



July 12, 2018

VIA EMAIL

Office of Emergency Management & Communications
Attn: FOIA Request
1411 West Madison Street
Chicago, Illinois 60607
oemcfoia@cityofchicago.org

Re: Illinois Freedom of Information Act Request Regarding Targeted Violence Prevention Program

To Freedom of Information Officer,

This is a request under the Illinois Freedom of Information Act, 5 ILCS 140/1 *et seq.*, submitted on behalf of Muslim Advocates and the ACLU of Illinois.

Background

Muslim Advocates and the ACLU of Illinois seek records pertaining to Illinois Office of Emergency Management and Communications' ("OEMC") efforts directed at Countering Violent Extremism ("CVE"). In particular, we seek records concerning OEMC's involvement with the Illinois Criminal Justice Authority's ("ICJA's") Targeted Violence Prevention Program ("TVPP") and development of a "Bystander Gatekeeper Training" program based on a "public health" model. The OEMC hosted a presentation on the ICJA's CVE program in March 2018.¹

Records² requested

We request the following records:

¹*Agenda: Countering Violent Extremism (CVE)*, CITY OF CHICAGO OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS, http://www.cityofchicago.org/city/en/depts/oem/provdrs/emerg_mang/news/2018/march/countering-violent-extremism--cve-.html.

² For purposes of this request, "Record" means a record in the broadest sense possible, and includes, without limitation, everything tangible, electronic, or digital containing a datum, number, photograph, picture, word, or any other information, including, but not limited to, communications between phones or other electronic devices, e-mails, digital or physical images, video, audio recordings, voicemail messages, social media posts, instructions, directives, guidance documents, formal and informal presentations, training documents, bulletins, notices, alerts, updates, advisories, reports, legal and policy memoranda, contracts, agreements, minutes or notes of meetings and phone calls, and memoranda of understanding. We seek responsive documents within the time period of January 2013 to the date this request is completed.

1. Procedures, policies, guidelines, or legal memoranda relating to OEMC's collection, use, retention, or dissemination of information gathered in the course of investigations, programs, events, and other activities conducted pursuant to the OEMC's partnership with ICJIA-TVPP or any other CVE effort in Illinois;
2. Records concerning any events, meetings, conferences, briefings, workshops, and/or trainings attended by OEMC personnel relating to ICJIA-TVPP, "Bystander Gatekeeper Training," "Bystander Gatekeeper Education," "Public Health Interventions," or any other CVE effort in Illinois;
3. Records concerning the training for OEMC personnel regarding Islam, Muslims, Muslim culture, or South Asian, Arab, and/or any other Muslim community, including but not limited to training materials, guidelines, or evaluations created or used by OEMC personnel;
4. Records or communications with ICJIA-TVPP regarding "Bystander Gatekeeper Training," "Bystander Gatekeeper Education," "Public Health Interventions," or any other CVE effort in Illinois;
5. Copies of any and all written agreements between OEMC and ICJIA-TVPP;
6. Correspondence or any other communications involving OEMC personnel concerning "Bystander Gatekeeper Training," "Bystander Gatekeeper Education," "Public Health Interventions," or any other CVE effort in Illinois;
7. Correspondence or any other communications involving OEMC personnel with representatives of ICJIA-TVPP;
8. Records or communications involving OEMC personnel concerning the development or implementation of CVE programs in Illinois, including but not limited to the City of Chicago, DuPage County and surrounding areas, and the greater Springfield area;
9. Records or communications involving OEMC personnel concerning CVE training of partner law enforcement officers, investigators, and any other related law enforcement personnel in Illinois, including but not limited to the Illinois State Police, Chicago Police Department, Cook County Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, and Illinois Terrorism Task Force; and
10. Any other records or communications relating to the development and implementation of CVE programs in Illinois, including but not limited to the City of Chicago, DuPage County and surrounding areas, and the greater Springfield area.

Request for waiver of fees

We are prepared to pay reasonable copying costs for reproducing the requested materials, but request that you waive any such fees under the provision of FOIA that authorizes you to

waive copying fees when release of requested information is “in the public interest.” In compliance with section 6(b) of the amended FOIA, we represent to you that the documents are sought to determine information concerning the legal rights of the general public and this request is not for the purpose of personal or commercial benefit. Accordingly, a waiver of fees is in the public interest as defined by section 6(b).

If you deny the request for waiver, please notify us before compiling records for which the copying charge will exceed \$50.00 so that we can discuss narrowing the request to cover only the information we seek.

Response requested in five days

Please notify us of your determination of our request and release all responsive records as soon as possible and no later than five working days from the receipt of this request. 5 ILCS 140/3(d). If more than five working days are required to produce the written records, please provide us with a written statement of the reasons for the extension and the date by which the response will be forthcoming. 5 ILCS 140/3(f). Please provide us with copies of responsive records in a searchable and analyzable electronic format where possible. 5 ILCS 140/6(a).

Should any part of this request be denied, please notify us of the denial and provide a written statement of the reasons for the denial, including a detailed factual basis for the application of any exemption, and the names and titles or positions of each person responsible for the denial. 5 ILCS 140/9(a).

If you have any questions concerning this request, you may contact me at juvaria@muslimadvocates.org or at (202) 897-1896.

Very truly yours,

/s/ Juvaria Khan

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/s/ Kathy Hunt Muse

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