February 9, 2023

Dillon Bergin
MuckRock News
E-mail: 139011-59788592@requests.muckrock.com

RE: FOIA REF# F038527-012023

On behalf of 311 City Services, I am responding to your Freedom of Information act ("FOIA") request in which you requested the following. Your request was received 01/20/2023. An Extension Letter was sent 01/27/2023. Due to the complexity of the request and volume of records associated with the 12-year period, an additional extension was requested, to which you agreed.

PART 1

All "Air Pollution, Odor or Dust Complaint Requests" submitted to Chicago 311 from January 1st, 2010 to January 1, 2022. I am requesting the "complaint request" in the category of "Air Pollution, Odor or Dust," which is the raw intake of "Air Pollution, Odor or Dust Complaint Requests." Last August, I received this data for the year of 2022 (https://www.muckrock.com/foi/chicago-169/air-pollution-odor-or-dust-complaint-request-132006/). I'm requesting the same data, in the same form, but for the years 2010 to 2022.

Thus, I request the raw data - in a machine-readable database or spreadsheet format such as Excel, CSV, Access, SQL or XML - pertaining to "Air Pollution, Odor or Dust Complaint Requests." The data should include all fields in the database or spreadsheets that contain non-exempt information.

PART 2

I also request all documentation that describes the layout of the database's tables and fields, and that provides the definitions of any field names, codes, and abbreviations used in the database. This information may be gathered together in a single document like a data dictionary, entity layout, or user's guide. If that is the case, I request access to and copy of said document.

Attached is an Excel document with the 311 City Services records found responsive to Part 1 of your FOIA request criteria for the period January 1, 2010 – December 31, 2022.

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Where applicable, certain information may have been redacted from the records provided. Specifically, identifying information with regards to the caller's name, address, email address and telephone number. Such information is exempt as private information in accordance 5 ILCS 140/7(1)(c). Section 5 ILCS 140/7(1)(c) of FOIA provides, "[p]ersonal information contained within public records, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy, unless the disclosure is consented to in writing by the individual subjects of the information."

Regarding the section of Part 2 of your FOIA request for "…*the layout of the database's tables and fields…*" 311 City Services does not possess nor maintain this type of information. Each City department is a "public body" under Section 2 of FOIA, 5 ILCS 140/2(a). See Duncan Publishing, Inc. v. City of Chicago, 304 Ill. App. 3d 778, 784, 709 N.E.2d 1281, 1286 (1ST Dist. 1999) ("Clearly, each of the individual departments are subsidiary bodies of the City and are 'public bodies' as defined by the FOIA."). A FOIA request must be directed to the department that maintains the records you are seeking.

Regarding the other section of Part 2 of your FOIA request for "…*the definitions of any field names, codes, and abbreviations…*" there is no existing document with this type of information; however, the field names in the attached Excel spreadsheet are self-explanatory. Further, to my knowledge the attached Excel spreadsheet does not contain any codes or abbreviations.

To the extent that you consider this a denial of your FOIA request, you have a right of review by the Illinois Attorney General's Public Access Counselor, who can be contacted at 500 South Second Street, Springfield, Illinois 62706 or by telephone at (877) 299-FOIA. You may also seek judicial review of a denial under 5 ILCS 140/11 of FOIA.

Sincerely,

M. D. Ward
Freedom of Information Act Officer
311 City Services

/Attachments