Joaquin Sapien

From: Caceres, Carol (ACS) <Carol.Caceres@acs.nyc.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, April 20, 2016 9:29 AM
To: Joaquin Sapien
Subject: RE: another FOIL request: Database Request and HMS Close to Home documents

Hi Joaquin,

Will have something for you by noon.

Thanks,

Carol Cáceres, MPA
Deputy Press Secretary
NYC Administration for Children's Services
Division of Communications & Community Affairs (CCA)
150 William Street, 18th Floor
New York, NY 10038
☎: 212-341-2974, c: 917-903-0448
✉: carol.caceres@acs.nyc.gov
Follow ACS on Twitter
Like us on Facebook

From: Joaquin Sapien [mailto:Joaquin.Sapien@propublica.org]
Sent: Tuesday, April 19, 2016 5:31 PM
To: Caceres, Carol (ACS)
Subject: FW: another FOIL request: Database Request and HMS Close to Home documents

Hey Carol,
Just writing to let you know I've got a deadline now. It's noon tomorrow. Hope to hear from you by then.
Thanks much.
Joaquin

From: Joaquin Sapien
Sent: Tuesday, April 19, 2016 11:46 AM
To: Caceres, Carol (ACS) (Carol.Caceres@acs.nyc.gov)
Subject: FW: another FOIL request: Database Request and HMS Close to Home documents

Hey Carol,
Hope this note finds you well.
So, I am working on a story for this week that will focus on the delays I've encountered in the ACS Freedom of Information Law process.
As you can see in this thread, I've been trying to get responsive documents to a variety of requests on the Close to Home project since June of last year. FOIL Access Officer Janet Stateman has stated that the documents will be delivered on nine separate dates. Aside from the latest promised date, all of them have lapsed. For each date, she has given me the distinct impression that only a few administrative steps remain before she can turn over the records— additional redactions, etc. After each date passes, she gives me the same impression. Time and time again, deadlines pass and no records appear.
When I have asked Janet to explain the delays, she has stated that the request is voluminous, she has many records requests to work on, and she is the only person in ACS who handles FOIL.

I'll certainly include those explanations in the story, but I wanted to reach out for comment from you as well.
I also have a number of background questions:
How many FOIL requests does ACS currently have outstanding?
What is the oldest outstanding request?
What is the budget for the ACS FOIL division?
Is it true that Janet Stateman is the only person handling FOIL requests?
It appears that many of the records I requested may have been turned over to DOI for their report, particularly with regard to the records tied to the Heightened Monitoring Status ACS imposed on several Close to Home facilities. If those records have already been turned over to DOI, why don't I have them?
We intend to publish no later than Thursday, but as soon as tomorrow morning.
Please give me a call or shoot me an email when you have the chance so we can get a conversation going on this.
Thanks very much.
Best,
Joaquin

From: Stateman, Janet S (ACS) [mailto:Janet.Stateman@acs.nyc.gov]
Sent: Monday, April 18, 2016 7:18 PM
To: Joaquin Sapien
Subject: RE: another FOIL request: Database Request and HMS Close to Home documents

Good Evening Joaquin,

Due to the review of the documents that I have accessed responsive to your HMS request and redacted pursuant to Public Officers Law taking longer than I anticipated, I have been unable to produce the records on March 29th. I anticipate this review and any subsequent actions I need to take to finalize the production of the documents to take three additional weeks. I should be able to overnight mail the HMS records on Monday, May 9, 2016.

Janet

Janet S. Stateman, Esq.
FOIL/Records Access Officer
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From: Joaquin Sapien [mailto:Joaquin.Sapien@propublica.org]
Sent: Monday, April 18, 2016 1:31 PM
To: Stateman, Janet S (ACS)
Subject: FW: another FOIL request: Database Request and HMS Close to Home documents

Janet,
Update me please. You said on March 29th you'd be getting me my records very soon, which, of course, you have been saying for nearly a year.

Let me know what's happening. Today, please.
Thanks.
Joaquin

From: Joaquin Sapien
Sent: Friday, April 08, 2016 4:41 PM
To: 'Stateman, Janet S (ACS)'
Subject: RE: another FOIL request: Database Request and HMS Close to Home documents

Janet,

On Tuesday, March 29, you said:

"I will write again today to let you know what day I will overnight mail the hard copy HMS documents and flash drive with the GOALS information. I will send both to the ProPublica Office address you previously provided."

