

May 29

Hi Dylan,

I got your email but I responded to Ziva's earlier request concerning Shannon Clark this morning. I have cc'd her on this. We keep personnel records confidential which relate to internal personnel investigations (Section 24A7.A.1). I told Ziva I would provide a record of a final disciplinary action in accordance with the Act, but I do not yet have this & have some other pressing items to attend to. I am still working on previous requests.

Meredith L. Baker, OBA No. 30840
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June 2

I have not received the document reflecting the final action but will see if I can get my hands on it shortly.

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June 17

Ziva,

Please see attached.

Talk soon,

Meredith

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June 17

Thank you Meredith.

Please confirm that TCSO is refusing to release records documenting the actual reason for his firing. I believe the law is not limited to this one letter that clearly was written to avoid stating the reason.

Ziva Branstetter
Editor in chief
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June 17

Hi Ziva,

This is the only record showing a final disciplinary action resulting in loss of pay/suspension/demotion/termination and any other personnel records are confidential and will remain so. The TCSO is not required to provide information to the media related to the reasons for a former employee's termination and we will continue our practice of keeping this information private.

We are still working on the comprehensive request & will touch base soon.
Have a good afternoon.

Meredith

June 17

Meredith:

The Open Records Act says "records of ... any final disciplinary action resulting in loss of pay, suspension, demotion of position or termination" shall be made public. It does not say that TCSO only has to provide the notification letter. It says "records of." It is apparently TCSO's intent to evade the legislative intent and spirit of openness that the Open Records Act sets out in this section.

So just to make sure I understand the policy, TCSO will not ever release the reason someone is fired, even if they steal taxpayer money? And these reasons are never put into any record that TCSO considers public just so the public cannot figure out why they were terminated?