in advance for your anticipated cooperation in this matter. I look forward to receiving your response to this request within 7 business days, as the statute requires.</p>
<p>10/4/2023</p>	<p>152663-51214151@requests.muckrock.com</p>	<p>Pursuant to the Tennessee Public Records Act, I hereby request the following records:</p> <p>All email communications where Christi Branscom is either the sender, recipient, CC'ed, or BCC'ed, sent between the dates of 1/1/2020 and 9/30/2023 and containing at least one of the following keywords: "MALETA", "Multi Agency Law Enforcement Training Academy", "529/017-01-2021-06" or "TDOC." Please include any variations that are not case sensitive. Please include all email attachments.</p> <p>The requested documents will be made available to the general public, and this request is not being made for commercial purposes.</p> <p>In the event that there are fees, I would be grateful if you would inform me of the total charges in advance of fulfilling my request. I would prefer the request filled electronically, by e-mail attachment if available or CD-ROM if not.</p> <p>Thank you in advance for your anticipated cooperation in this matter. I look forward to receiving your response to this request within 7 business days, as the statute requires.</p>

<p>10/4/2023</p>	<p>152596-67858041@requests.muckrock.com</p>	<p>Pursuant to the Tennessee Public Records Act, I hereby request the following records:</p> <p>All proposals submitted for consideration (both denied and approved) in response to SBC Project No.: 529/017-01-2021-06 for the project titled Multi Agency Law Enforcement Training Academy (MALETA) at Cockrill Bend, as well as all response documents and ensuing correspondence relating to those proposals.</p> <p>The requested documents will be made available to the general public, and this request is not being made for commercial purposes.</p> <p>In the event that there are fees, I would be grateful if you would inform me of the total charges in advance of fulfilling my request. I would prefer the request filled electronically, by e-mail attachment if available or CD-ROM if not.</p> <p>Thank you in advance for your anticipated cooperation in this matter. I look forward to receiving your response to this request within 20 business days, as the statute requires.</p> <p>Sincerely,</p> <p>The requested documents will be made available to the general public, and this request is not being made for commercial purposes.</p> <p>In the event that there are fees, I would be grateful if you would inform me of the total charges in advance of fulfilling my request. I would prefer the request filled electronically, by e-mail attachment if available or CD-ROM if not.</p> <p>Thank you in advance for your anticipated cooperation in this matter. I look forward to receiving your response to this request within 7 business days, as the statute requires.</p>
<p>10/4/2023</p>	<p>152636-57401476@requests.muckrock.com</p>	<p>Pursuant to the Tennessee Public Records Act, I hereby request the following records:</p> <p>All email communications where Brian Hendrickson is either the sender, recipient, CC'ed, or BCC'ed, sent between the dates of 1/1/2020 and 9/30/2023 and containing at least one of the following keywords: "MALETA", "Multi Agency Law Enforcement Training Academy", "529/017-01-2021-06" or "TDOC." Please include any variations that are not case sensitive. Please include all email attachments.</p> <p>The requested documents will be made available to the general public, and this request is not being made for commercial purposes.</p> <p>In the event that there are fees, I would be grateful if you would inform me of the total charges in advance of fulfilling my request. I would prefer the request filled electronically, by e-mail attachment if available or CD-ROM if not.</p> <p>Thank you in advance for your anticipated cooperation in this matter. I look forward to receiving your response to this request within 7 business days, as the statute requires.</p>