That was ten days ago. We have had several email exchanges since.

Why did you say on the 29th that you would let me know what day you'd overnight mail the records if you still cannot say today, ten days later, what day you will send me the records?

I'm baffled and frustrated. You have been sending me messages like these for nearly a year, saying every couple of weeks that you will send me the records a couple of weeks later, only to repeat the same promise over and over again.

Please explain.

Best,

Joaquin

From: Stateman, Janet S (ACS) [mailto:Janet.Stateman@acs.nyc.gov]
Sent: Friday, April 08, 2016 4:06 PM
To: Joaquin Sapien
Subject: RE: another FOIL request: Database Request and HMS Close to Home documents

Hi Joaquin,

I am hoping to get the HMS records to you at the end of next week. I am still finishing the GOALs database redactions .

Janet

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From: Joaquin Sapien [mailto:Joaquin.Sapien@propublica.org]
Sent: Tuesday, April 05, 2016 11:33 AM
To: Stateman, Janet S (ACS)
Subject: FW: another FOIL request: Database Request and HMS Close to Home documents

Janet,
I'm trying to stay on top of this very closely now. When can I expect these records?
Joaquin

From: Joaquin Sapien
Sent: Monday, April 04, 2016 12:50 PM
To: 'Stateman, Janet S (ACS)'
Subject: RE: another FOIL request: Database Request and HMS Close to Home documents

Right. You said you would have a date last Tuesday. It's now Monday. Will I have the records this week?
Joaquin

From: Stateman, Janet S (ACS) [mailto:Janet.Stateman@acs.nyc.gov]
Sent: Monday, April 04, 2016 12:49 PM
To: Joaquin Sapien
Subject: RE: another FOIL request: Database Request and HMS Close to Home documents

Good Afternoon Joaquin,

I have not written back yet as I am trying to get a date which I know I can mail the records.

Janet

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From: Joaquin Sapien [mailto:Joaquin.Sapien@propublica.org]
Sent: Wednesday, March 30, 2016 2:08 PM
To: Stateman, Janet S (ACS)
Subject: RE: another FOIL request: Database Request and HMS Close to Home documents

Janet,
Did I miss something yesterday?

You said in your last note that you'd let me know what day you would overnight the hard copy of the HMS documents and the flash drive, but I still don't know what day that's happening yet.
Thanks.
Joaquin

From: Stateman, Janet S (ACS) [mailto:Janet.Stateman@acs.nyc.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, March 29, 2016 11:54 AM
To: Joaquin Sapien
Subject: RE: another FOIL request: Database Request and HMS Close to Home documents

Good Morning Joaquin,

The HMS FOIL response is over 200 pages and is still being reviewed. I was hoping it would be done to send to you today. As I mentioned regarding the Goals database FOIL, I am still redacting as it contains a lot of confidential information and translates to a lot of pages of excel charts and pdf documents. I will write again today to let you know what day I will overnight mail the hard copy HMS documents and flash drive with the GOALS information. I will send both to the ProPublica Office address you previously provided.

Janet

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From: Joaquin Sapien [mailto:Joaquin.Sapien@propublica.org]
Sent: Tuesday, March 29, 2016 10:51 AM
To: Stateman, Janet S (ACS)
Subject: RE: another FOIL request: Database Request and HMS Close to Home documents

Hi Janet,
I assume this is ready today? Should I swing by and pick it up?
Thanks.
Joaquin

From: Stateman, Janet S (ACS) [mailto:Janet.Stateman@acs.nyc.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, March 22, 2016 11:28 AM
To: Joaquin Sapien
Subject: RE: another FOIL request: Database Request and HMS Close to Home documents

Good Morning Joaquin,

The HMS FOIL response is under review and will be ready on March 29, 2016. I am still redacting the GOALS database data responsive to that FOIL and hopefully that review will be done in time for March 29, 2016.

