Delta County Prosecutor's Office

Lauren M. Wickman
Prosecuting Attorney
Civil Counsel
Beth Wickwire
Chief Assistant Prosecutor
Deputy Civil Counsel
Lauren Mattson
Assistant Prosecutor

July 17, 2025

[redacted]

Re: FOIA Request #25-137

[redacted]

I acknowledge receipt of your Freedom of Information Act request dated June 27, 2025 received by the Delta County Prosecutor's Office on June 27, 2025 for the following documents:

> Please provide the **average time** from **charge authorization** to **final disposition** for **all criminal cases prosecuted** by the **Delta County Prosecutor's Office** during the calendar year **January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024**.
>
> If available, please include:
>
> - The **overall average** (in days)
> - If possible, a breakdown by **felony vs misdemeanor** classification
>
> A summary table, spreadsheet, or internal report is acceptable.

Your requests are denied as the records do not exist. The undersigned hereby certifies that, after a search for records and to the best of the undersigned's knowledge and belief, the public records requested do not exist within the records of the public body under the name nor any other name reasonably known to the public body.

If you disagree with this decision, you may submit an appeal to the chairperson of the Delta County Board of Commissioners, or seek judicial review in the Delta County Circuit Court. If you prevail in Circuit Court, you may be entitled to receive attorney fees, costs, and disbursements as well as actual or compensatory damages, and punitive damages of $1,000.00.

I have also included the website utilized to find Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Written Policies, Guidelines, and Forms as well as the FOIA Appeal Form.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me.

310 LUDINGTON STREET, SUITE 237 ESCANABA MI 49829
(906)789-5115

Best Regards,

Lauren M. Wickman
Chief Prosecuting Attorney

Emily Desalvo
FOIA Coordinator

Encl.

DELTA COUNTY PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE
310 LUDINGTON STREET, SUITE 237 ESCANABA MI 49829
(906)789-5115

County: Keep original and provide copy of both sides, along with Public Summary, to Requestor at no charge.

Denial Form

Delta County
310 Ludington St., Escanaba, MI 49829
Phone: 906-789-5100

Notice of Denial of FOIA Request

Michigan Freedom of Information Act, Public Act 442 of 1976, MCL 15.231, *et seq.*

Request No.: 25-137 Date Received: 6/27/25 Check if received via: ☐ Email ☒ Fax ☐ Other Electronic Method
Date of This Notice: _____ Date delivered to junk/spam folder: _____
(Please Print or Type) Date discovered in junk/spam folder: _____

Name Joseph Pamotta	Phone 719-313-0395
Firm/Organization	Fax
Street 22 Rotunda Cir	Email pamj03@gmail.com
City Asheville State NC	Zip 28804

Request for: ☒ Copy ☐ Certified copy ☐ Record inspection ☐ Subscription to record issued on regular basis

Delivery Method: ☐ Will pick up ☐ Will make own copies onsite ☐ Mail to address above ☒ Email to address above
☐ Deliver on digital media provided by the County: _____

Record(s) You Requested: *(Listed here or see attached copy of original request)* _____

☒ **All** **OR** ☐ **Part** of your request for records has been denied. Please refer to this form for an explanation. If you have any questions regarding this denial, contact Emily DeSalvo at 906-789-5100

Reason for Denial:

☐ **1. Exempt from Disclosure:** This item is exempt from disclosure under FOIA Section 13, Subsection _____ *(insert number)*, because: _____

☒ **2. Record Does Not Exist:** This item does not exist under the name provided in your request or by another name reasonably known to the County. A certificate that the public record does not exist under the name given is attached. If you believe this record does exist, provide a description that will enable us to locate the record: _____

☐ 3. **Redaction:** A portion of the requested record had to be separated or deleted (redacted) as it is exempt under FOIA Section 13, Subsection _____ *(insert number)*, because: _____

A brief description of the information that had to be separated or deleted: _____

