



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
William Francis Galvin, Secretary of the Commonwealth
Public Records Division

Manza Arthur
Supervisor of Records

October 24, 2022
SPR22/2375

Diane Andre
Keeper of Records
Records Division
Dartmouth Police Department
1390 Tucker Road
Dartmouth, MA 02747

Dear Ms. Andre:

I have received your petition on behalf of the Dartmouth Police Department (Department) seeking permission to charge for time spent segregating or redacting responsive records. G. L. c. 66, § 10(d)(iv). As required by law, it is my understanding that the Department furnished a copy of this petition to the requestor, Sarah Ryley, of *The Boston Globe*. *Id.* In a request dated October 6, 2022, Ms. Ryley requested:

- [1] Applications for licenses to sell, rent, or lease firearms, rifles, shotguns, and machine guns; to perform gunsmithing services; or to sell ammunition; including any records during the course of the application process, such as correspondence and attachments[;]
- [2] Inspections, and any records provided to your agency as a result of inspections[;]
- [3] Referrals and complaints from any person or agency on potential violations of federal or state laws, and records of any action taken[;]
- [4] Investigations
- [5] Records of enforcement actions by your agency, or any other agency that are in your possession.

In an email dated October 20, 2022, Ms. Ryley states, “I’d like to modify my request to reduce the need for a fee....Could you please send just the most recent application for a state dealer’s license? (The ammunition and gunsmithing applications aren’t necessary.)” In an email dated October 20, 2022, the Department states that “[d]ue to the modification on the request [, the Department] no longer wishes to [p]etition for [f]ees.”

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Conclusion

In light of the above, it is unnecessary to opine on the Department's petition to charge for time spent segregating or redacting responsive records. It is my understanding that on October 21, 2022, the Department submitted another fee petition that is currently open as SPR22/2397. This office encourages Ms. Ryley and the Department to continue to communicate to facilitate providing records more efficiently and affordably. See G. L. c. 66, § 10(b)(vii).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Manza Arthur", written in a cursive style.

Manza Arthur
Supervisor of Records

cc: Sarah Ryley