Janet

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From: Joaquin Sapien [mailto:Joaquin.Sapien@propublica.org]
Sent: Monday, March 21, 2016 3:01 PM
To: Stateman, Janet S (ACS)
Subject: RE: another FOIL request: Database Request and HMS Close to Home documents

Janet,
Will I be receiving the records I requested tomorrow? Should I come and pick them up directly from you?
Thanks.
Best,
Joaquin

From: Joaquin Sapien
Sent: Tuesday, March 15, 2016 2:31 PM
To: 'Stateman, Janet S (ACS)'
Subject: RE: another FOIL request: Database Request and HMS Close to Home documents

Looking forward to getting my documents in a week. March 22nd, was the last promised date. I can come and pick them up in person if need be.
Thanks.
Joaquin

From: Stateman, Janet S (ACS) [mailto:Janet.Stateman@acs.nyc.gov]
Sent: Monday, March 07, 2016 11:48 AM
To: Joaquin Sapien
Subject: RE: another FOIL request: Database Request and HMS Close to Home documents

Because I have to copy and double check redactions.

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From: Joaquin Sapien [mailto:Joaquin.Sapien@propublica.org]
Sent: Monday, March 07, 2016 11:39 AM
To: Stateman, Janet S (ACS)
Subject: RE: another FOIL request: Database Request and HMS Close to Home documents

Right. You said that you have them all done except for one facility. So why don't I just get those today and you can give me the last one when you finish it. Thanks.

From: Stateman, Janet S (ACS) [mailto:Janet.Stateman@acs.nyc.gov]
Sent: Monday, March 07, 2016 11:39 AM
To: Joaquin Sapien
Subject: RE: another FOIL request: Database Request and HMS Close to Home documents

Hi Joaquin,

I can't get you the HMS today but I will try and get those to you before the GOALS database.

Janet

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From: Joaquin Sapien [mailto:Joaquin.Sapien@propublica.org]
Sent: Monday, March 07, 2016 11:22 AM
To: Stateman, Janet S (ACS)
Subject: RE: another FOIL request: Database Request and HMS Close to Home documents

If you only have one more facility for the HMS documents, I'll take what you have now. Can even pick them up from you today if possible. I'll be in your area around 3:00pm. Does that work for you? Thanks.

Joaquin

From: Stateman, Janet S (ACS) [mailto:Janet.Stateman@acs.nyc.gov]
Sent: Friday, March 04, 2016 3:17 PM
To: Joaquin Sapien
Subject: RE: another FOIL request: Database Request and HMS Close to Home documents

Good Afternoon Joaquin,

The amount of redactions on the GOALS database is extensive and time consuming in addition to the extensive redaction for the HMS documents. I only have one more facility for HMS documents but I have quite a bit left for the GOALS database. I am prioritizing finishing your last two FOIL requests and believe that they should be done by March 22, 2015.

Janet

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From: Joaquin Sapien [mailto:Joaquin.Sapien@propublica.org]
Sent: Friday, March 04, 2016 12:23 PM
To: Stateman, Janet S (ACS)
Subject: FW: another FOIL request: Database Request and HMS Close to Home documents

Janet,
Just want to be sure you got this yesterday. Thanks.
Joaquin

From: Joaquin Sapien
Sent: Thursday, March 03, 2016 2:06 PM
To: 'Stateman, Janet S (ACS)'
Subject: RE: another FOIL request: Database Request and HMS Close to Home documents

Janet,
You said in your last email that you'd mail me the data responsive to my requests on February 24th. It's now March 3rd.
Please advise.
Thank you.
Joaquin

From: Stateman, Janet S (ACS) [mailto:Janet.Stateman@acs.nyc.gov]
Sent: Friday, February 12, 2016 1:08 PM

To: Joaquin Sapien
Subject: RE: another FOIL request: Database Request and HMS Close to Home documents

Hi Joaquin,

I had to stop working on your FOIL to complete a FOIL older than your two outstanding FOILs. I am in the process of preparing the GOALS database information onto a flash drive. The HMS FOIL and the Goals Database FOIL should both be ready and mailed to you on February 24, 2016.

Janet

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From: Joaquin Sapien [mailto:Joaquin.Sapien@propublica.org]
Sent: Thursday, February 11, 2016 4:02 PM
To: Stateman, Janet S (ACS)
Subject: RE: another FOIL request: Database Request and HMS Close to Home documents

Janet,
Looking forward to receiving these records tomorrow. Thanks.
Joaquin

From: Stateman, Janet S (ACS) [mailto:Janet.Stateman@acs.nyc.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, January 26, 2016 6:08 PM
To: Joaquin Sapien
Subject: [spam?] RE: another FOIL request: Database Request and HMS Close to Home documents
Importance: Low

Hi Joaquin,

I plan on completing both and have them to you by February 12, 2016. I want to finish them as much as you want to receive them. If I run into an obstacle, I will correspond with you before the end of the day on February 12th.