Notice of Requestor's Right to Seek Judicial Review

You are entitled under Section 10 of the Michigan Freedom of Information Act, MCL 15.240, to appeal this denial to the County Board of Commissioners or to commence an action in the Circuit Court to compel disclosure of the requested records if you believe they were wrongfully withheld from disclosure. If, after judicial review, the Court determines that the County has not complied with MCL 15.235 in making this denial and orders disclosure of all or a portion of a public record, you have the right to receive attorneys' fees and damages as provided in MCL 15.240. (*See back of this form for additional information on your rights.*)

Signature of FOIA Coordinator: _____ **Date:** 7-18-2025

(Form created by MTA, MAMA and CS&T, PC, May 2015)

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT (EXCERPT)
Act 442 of 1976

15.240.amended Options by requesting person; appeal; actions by public body; receipt of written appeal; judicial review; civil action; venue; de novo proceeding; burden of proof; private view of public record; contempt; assignment of action or appeal for hearing, trial, or argument; attorneys' fees, costs, and disbursements; assessment of award; damages.

Sec. 10.

(1) If a public body makes a final determination to deny all or a portion of a request, the requesting person may do 1 of the following at his or her option:

(a) Submit to the head of the public body a written appeal that specifically states the word "appeal" and identifies the reason or reasons for reversal of the denial.

(b) Commence a civil action in the circuit court, or if the decision of a state public body is at issue, the court of claims, to compel the public body's disclosure of the public records within 180 days after a public body's final determination to deny a request.

(2) Within 10 business days after receiving a written appeal pursuant to subsection (1)(a), the head of a public body shall do 1 of the following:

(a) Reverse the disclosure denial.

(b) Issue a written notice to the requesting person upholding the disclosure denial.

(c) Reverse the disclosure denial in part and issue a written notice to the requesting person upholding the disclosure denial in part.

(d) Under unusual circumstances, issue a notice extending for not more than 10 business days the period during which the head of the public body shall respond to the written appeal. The head of a public body shall not issue more than 1 notice of extension for a particular written appeal.

(3) A board or commission that is the head of a public body is not considered to have received a written appeal under subsection (2) until the first regularly scheduled meeting of that board or commission following submission of the written appeal under subsection (1)(a). If the head of the public body fails to respond to a written appeal pursuant to subsection (2), or if the head of the public body upholds all or a portion of the disclosure denial that is the subject of the written appeal, the requesting person may seek judicial review of the nondisclosure by commencing a civil action under subsection (1)(b).

(4) In an action commenced under subsection (1)(b), a court that determines a public record is not exempt from disclosure shall order the public body to cease withholding or to produce all or a portion of a public record wrongfully withheld, regardless of the location of the public record. Venue for an action against a local public body is proper in the circuit court for the county in which the public record or an office of the public body is located has venue over the action. The court shall determine the matter de novo and the burden is on the public body to sustain its denial. The court, on its own motion, may view the public record in controversy in private before reaching a decision. Failure to comply with an order of the court may be punished as contempt of court.

(5) An action commenced under this section and an appeal from an action commenced under this section shall be assigned for hearing and trial or for argument at the earliest practicable date and expedited in every way.

(6) If a person asserting the right to inspect, copy, or receive a copy of all or a portion of a public record prevails in an action commenced under this section, the court shall award reasonable attorneys' fees, costs, and disbursements. If the person or public body prevails in part, the court may, in its discretion, award all or an appropriate portion of reasonable attorneys' fees, costs, and disbursements. The award shall be assessed against the public body liable for damages under subsection (7).

(7) If the court determines in an action commenced under this section that the public body has arbitrarily and capriciously violated this act by refusal or delay in disclosing or providing copies of a public record, the court shall order the public body to pay a civil fine of $1,000.00, which shall be deposited into the general fund of the state treasury. The court shall award, in addition to any actual or compensatory damages, punitive damages in the amount of $1,000.00 to the person seeking the right to inspect or receive a copy of a public record. The damages shall not be assessed against an individual, but shall be assessed against the next succeeding public body that is not an individual and that kept or maintained the public record as part of its public function.

History: 1976, Act 442, Eff. Apr. 13, 1977 ;-- Am. 1978, Act 329, Imd. Eff. July 11, 1978 ;-- Am. 1996, Act 553, Eff. Mar. 31, 1997 ;-- Am. 2014, Act 563, Eff. July 1, 2015