

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL ONLY

December 17, 2014

Lisa Pinsonneault, Special Assistant Attorney General  
Rhode Island Office of Attorney General  
150 South Main Street  
Providence, RI 02903

**RE: Complaint Against West Greenwich Police Department for Violations of APRA**

Dear Attorney Pinsonneault:

ACCESS/RI is a broad-based, non-profit freedom of information coalition dedicated to improving citizen access to the records and processes of government in Rhode Island.

I write on behalf of ACCESS/RI to file a complaint against the West Greenwich Police Department (herein "WGPD") for violating the Access to Public Records Act (herein "APRA"), R.I.G.L. § 38-2-1 et seq.

ACCESS/RI through our contractor MuckRock requested from the WGPD a copy of their written APRA procedures required pursuant § 38-2-3(d). While the WGPD ultimately complied with the request, as the attached correspondence indicates (Appendix A), it took 21 business days, violating § 38-2-3(e).

MuckRock also requested from the WGPD "A copy of the police log for the past week (7 days)." As the attached correspondence indicates (Appendix B), the WGPD took 39 business days to respond to the request, violating § 38-2-3(e).

Additionally MuckRock requested, pursuant to § 38-2-3.2:

"A copy of the arrest log for the past 24 hours, to include the following information at minimum:

- 1) Full name of the arrested adult;
- 2) Home address of the arrested adult, unless doing so would identify a crime victim;
- 3) Year of birth of the arrested adult;
- 4) Charge or charges;
- 5) Date of the arrest;
- 6) Time of the arrest;
- 7) Gender of the arrested adult;

- 8) Race of the arrested adult;
- 9) Name of the arrest officer unless doing so would identify an undercover officer.”

The WGPD took 15 days (Appendix C) to respond to the request, violating the 48-hour timeline in § 38-2-3.2.

Finally, MuckRock requested “All arrest records, including narrative, for the past 24 hours.” The WGPD took 11 business days (Appendix D) to respond to this request, violating § 38-2-3(e).

We ask that the Attorney General file suit against the West Greenwich Police Department pursuant to § 38-2-8(b) in the Superior Court and seek civil fines for these knowing and willful—or, at a minimum, clearly reckless—violations of APRA pursuant to § 38-2-9(d).

Sincerely,

Linda Lotridge Levin  
LLLevin@uri.edu  
ACCESS/RI

Attachments (4)