Janet

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NEW EMAIL: Janet.Stateman@acs.nyc.gov

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From: Joaquin Sapien [mailto:Joaquin.Sapien@propublica.org]
Sent: Monday, January 25, 2016 12:20 PM
To: Stateman, Janet S (ACS)
Subject: RE: another FOIL request: Database Request and HMS Close to Home documents

Janet,
Last you wrote you said I'd be receiving some records January 8th. It's the 25th. Originally I was supposed to receive something in July 2014. Please give me an update as soon as you can.
Thanks.
Joaquin

From: Stateman, Janet S (ACS) [mailto:Janet.Stateman@acs.nyc.gov]
Sent: Thursday, December 17, 2015 3:00 PM
To: Joaquin Sapien
Subject: RE: another FOIL request: Database Request and HMS Close to Home documents

You should have both by January 8, 2016.

Janet S. Stateman, Esq.
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From: Joaquin Sapien [mailto:Joaquin.Sapien@propublica.org]
Sent: Thursday, December 17, 2015 2:53 PM
To: Stateman, Janet S (ACS)
Subject: RE: another FOIL request: Database Request and HMS Close to Home documents

What about these? The Heightened Monitoring Status Reports. You said in October they'd be done in a week. Do I have them yet?

From: Stateman, Janet S (ACS)
Sent: Monday, October 26, 2015 2:21 PM

I am redacting the documents for your HMS request and hope to have it all done by the end of this week.

From: Stateman, Janet S (ACS) [mailto:Janet.Stateman@acs.nyc.gov]
Sent: Thursday, December 17, 2015 2:48 PM
To: Joaquin Sapien
Subject: RE: another FOIL request: Database Request and HMS Close to Home documents

I am the only person doing all of the foils

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From: Joaquin Sapien [mailto:Joaquin.Sapien@propublica.org]
Sent: Thursday, December 17, 2015 2:47 PM
To: Stateman, Janet S (ACS)
Subject: RE: another FOIL request: Database Request and HMS Close to Home documents

With all due respect, Janet, this is three months later than the date you last promised. Which was made a month past the previous delivery date. What is the hold-up?

From: Stateman, Janet S (ACS) [mailto:Janet.Stateman@acs.nyc.gov]
Sent: Thursday, December 17, 2015 10:45 AM
To: Joaquin Sapien
Subject: RE: another FOIL request: Database Request and HMS Close to Home documents

Good Morning Joaquin,

I have not forgotten about your two outstanding FOIL requests. They should both be ready for you shortly after the New Year on January 8, 2016.

Janet

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From: Stateman, Janet S (ACS)
Sent: Monday, October 26, 2015 2:21 PM
To: 'Joaquin Sapien'
Subject: RE: another FOIL request: Database Request

Hi Joaquin,

I am redacting the documents for your HMS request and hope to have it all done by the end of this week. I am dependent on IT to help me on the database and I am diligently working on getting answers so I can produce something readable. I don't think the database will be done this week but I am hoping to have it done by November 6th if not before then.

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From: Joaquin Sapien [mailto:Joaquin.Sapien@propublica.org]
Sent: Monday, October 19, 2015 10:51 AM
To: Stateman, Janet S (ACS)
Subject: RE: another FOIL request: Database Request

Hi Janet,
Thanks for the update. Where do things stand this week? Also, what about the documents I requested tied to heightened monitoring status?
Please update me when you can.
Best,
Joaquin

From: Stateman, Janet S (ACS) [mailto:Janet.Stateman@acs.nyc.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, October 14, 2015 1:30 PM
To: Joaquin Sapien
Subject: RE: another FOIL request: Database Request

Hi Joaquin,

Unfortunately, I cannot produce anything yet as what I have is coded (has a lot of formulas) and is not something that is understandable or can even be redacted and produced. The IT person who is in charge of this data was out last week

and I am waiting to speak to her about how to interpret the data and produce data that can be readable. When I spoke to her in the past about obtaining a copy of the database, she explained the database is a back end data base and not a front end data base which means you cannot just copy information. I cannot really explain it any better as I am still confused about it so I apologize that what I am saying may not make sense to you. I will need to redact information once I am able to interpret what I am seeing as there are children's names in the portions that are not in formula.

