



## The Illinois Department of Corrections

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1301 Concordia Court, P.O. Box 19277 • Springfield, IL 62794-9277 • (217) 558-2200 TDD: (800) 526-0844

July 15, 2020

Tracy Siska  
[tsiska@chicagojustice.org](mailto:tsiska@chicagojustice.org)

**Re: Freedom of Information Request #200706034**

This letter is in response to your request to the Illinois Department of Corrections ("IDOC") pursuant to the Illinois Freedom of Information Act, 5 ILCS 140/1, et seq.

You submitted the following request:

Documents sufficient to show (or from which may be derived), on a facility by facility basis, **the aggregate number of grievances by type, facility, and month**, for each of the years from 2000-2020.

Response: Your request, as currently written, is burdensome (5 ILCS 170/3(g)). IDOC operates over 25 facilities. You are seeking 20 years of records that are not centrally kept and are located at each individual facility. Every facility would have to search for these records at a time when IDOC is not fully staffed at facilities or its main office due to COVID-19 restrictions. Every record discovered would then need to be reviewed for redactions by the IDOC FOIA Unit which consists of three persons who currently have over 75 open Freedom of Information Act requests that must be processed within the statutory time frame. Attempting to comply with this request would unduly burden the staff at the facilities and the FOIA Unit at the central office. Please narrow your request by time and facility so that IDOC may better process your request.

In the event you view this response as a denial of your request, you have a right to have the denial reviewed by the Public Access Counselor (PAC) at the Office of the Illinois Attorney General. 5 ILCS 140/9.5(a). You can file your request for review with the PAC to:

Public Access Counselor  
Office of the Attorney General  
500 South 2<sup>nd</sup> Street  
Springfield, Illinois 62706

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*Mission: To serve justice in Illinois and increase public safety by promoting positive change in offender behavior, operating successful reentry programs, and reducing victimization.*

[www.illinois.gov/idoc](http://www.illinois.gov/idoc)

You also have the right to seek judicial review of your denial by filing a lawsuit in the state circuit court, pursuant to 5 ILCS 140/11.

If you choose to file a request for review with the PAC, you must do so within 60 calendar days of the date of this denial letter (5 ILCS 140/9.5(a)). Please note that you must include a copy of your original FOIA request and this denial letter when filing a request for review with the PAC.

Sincerely,  
Lisa Weitekamp  
Freedom of Information Officer