<p>10/17/2023</p>	<p>153328-31741205@requests.muckrock.com</p>	<p>Pursuant to the Tennessee Public Records Act, I hereby request the following records:</p> <p>All contracts, licenses, MOUs, MOAs, data agreements, letters of intent, State of Work documents, Scope of Work documents, and other agreement documents with Messer Construction.</p> <p>The requested documents will be made available to the general public, and this request is not being made for commercial purposes.</p> <p>In the event that there are fees, I would be grateful if you would inform me of the total charges in advance of fulfilling my request. I would prefer the request filled electronically, by e-mail attachment if available or CD-ROM if not.</p> <p>Thank you in advance for your anticipated cooperation in this matter. I look forward to receiving your response to this request within 7 business days, as the statute requires.</p>
<p>10/23/2023</p>	<p>152873-08741328@requests.muckrock.com</p>	<p>Pursuant to the Tennessee Public Records Act, I hereby request the following records:</p> <p>All contracts, licenses, MOUs, MOAs, data agreements, submitted RFPs, RFIs, letters of intent, and other agreement documents for SBC# 529/017-02-2016.</p> <p>The requested documents will be made available to the general public, and this request is not being made for commercial purposes.</p> <p>In the event that there are fees, I would be grateful if you would inform me of the total charges in advance of fulfilling my request. I would prefer the request filled electronically, by e-mail attachment if available or CD-ROM if not.</p> <p>Thank you in advance for your anticipated cooperation in this matter. I look forward to receiving your response to this request within 7 business days, as the statute requires.</p>
<p>10/23/2023</p>	<p>152871-51150963@requests.muckrock.com</p>	<p>Pursuant to the Tennessee Public Records Act, I hereby request the following records:</p> <p>All contracts, licenses, MOUs, MOAs, data agreements, submitted RFPs, RFIs, letters of intent, and other agreement documents for SBC# 529/017-01-2017 Multi-Agency Law Enforcement Training Center.</p> <p>The requested documents will be made available to the general public, and this request is not being made for commercial purposes.</p> <p>In the event that there are fees, I would be grateful if you would inform me of the total charges in advance of fulfilling my request. I would prefer the request filled electronically, by e-mail attachment if available or CD-ROM if not.</p> <p>Thank you in advance for your anticipated cooperation in this matter. I look forward to receiving your response to this request within 7 business days, as the statute requires.</p>



**STATE OF TENNESSEE
COMPTROLLER OF THE TREASURY
OFFICE OF OPEN RECORDS COUNSEL**

REASONABLE CHARGES FOR FREQUENT AND MULTIPLE REQUESTS

PURPOSE:

Tenn. Code Ann. § 8-4-604(a)(2) requires the Office of Open Records Counsel (“OORC”) to establish a policy related to reasonable charges a records custodian may charge for frequent and multiple requests for public records pursuant to the Tennessee Public Records Act (“TPRA”), Tenn. Code Ann. § 10-7-501, et seq. Accordingly, the following policy sets forth guidelines for assessing reasonable charges associated with the aggregation of multiple and frequent record requests by allowing records custodians to charge for labor and costs that may otherwise be waived when responding to a single record request.

It is within the discretion of each governmental entity to charge for frequent and multiple record requests. Any decision to charge should be consistent with the Schedule of Reasonable Charges promulgated by the OORC and reflected in the governmental entity’s public records policy.

POLICY:

I. Aggregation Policy

- A. Aggregation, as well as excessive fees and other rules, shall not be used to hinder access to public records. A records custodian may reduce or waive, in whole or in part, any charge in accordance with the governing entity’s public records policy.
- B. A governmental entity may include in its public records policy a rule whereby multiple or frequent records requests are aggregated for purposes of calculating charges for copies or duplicates of public records.
- C. A governmental entity may aggregate multiple public record requests made by a single requestor. A governmental entity may also aggregate public record requests made by multiple requestors, if the public records request coordinator determines the requestors are acting in concert with each other or as the agents of another person, entity, or organization.
- D. A governmental entity’s public record policy shall indicate the number of requests within a calendar month that will trigger aggregation; that amount must be no lower than four (4) requests. This amount is the aggregation threshold.
- E. A governmental entity’s public record policy shall specify the level at which records requests will be aggregated, whether for the entire governmental entity or by agency, department, office, or otherwise.

II. Charges for Aggregated Requests

- A. Once a records custodian reaches the aggregation threshold, the records custodian is no longer required to deduct the labor threshold set forth in the Schedule of Reasonable Charges or any other minimum charge per request threshold that would ordinarily be waived.
- B. When the aggregation threshold is met, a records custodian choosing to aggregate requests must inform the requestor(s) of the determination to aggregate and of the right of the requestor(s) to appeal the records custodian's decision to aggregate to the OORC.
- C. Requests for current records that are routinely released and readily accessible, such as agendas or meeting minutes, are exempt from this policy.
- D. Disputes regarding aggregation shall be brought to the OORC.

*Submitted to ACOG: November 8, 2016
Effective: January 20, 2017*