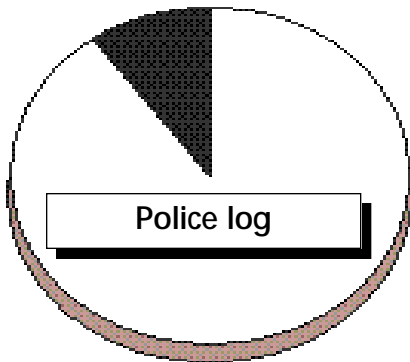


FIRST TWO VISITS: Nov. 20
Nov. 25

Lincoln

Documents Not Received



School Committee Minutes:

- Readability: Average
- Thoroughness: Good
- Layout: Average
- Legal Compliance: Full

City/Town Council Minutes:

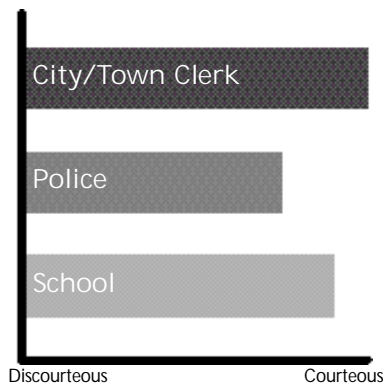
- Readability: Good
- Thoroughness: Good
- Layout: Average
- Legal Compliance: Full

The police log was the only item not provided by Lincoln municipal officials. The School Department and the Town Clerk provided all of the information requested. The Police provided arrest reports upon a follow-up visit, but not the opportunity to inspect the log. All of the materials supplied were provided after the first request, and employees were considered quite courteous. There were, however, two possible deterrents to public access in Lincoln. First, the town is one of only a handful to require their own paperwork to be completed in order to obtain certain documents. Second, Lincoln employees asked for identification and inquired about the purpose of the request in 60 percent of the interactions.

“ I confronted a hostile front desk officer at the police department who quickly refused my request to see the most recent arrest reports. I asked again and the officer suggested that perhaps the chief would be able to provide the material, but informed me that the chief would not be in for the rest of the day. When I asked for contact information for the chief, the officer told me that the chief’s answer would be the same as his, ‘no.’ When I requested the brutality reports, the officer responded, ‘Didn’t you hear me? The answer is no!’ When I did finally talk to the chief on a follow up visit, he was well aware of my right to see the arrest reports, but was unsure whether I could see redacted reports that may still be under investigation.

When I was provided with a copy of the Lincoln Town Budget, it was well laid out and remarkably easy to understand. In fact, there was an award on the wall from an organization of cities and towns commending Lincoln for impeccable financial accounting. ”

How We Were Treated



Comparison: Cities/Towns

