



Matthew R. Segal, Legal Director
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January 5, 2017

Via U.S. Mail and Email

Sheriff Thomas M. Hodgson
Bristol County Sheriff's Department
400 Faunce Corner Road
North Dartmouth, MA 02747
sheriff@bcso-ma.org

Re: Public Records Request Concerning "Project N.I.C.E."

Dear Sheriff Hodgson:

This is a request for public records under M.G.L. c. 66, § 10, made on behalf of the American Civil Liberties Union Foundation of Massachusetts (ACLUM).

During a speech on January 4, 2017, you reportedly said that, as part of "Project N.I.C.E.," you were making a "formal offer" to have inmates from Bristol County help build President-Elect Donald Trump's proposed wall at the U.S.-Mexico border. You also reportedly said that you could think of "no other project" that would have a more "positive impact on our inmates and our country than building this wall."

In light of these remarks, please provide the following records:

1. All records referencing or relating to "Project N.I.C.E.," including any records concerning the legal authority of the Bristol County Sheriff's Department to engage in this project.
2. All records of communications with any member of the Trump campaign or transition team, or any employee or official of the Department of Homeland Security, concerning "Project N.I.C.E.," including but not limited to any "formal offer" to President-Elect Trump.
3. All records supporting the claim that you can think of no other project, aside from having Massachusetts inmates travel to southern states to build a wall, that would have a more positive impact on the inmates and on our country.

Sheriff Thomas M. Hodgson

Jan. 5, 2017

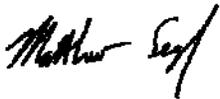
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Beginning January 1, 2017, Records Access Officers must permit inspection or furnish a copy of a requested public record within 10 business days following receipt of a public records request. If your office withholds portions of the requested documents on the grounds that they are exempt from disclosure, please specify which exemptions and release any portions of the records for which you do not claim an exemption.

I ask that you waive any assessed fees pursuant to 950 C.M.R. 32.07(k), which allows Records Access Officers to waive or reduce the amount of any fee upon a showing that (1) disclosure of a requested record is in the public interest; (2) the request for records is not primarily in the commercial interest of the requester; or (3) the requester lacks the financial ability to pay the full amount of the reasonable fee. ACLUM is a nonprofit organization with no commercial interest in the records, and the records are requested to inform a public debate around using Bristol County inmates to build a wall on the U.S.-Mexico border.

Thank you for your assistance. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions about this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Matthew Segal". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Matthew R. Segal