



**Lori E. Lightfoot**  
Mayor

**Department of Police · City of Chicago**  
3510 S. Michigan Avenue · Chicago, Illinois 60653

**David O. Brown**  
Superintendent of Police

May 27 2020

**Via Email:**

J Ader  
88926-70353270@requests.muckrock.com

**RE: NOTICE OF RESPONSE TO FOIA REQUEST**  
**FOIA FILE NO.: P580333**

Dear J Ader:

This notice is in response to your request received by the Chicago Police Department on January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2020 for the following records and information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), 11 ILCS 140 et seq:

*All emails sent or received to/from sabih.khan@chicagopolice.org from April 6th, 2020 to May 6th, 2020 containing the following terms:*

- "Tip"
- "CPDTip"
- "TipSoft"
- "TipSubmit"
- "CommandCentral"
- "Command Central"
- "TXT2Tip"

Your request was reviewed by CPD and a thorough, diligent search of records was conducted utilizing the provided search parameters. As permitted by 5 ILCS 140/3(e), the time may have been extended in order to conduct a thorough search for these records. In addition, time may have been further extended with your cooperation and stipulation, CPD thanks you for your assistance. After careful review and collaboration with CPD's Bureau of Technical Services Information Services Division, be advised that responsive records were located pursuant to your FOIA request.

Please be advised that the Department has redacted certain information, as explained below.

Section 7(1)(b) exempts from disclosure "[p]rivate information, unless disclosure is required by another provision of this Act, a State or federal law or a court order." 5 ILCS 140/7(1)(b). The FOIA, in 5 ILCS 140/2(c-5), defines "private information" as follows:

“‘Private information’ means unique identifiers, including a person’s social security number, driver’s license number, employee identification number, biometric identifiers, personal financial information, passwords or other access codes, medical records, home or personal telephone numbers, and personal email addresses. Private

information also includes home address and personal license plates, except as otherwise provided by law or when compiled without possibility of attribution to any person.”

Therefore, personal addresses, personal telephone numbers, personal license plate numbers, driver’s license numbers, vehicle identification numbers, social security numbers, internal record numbers, SID numbers, FBI numbers, signatures, medical information, and employee user codes/numbers are exempt and were properly redacted pursuant to Section 7(1)(b).

Please be advised that work cell phone numbers are exempt from inspection and copying, as Illinois law exempts “[p]ersonal information contained within public records, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy[.]” 5 ILCS 140/7(1)(c). As publicly-available cell phone numbers would subject these employees to invasive and unsolicited communications and phone calls, the disclosure of the cell phone numbers would burden employees’ privacy interest.

Additionally, access to this information would not advance the public interest in understanding “the affairs of government and the official acts and policies of those who represent them[.]” 5 ILCS 140/1. Furthermore, the City of Chicago has produced the landline numbers for such employees, which further limits the *de minimis* public interest in the contact information of employees. *See* Shurtleff v. United States Environmental Protection Agency, 991 F. Supp. 2d 1, 18 (D.D.C. Sept. 30, 2013) (“The EPA has proffered a substantial privacy interest at stake in disclosing the official internal email address of the EPA Administrator and the work email address of employees at the EOP: these few individuals have ‘a significant personal interest in preventing the burden of unsolicited emails and harassment.’”); Buckovetz v. U.S. Department of the Navy, Case No. 14-cv-2115-BEN, 2016 WL 4801335 at \*2-3 (S.D. Cal. Apr. 7, 2016) (affirming the redaction of an employee’s cell phone number, because “the [employee’s] privacy rights in this information outweigh the public’s interest in disclosure”).

*R. Earnshaw*

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