

**BRENNAN
CENTER
FOR JUSTICE**

Brennan Center for Justice
at New York University School of Law

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December 23, 2014

Via Certified Mail and E-Mail

Casey Carl
Office of the City Clerk
350 South 5th Street - Room 304
Minneapolis, MN 55415-1382

Re: Minnesota Government Data Practices Act

Dear Mr. Carl,

This is a request under the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act (“GDPA”), Minn. Stat. §13 (2011), *et seq.*, on behalf of the Brennan Center for Justice at NYU School of Law.

The Brennan Center seeks copies of fully executed Grant Contracts and supporting documentation related to the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program, administered by the federal Office of Justice Programs (OJP), for Fiscal Year (FY) 2014. The City of Minnesota has been the direct recipient of funds from the JAG program, and has also received funds as a sub-grantee through other jurisdictions.

Formal Request

According to the Minnesota OJP Grant Manual,¹ all grantors and sub-grantees are required to receive and maintain the following forms of supporting documentation for each sub-grant.

- A fully-executed Grant Contract.

¹ Minn. Dept. of Public Safety, Office of Justice Programs, Grant Manual, Mar. 2008, available at https://dps.mn.gov/divisions/ojp/grants/Documents/Grant_Manual.pdf.

- The final work plan or program narrative submitted as part of grant application.
- A copy of the final approved line item budget.
- Budget revision requests, if any, since grant implementation.

The Brennan Center accordingly requests the following documents.

1. Fully executed grant contracts between the City of Minneapolis and sub-grantees for federal funding from the JAG Program for FY 2014 (CFDA No. 16.738), in grants where the City of Minnesota is the primary recipient, as listed below. The Brennan Center also requests any supporting documentation, as described above, as well as any communications between Minneapolis and sub-grantees regarding modifications to the sub-grantee's FY 2014 application.
 - a. The City of Minneapolis applied for federal funding through the JAG Program for FY 2014.² OJP approved the application and awarded \$100,000 under award number 2014-AJ-BX-0003.

2. Fully executed grant contracts for federal funding from the JAG Program for FY 2014 (CFDA No. 16.738) where Minnesota is designated as a "sub-grantee", as listed below. The Brennan Center also requests any supporting documentation, as described above, as well as any communications between Minnesota and Minneapolis regarding modifications to the city's FY 2014 application.
 - a. The City of Minneapolis accepted funding and was designated as a "sub-grantee" for a \$275,540 grant from the 2014 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Grant awarded to Hennepin County.³
 - b. The Minnesota Department of Public Safety applied for federal funding through the JAG Program for FY 2014.⁴ OJP approved the application and awarded \$2,860,098 under award number 2014-DJ-BX-1150.

Response Requested

Consistent with the GDPA, we ask that you acknowledge this request promptly.⁵ Please provide the date, within a reasonable time, when the information will be available. To the extent that

² BUREAU OF JUSTICE ASSISTANCE, MINNEAPOLIS FY 14 BYRNE CRIMINAL JUSTICE INNOVATION PROGRAM: PLANNING (2014), available at <http://grants.ojp.usdoj.gov:85/SelectorServer/awards/pdf/award/2014-AJ-BX-0003/2014-H2311-MN-BJ/2014>.

³ City of Minneapolis, Request for City Council Action from the Department of Police (2014) available at <http://www.minneapolismn.gov/www/groups/public/@clerk/documents/webcontent/wcms1p-125304.pdf>

⁴ BUREAU OF JUSTICE ASSISTANCE, 2014 MINNESOTA JAG STATE FORMULA GRANT (2014), available at <http://grants.ojp.usdoj.gov:85/SelectorServer/awards/pdf/award/2014-DJ-BX-1150/2014-H2854-MN-DJ/2014>.

⁵ Minn. Stat. § 13.03

your office chooses to withhold any information based on one or more of the exceptions under the GDPR, please provide notice, and a copy of the decision to the Brennan Center within a reasonable time.⁶

Should a part of any document contain information that is exempt from disclosure, please segregate and provide the non-exempt portion of the document. We also request that you provide us with the documents in electronic format, where possible. Should you have any questions regarding this request, please contact me at your earliest convenience via e-mail at meghan.koushik@nyu.edu or by phone at (646) 292-8382.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Meghan Koushik", written over a horizontal line.

Meghan Koushik
Research Associate, Liberty and National Security
Brennan Center for Justice at NYU Law
(646) 292-8382

⁶ Minn. Stat. § 13.03