



Office of Mayor Emma Mulvaney-Stanak

149 CHURCH STREET • BURLINGTON, VT 05401 • (802) 865-7272

March 23, 2026

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL ONLY

Marina Brown
catskillmarina@gmail.com

Re: Public Records Request

Dear Marina Brown,

The City has received your March 17 appeal of the City's decision to withhold records responsive to your public records request dated March 13, seeking:

"Under the Vermont Public Records Law, Â§315 et seq., I am requesting an opportunity to inspect or obtain copies of records of the following:

Last inventory of less lethal munitions and crowd control equipment from before March 11 2026 including but not limited to:

rubber bullets
tear gas
pepper spray
flash bang grenades
launchers for less lethal munitions including shotguns tazers
flex-cuffs chemical munition resistant masks filters for chemical
munition resistant masks beanbag launchers riot gear masks neck and
face gaiters Face Shields Helmets plates plate carriers Any Crowd
control equipment

Purchase orders to usual sources of material, and documentation of acquisition from other sources, of less lethal munitions and crowd control equipment from March 11 2025 to March 30 2026 (or the date this request is fulfilled if before March 30 2026) including but not limited to:

rubber bullets
tear gas
pepper spray
flash bang grenades

launchers for less lethal munitions including shotguns tazers
flex-cuffs chemical munition resistant masks filters for chemical
munition resistant masks beanbag launchers riot gear masks neck and
face gaiters Face Shields Helmets plates plate carriers Any Crowd
control equipment

Current inventory of less lethal munitions and crowd control equipment since March 11
2026 including but not limited to:

rubber bullets
tear gas
pepper spray
flash bang grenades
launchers for less lethal munitions including shotguns tazers
flex-cuffs chemical munition resistant masks filters for chemical
munition resistant masks beanbag launchers riot gear masks neck and
face gaiters Face Shields Helmets plates plate carriers Any Crowd
control equipment

Any correspondence regarding the purchase or acquisition of these munitions and crowd
control equipment in the period between Jan 1 2025 to Jan 1 2026."

The City Attorney's Office provided you with a letter on March 17 stating that responsive records
were being withheld in full. Specifically, the City withheld:

- "Records dealing with the detection and investigation of crime, but only to the extent that the production of such records . . . would disclose techniques and procedures for law enforcement investigations or prosecutions, or would disclose guidelines for law enforcement investigations or prosecution if such disclosure could reasonably be expected to risk circumvention of the law." 1 V.S.A. § 317(c)(5)(A)(v). These records contain information that would disclose techniques and procedures for law enforcement investigations or prosecutions, or would disclose guidelines for law enforcement investigations or prosecution if such disclosure could reasonably be expected to risk circumvention of the law.
- "Records dealing with the detection and investigation of crime, but only to the extent that the production of such records . . . could reasonably be expected to endanger the life or physical safety of any individual." 1 V.S.A. § 317(c)(5)(A)(vi). These records contain information which could endanger the life or physical safety of an individual if released.
- "Passwords, access codes, user identifications, security procedures, and similar information the disclosure of which would threaten the safety of persons or the security of public property." 1 V.S.A. § 317(c)(25). These records contain information about police security procedures.

You appealed this withholding.

In reviewing the records at issue, I have determined that some withholdings will be maintained, but some records can be released with redactions. Specifically, the City will continue to withhold police munition inventories, but will release purchasing records and related correspondence regarding less-lethal munitions with redactions. The withholdings and redactions are pursuant to the exemptions cited above related to law enforcement security.

Updated responsive records will be transmitted via email accompanying this letter.

I hope that you will find the City's review satisfies your concerns. Please note that the Vermont Public Records Act affords any person aggrieved by this determination the opportunity to seek judicial review in accordance with 1 V.S.A. § 319.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Emma Mulvaney-Stanak", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Emma Mulvaney-Stanak
Mayor, City of Burlington