



March 17, 2020

Via Email – tsiskachicagojustice.org

Tracy Siska
Executive Director
Chicago Justice Project
105 W. Madison St. – Suite 1500
Chicago, IL 60604

Re: Freedom of Information Act Request 20-060-064

Dear Ms. Siska,

On behalf of the Civilian Office of Police Accountability (COPA), I am responding to your revised Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request, received by this office on Tuesday, March 3, 2020.

Due to the COVID19 National and State public health emergency, and the Governor's issuance of a disaster proclamation, the City of Chicago is in the process of scaling back on workforce and non-essential City operations and duties. In doing so the City has determined that certain job functions must be suspended as non-essential. The Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) responses have been deemed a non-essential City operation and are being temporarily suspended until further notice. As a result, your FOIA request is denied as the processing of your request during this statewide emergency declaration is unduly burdensome pursuant to Section 3(g) of FOIA.

You have the right to have a denial reviewed by the Public Access Counselor (PAC) at the Office of the Illinois Attorney General, 500 S. 2nd Street, Springfield, Illinois 62706, (877) 299-3642. You also have the right to seek judicial review of your denial by filing a lawsuit in Cook County Circuit Court. Please feel free to resubmit your request once an announcement has been made Citywide that normal operations have resumed. For updates on city operations and the COVID-19 outbreak, please visit www.cityofchicago.org/coronavirus.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Tyra Sherese Peterson'.

Tyra Sherese Peterson
Paralegal II/FOIA Officer