

Chelsea Police Department

Professional Standards / Technical Services
19 Park Street • Chelsea, Massachusetts 02150
Office 617-466-4818 • Fax 617-466-4854



Keith Houghton Chief of Police Hector Gonzalez Lieutenant

November 18, 2022

Joshua Dankoff MuckRock News Dept MR 136626 263 Huntington Ave. Boston, MA 02115

Dr. Joshua Dankoff,

On November 15, I received your replay to the request as follow:

"Thank you for the reply. Concerning your citing exemption B, the document that we requested is mandated to be publicly available. MGL Chapter 71 sec. 37P(e). Specifically, "(e) Each school shall annually file its final memorandum of understanding and operating procedures with the department of elementary and secondary education. The department of elementary and secondary education shall collect data on the number of mental and social emotional health support personnel and the number of school resource officers employed by each local education agency and shall publish a report of the data on its website. The department shall promulgate rules or regulations necessary to carry out this section." As such, if this document is something that has to be submitted to the state, it does not seem like it could also be internal and confidential. We have received similar MoUs from all of the other police departments without any issue. It is my hope that this information changes the Chelsea PD's position on this records request. Please let me know if that is the case."

With regards to the mandate you mentioned, that pertains to the school department themselves, as such we recommend you request the MOU through them. Also regarding the policy on School Resource Officers our original exception, which is listed below still applies.

With respect to your request, unfortunately at this time, we are not able to process this request and have to decline as it falls under MGL Chap. 4 Sec. 7(26) Exemption B – Internal Rules and Practices of the Government Unit. Please be advised of the right of administrative appeal to the Supervisor under 950 CMR 32.08(1) and the right to seek judicial review of an unfavorable decision by commencing a civil action in the Superior Court.

Respectfully.

Hector L. Gonzalez, Police Lieutenant

Chelsea Police Department