

# Town of Nantucket Police Department

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Chief of Police

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Deputy Chief of Police



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July 13, 2021

Samuel Sinyangwe  
MuckRock News  
DEPT MR 115539  
411A Highland Ave  
Somerville, MA 02144-2516

**RE: Public Records Request [115539-80317111@requests.muckrock.com](mailto:115539-80317111@requests.muckrock.com)**

Dear Mr. Sinyangwe;

We are in receipt of your public records request received on July 9, 2021 which requests the following records in the custody of the Nantucket Police Department:

- 1. the total number of use of force incidents reported by the police department, separated by year and by type of force used from 2013-2020 (for example, "27 taser incidents in 2019, 3 baton incidents in 2020, etc.)*
- 2. the total number of civilian complaints alleging any form of law enforcement misconduct that were reported and the total number sustained from 2013-2020, separated by year (for example, 8 complaints in 2016, 2 complaints sustained in 2016, 4 complaints in 2017, 1 complaint sustained in 2017, etc.)*
- 3. the total number of civilian complaints alleging law enforcement use of excessive force that were reported and the total number sustained from 2013-2020, separated by year.*
- 4. the total number of civilian complaints alleging biased policing or racial profiling that were reported and the total number sustained from 2013-2020, separated by year.*
- 5. the total number of civilian complaints alleging criminal conduct that were reported and the total number sustained from 2013-2020, separated by year.*

*6. all information reported to the FBI's National Use-of-Force Data Collection program to date.*

*7. a list of all officer involved shootings that were directed at a person from 2013-20 (excluding shootings of animals and accidental discharges that are not directed at a person).*

*8. the total amount of money paid out in lawsuits and settlements relating to allegations of police misconduct per year from 2013-20. This includes copies of all reports, lists, databases, or individual documents that detail lawsuits brought against the city's police department and the outcome of lawsuits brought against the city's police department including any financial settlement occurring from 2013-20. It should also include any documents that your department submits to local, state, or federal agencies listing the number and/or status of lawsuits brought against the police department. This request includes any documents compiled quarterly, annually, or in other increments as well as any documents or databases that contain responsive information.*

The above records that you have requested are subject to Massachusetts General Law, c. 66, § 10 (a), which provides, in pertinent part: “Every person having custody of any public record, as defined in [G.L. c. 4, § 7, Twenty-sixth], shall, at reasonable times and without unreasonable delay, permit it, or any segregable portion of a record which is an independent public record, to be inspected and examined by any person, under his supervision, and shall furnish one copy thereof upon payment of a reasonable fee.” Furthermore General Law c. 4, § 7, Twenty-sixth, provides, in pertinent part: “ ‘Public records’ shall mean all books, papers, maps, photographs, recorded tapes, financial statements, statistical tabulations, or other documentary materials or data, regardless of physical form or characteristics, made or received by any officer or employee of any agency, executive office, department, board, commission, bureau, division or authority of the commonwealth, or of any political subdivision thereof, or of any authority established by the General Court to serve a public purpose, unless such materials or data fall within the exemptions outlined in c. 4, § 7, Twenty-sixth.

The Nantucket Police Department may have records relating to this request which are subject to Massachusetts General Law, c. 66, § 10 (a). However, in order to comply with your request for these records, the Nantucket Police Department has determined that a fee is required to be paid in advance for the research, retrieval, review and the redaction of restricted information, (if any). Below is a good faith estimate based upon the statutory rate of \$25.00, (which is below the wage rate of the lowest paid employee capable of performing the task)<sup>1</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> G. L. c. 66, § 10(a-b); 950 CMR 32.06(2)(a).

Specifically, it is estimated to take eight (8) hours to research, retrieve, redact, and copy records related to this request. Accordingly, the fee is established at \$200.00. Please forward a check to the Nantucket Police Department, at the address noted above and payable to "The Town of Nantucket."

Upon receipt of payment, we shall initiate the process of research and production of documents to comply with your Public Records request. If you require further information regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Charles Gibson  
Deputy Chief of Police

cc: