

Marina Brown
catskillmarina@gmail.com

Dear Ms. Brown,

I am writing regarding your public records request, received July 22, 2020 asking for records regarding incidents regarding the group 'Patriot Front', and your appeal for records received on September 8, 2020.

On August 14, 2020 we sent you one record regarding 'Patriot Front' that met the scope of your request.

Attached are three additional VSP incident reports. These three records address responses by the Vermont State Police to incidents determined to have a connection with the group 'Patriot Front.' Please be aware the Vermont State Police is unable to provide reports regarding responses to incidents assigned to other law enforcement agencies. We instead refer you to those other agencies for any additional records you seek.

Please be aware that there is an entry on the Vermont State Police Facebook page regarding the incident at the Waterbury Dam on reported July 1, 2020 (case # 20A302717). You will note in the corresponding report that there were tips received. We would refer you to the comments attached to the Facebook entry, which is publicly accessible, for additional information received related to this incident.

Please note that the records supplied here has been redacted in accordance with the Vermont Public Records Act exemptions found at 1 V.S.A. § 317(c)(5)(A), relating to law enforcement records "dealing with the detection and investigation of crime," and 1 V.S.A. § 317(c)(7), related to "[p]ersonal documents relating to an individual."

Specifically, the Department of Public Safety ("DPS") has redacted the records to remove information exempt from public inspection and copying under the following exemptions:

1 V.S.A. § 317(c)(5)(A)(iii) (information that "could reasonably be expected to constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy");

1 V.S.A. § 317(c)(5)(D) (information which "a public agency shall not reveal" including "the identity of a private individual who is a witness to or victim of a crime, unless withholding the identity...would conceal government wrongdoing."); and

1 V.S.A. § 317(c)(7) (personally identifying information, including date of birth, address, telephone number, Social Security number, name of employer, and information which could "reveal intimate details of a person's life, including any information that might subject the person to embarrassment, harassment, disgrace, or loss of employment or friends." *See Rutland Herald v. City of Rutland*, 2012 VT 26, ¶ 39, 191 Vt. 387, 404, 48 A.3d 568, 579 (quoting *Kade v. Smith*, 2006 VT 44, ¶ 8, 180 Vt. 554, 557, 904 A.2d 1080, 1084)).

The Vermont State Police now consider this matter closed and your appeal addressed.

If you believe that a portion of the attached records have been withheld in error, or if you would like to discuss the redactions in the released records, please feel free to call me at the number below. Please be advised that you may also file an appeal regarding the content redacted. If you choose to file an appeal, we request that you do so in writing to:

Commissioner Michael Schirling
Department of Public Safety
45 State Drive
Waterbury, VT 05671

Sincerely,

Heidi Storm
Department of Public Safety
45 State Drive
Waterbury, VT 05671
802-241-5351