

STATE OF NEBRASKA

Office of the Attorney General

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DOUGLAS J. PETERSON ATTORNEY GENERAL

LESLIE DONLEY
ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL

September 1, 2022

Melissa B. Jones

RE: File No. 22-R-142; Omaha Police Department; Melissa B. Jones, Petitioner

Dear Ms. Jones:

This letter is in response to the petition received by this on August 17, 2022, in which you sought our review in obtaining certain records from the Omaha Police Department ("OPD"). We considered this matter under the provisions of the Nebraska Public Records Statutes ("NPRS"), Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 84-712 through 84-712.09 (2014, Cum. Supp. 2020, Supp. 2021), amended 2022 Neb. Laws LB 876 and LB 1246. In accordance with our normal practice, we forwarded a copy of your petition to Deputy City Attorney Bernard J. in den Bosch and requested a response, which we received on August 24.

By way of background, you submitted your public records request to the OPD via certified U.S. mail, addressed to the "Records Unit," and not through the City's public records portal. Mr. in den Bosch informs us that since the Records Unit does not handle public records requests, your letter created some confusion. It was eventually routed to Deputy Chief Anna Colón, the individual responsible for handling the public records requests for OPD. However, responding to your request was overlooked. Upon receipt of our inquiry, Mr. in den Bosch located your request and worked with OPD staff to fulfill it. Mr. in den Bosch has provided us a copy of his August 23, 2022, letter to you along with the records deemed responsive to your request.

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Since you have now received the records which formed the basis for your petition, no further investigation or analysis by this office is necessary. As a result, we are closing this file. Finally, we will note that Mr. in den Bosch has represented to this office that the City has taken appropriate action to ensure that, in the future, public records request are responded to in a timely fashion.

Sincerely,

DOUGLAS J. PETERSON

Attorney General

Leslie Donley

Assistant Attorney General

c: Bernard J. in den Bosch (via email only)

49-3026-30