Janet

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From: Joaquin Sapien [mailto:Joaquin.Sapien@propublica.org]
Sent: Wednesday, October 14, 2015 12:50 PM
To: Stateman, Janet S (ACS)
Subject: RE: another FOIL request: Database Request

Hi Janet,

Will I be receiving something today? Thank you.

Joaquin

From: Stateman, Janet S (ACS) [mailto:Janet.Stateman@acs.nyc.gov]
Sent: Friday, October 09, 2015 7:22 PM
To: Joaquin Sapien
Subject: RE: another FOIL request: Database Request

Hi Joaquin,

I hope to be on target with the database request. I am also working on you request for the CTH NSP Heightened Monitoring documents which is requiring redaction of many documents which is very time consuming. I am hoping to have your CTH NSP HMS FOIL done next week and the database request.

Janet

Janet S. Stateman, Esq.
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(212) 341-0931
NEW EMAIL: Janet.Stateman@acs.nyc.gov

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From: Joaquin Sapien [mailto:Joaquin.Sapien@propublica.org]
Sent: Tuesday, October 06, 2015 4:30 PM
To: Stateman, Janet S (ACS)
Subject: RE: another FOIL request: Database Request

Janet,

Are we on schedule for October 14th. Please let me know as soon as you can. Thanks so much.

Joaquin

From: Joaquin Sapien
Sent: Thursday, September 17, 2015 1:17 PM
To: Stateman, Janet S (ACS)
Subject: RE: another FOIL request: Database Request

Janet,
Can you update me on this please? October 14, 2015 seems a little excessive given that the request was originally made on July 27th. I'll be asking about a few other requests in a minute. Thanks very much.
Best,
Joaquin

From: Stateman, Janet S (ACS) [mailto:Janet.Stateman@acs.nyc.gov]
Sent: Friday, August 28, 2015 5:27 PM
To: Joaquin Sapien
Subject: RE: another FOIL request: Database Request

Hi Joaquin,

From speaking with the IT department in my agency, I learned that the database ACS uses for the underlying numbers you and the New School cited cannot be copied on a disc. It is not so simple. So the review of the data from this database is taking longer than I anticipated. For this FOIL, I will need approximately 6 more weeks as data has to be extracted and then analyzed. You can expect a response on October 14, 2015. I will provide you data on a rolling basis as it is taking so long.

Thank you.

Janet

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From: Stateman, Janet S (ACS)
Sent: Monday, July 27, 2015 5:06 PM
To: 'Joaquin Sapien (Joaquin.Sapien@propublica.org)'
Subject: RE: another FOIL request: Database Request

Good Evening Joaquin,

I am writing in response to your Freedom of Information Law ("FOIL") request dated June 16, 2015 regarding ACS' database for Close to Home facilities. I had intended to respond by on or about July 16, 2015 but the response is taking longer than I anticipated.

Public Officers Law §89(3)(a) states that where a determination cannot be made within twenty days, the agency may provide a date certain within a reasonable period, depending on the circumstances, by which a determination will be made. According to FOIL, circumstances for determining a reasonable period include available staffing and complexity of pending FOIL requests. Given the scope of your request and the efforts needed to locate and review the requested records, ACS will need additional time to respond. ACS will respond on or about August 28, 2015.

Thank you,

Janet

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From: Stateman, Janet S (ACS)
Sent: Wednesday, June 24, 2015 3:04 PM
To: Joaquin Sapien (Joaquin.Sapien@propublica.org)
Subject: RE: another FOIL request: Database Request

Hi Joaquin,

As FOIL/Records Access Officer for the Administration for Children's Services (ACS), I hereby acknowledge receipt of your FOIL request, dated June 16, 2015. Please be advised that I am in the process of investigating your request. Based on the breadth of information involved in the request, I will require more than twenty (20) business days to respond and you may expect to receive a response on or about July 16, 2015.

Thank you,

Janet

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From: Joaquin Sapien [mailto:Joaquin.Sapien@propublica.org]
Sent: Tuesday, June 16, 2015 6:46 PM
To: Stateman, Janet S (ACS)
Subject: another FOIL request

Hi Janet,

I've attached another FOIL request here. I'd like a back-up of the database ACS uses to record arrests, AWOLS, and other incidents. I understand that the agency maintains one to get exact numbers that we've reported. As always, please call if you have any questions on this or ideas to expedite a response.

Best,

Joaquin

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