



THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
ONE ASHBURTON PLACE
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02108

MAURA HEALEY
ATTORNEY GENERAL

June 3, 2015

TEL: (617) 727-2200
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Shawn A. Williams
Supervisor of Records
Office of the Secretary of the Commonwealth
One Ashburton Place, Room 1719
Boston, MA 02108

Re: SPR14/551

Dear Supervisor Williams:

On December 5, 2014, you issued an order to the Fall River Police Department (FRPD) concerning its response to Andrew Quemere's public records requests. The primary basis for Mr. Quemere's appeal was that the fee estimate provided by the FRPD was not in keeping with statutory and regulatory guidelines. You ordered the FRPD to revise its fee estimate "to properly reflect the cost for copies of all records, revised in a manner consistent with the Public Records Law and the Regulations [950 C.M.R. 32.06]." Because, as of last month, the FRPD had not yet provided Mr. Quemere with a revised estimate as ordered, you asked the Office of the Attorney General (AGO) to intervene to ensure compliance with your order as to the outstanding fee estimate revision.¹

Shortly after receiving your request, I spoke on May 20, 2015 with Lt. Ronald Furtado of the Office of Professional Standards within the FRPD. Our discussion included an explanation of the public records laws and your regulations regarding allowable fees, as well as the necessity of providing the requester with the revised fee estimate without further delay.

Enclosed please find the revised fee estimate Lt. Furtado sent to Mr. Quemere on May 22, 2015. Please let me know if the AGO can be of further assistance in this matter.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Lorraine A. G. Tarrow".

Lorraine A. G. Tarrow
Assistant Attorney General
General Counsel's Office

enclosure

cc: Lt. Ronald Furtado, Office of Professional Standards, Fall River Police Department

¹ Mr. Quemere also objected to the FRPD's requirement that all public records requests be made in writing, and asked your Office to provide training on the public records laws to the FRPD. You indicated that these issues had already been resolved to your satisfaction.