



COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

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GOVERNOR

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April 30, 2020

Sarah Durand
Director of Government Affairs
Bluegrass Institute for Public Policy Solutions
saraymaydurand@freedomkentucky.com

Re: April 13, 2020 Open Records Request

Dear Ms. Durand,

This letter is in response to your April 13, 2020 open records request received by the Office of the Governor on the same day. In your request, you asked for "an opportunity to inspect or obtain copies of timesheets and hours worked by the entire Kentucky Governor's Mansion staff between the dates of March 1, 2020 to April 10, 2020 including all full-time, part-time, and special event staff excluding state troopers."

We are complying with your request. Our office has located four pages of responsive electronic records. Normally, we transmit electronic records on a thumb drive, which costs \$2.00 *See* KRS 61.874(3). However, to the extent possible, during the COVID-19 pandemic, we are transmitting electronic records by email. The responsive records are attached to this response.

Please note that the responsive records reflect the hours these employees worked, whether that be by telecommunication or in the office. These employees, like all employees in the executive branch of state government, have significantly reduced the hours worked within the office, including the Governor's mansion, to help curb the spread of COVID-19. Employees of the Governor's Mansion follow the same protocols issued by the Governor for all state employees, whereby in-person work services are reduced and employees engage in telework.

We have redacted the personal employee identification numbers of each employee pursuant to KRS 61.878(1)(a). That statute exempts "information of a personal nature where the public disclosure thereof would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy[.]" *Id.* This type of information includes social security numbers, addresses, and telephone numbers, the disclosure of which may leave persons at risk for identity theft. *See Zink v. Commonwealth*, 902 S.W.2d 825 (Ky. App. 1994).

We note that you immediately appealed this office's failure to respond within ten days of receipt of your open records request. As we stated in prior correspondence upon receiving notice of that appeal, the failure was not intentional, but through inadvertently failing to log the request by an employee working at home upon returning to the office. We have taken steps to address this mistake, in order to ensure this Office timely responds to all requests in the future. By providing the requested records to you, the appeal is now moot. We ask that you withdraw it. In the future, if you believe this office has not timely responded to an open records request you have submitted, please contact us and we will immediately address the situation.

Sincerely,

Isl Taylor Payne _____

Taylor Payne

Deputy General Counsel