

**From:** Larry Samuels [larry@predpol.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 22, 2016 4:13 PM  
**To:** BELLO, FRANK  
**CC:** CASTRO, CLAUDIA  
**Subject:** Re: Predictive Test - PredPol's request for a conversation

Asst. Commissioner Bello,

With respect, my issue is not about modified terms. The issue is simply an aspect of the test parameters that will not lend itself to the most effective analysis of predictive accuracy. Once your team understands the point that we are attempting to raise, we believe that they will see the basis for our question. The problem lies in the fact that the test parameter in question is a basic one, but in raising the point to the collected set of vendors we are revealing an intellectual property issue asset of PredPol before our patent is granted. As the pioneer in predictive policing, PredPol has participated in predictive tests with the London Met, with LAPD, and as you know, with NYPD. Having had this level of experience we are very familiar with what the most effective test parameters are for predictive analysis and we are simply trying to make sure that this test is a true measurement of predictive accuracy.

I appreciate the efforts to be even handed in terms of vendor conversations. I was in public sector purchasing once, and I understand well the issues of keeping a level playing ground and appropriate levels of disclosure. I assure you that this issue does not violate that premise and is truly an issue of improving tNYPD's analysis of predictive accuracy for all vendors.

Respectfully,

Larry Samuels

On Mon, Mar 21, 2016 at 6:07 AM, BELLO, FRANK <[FRANK.BELLO@nypd.org](mailto:FRANK.BELLO@nypd.org)> wrote:

Mr. Samuels

As you may know, we are evaluating several possible predictive solutions with other vendors as well as Predpol. All of the vendors will be evaluated equally haven been given the same date, parameters, etc.

For this reason, we cannot discuss special arrangements or modified terms with your company at this time. If Predpol is selected after the NYPD evaluates outcomes, we can discuss the issues you describe in your email.

Thanks, Frank Bello

**Frank Bello**

NYPD-Contract Administration  
Assistant Commissioner  
(646) 610-5220 Work  
(646) 879-4956 Mobile  
frank.bello@nypd.org  
90 Church Street  
Room 1206  
New York, NY 10007  
USA

**From:** Larry Samuels [mailto:[larry@predpol.com](mailto:larry@predpol.com)]  
**Sent:** Friday, March 18, 2016 9:53 AM  
**To:** CASTRO, CLAUDIA  
**Cc:** BELLO, FRANK  
**Subject:** Predictive Test - PredPol's request for a conversation

Claudia,

PredPol is committed to delivering the best results for NYPD, both in terms of our solution and in terms of the efficacy of the current Predictive Policing test. Because of this, we would like to have a phone call with someone from the ACCO's office and someone on the project team (perhaps the project manager?) to discuss an issue with the existing test parameters.

This issue involves clarifying test parameters, as we believe that the current test will not yield correct predictive accuracy results. The adjustment to test parameters would be mild, more of a clarification in some sense, but the results will be to yield far better test analysis for NYPD and better measurement of predictive accuracy by those tasked with determining what the best solution is for NYPD.

I am requesting a phone call because discussing this test issue will necessarily involve an exchange of PredPol proprietary information that is currently under review by the US Patent Office. While we are comfortable divulging this information to NYPD, we are not comfortable with divulging said info to our competitors.

Please let me know how we might facilitate such a conversation.

Best regards,

Larry Samuels

CEO, PredPol

--

[Larry Samuels](#)

CEO, PredPol

2801 Mission St., Santa Cruz, CA 95060 USA

[1.831.331.4550](tel:1.831.331.4550)

--

Larry Samuels

CEO, PredPol

2801 Mission St., Santa Cruz, CA 95060 USA

1.831.331.4550

**From:** Larry Samuels [larry@predpol.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 23, 2016 1:46 PM  
**To:** BELLO, FRANK  
**CC:** CASTRO, CLAUDIA  
**Subject:** Re: Predictive Test - PredPol's request for a conversation  
**Attachment(s):** "NYPD-GridPrediction-3-3-16.pdf"

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Thank you for your assurances. I am sending you a confidential document that outlines the problem with using the test parameter in question. Stated simply, the issue is whether NYPD wants to predict crimes within a given area (e.g. precinct) or on a preexisting grid. Since the issue is predicting crime events for a city, we would guess the former approach (predicting crime within an area) is preferred, particularly since using a preexisting grid introduces the problem illustrated in the document.

The focus of this test by NYPD is analyzing/comparing the ability of given vendors to predict crime for NYPD using a common set of metrics. In addition to introducing the problem illustrated in the attached document, since all participants must provide predictions for the same areas and use the same number of 300'x300' predictive boxes for the same crime typologies within the same periods of time, the demand that all participants use the same grid seems unnecessary.

Once you see the issue illustrated, the problems with using a preexisting grid seem obvious. Despite specializing in this space and having the talents of some of the best academicians in California, it took us years to see it ourselves, so it's no surprise that NYPD's initial parameters didn't reflect an awareness of the problem such an approach introduces. This having been said, raising the issue within the open dialogue about the parameters of the test could potentially alert our competitors to what we discovered after years of work and imperil our application for intellectual property protection.

In summary, what we are suggesting is that NYPD's test not require vendors to predict crimes using a preexisting grid. There are sufficient test parameters to provide comparisons (same precincts, same predictive box size, same crime types, same time periods) and the parameter of a preexisting grid is the only one that actually introduces problems with predictive accuracy.

I am available to discuss this at your convenience should you have additional questions or concerns and I deeply appreciate your assurances of treating our concerns confidentially.

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Larry

On Wed, Mar 23, 2016 at 5:38 AM, BELLO, FRANK <[FRANK.BELLO@nypd.org](mailto:FRANK.BELLO@nypd.org)> wrote:

Mr. Samuels, as I am sure you are aware, how your company approaches this demonstration is not something we are dictating. We welcome your plan to use new technology for the demonstration. I recommend that you should indicate to us what you would need for this information to remain confidential during our process based on your intellectual property concerns. Also, based on legal considerations, given that this is an open competitive solicitation, we will do our best to keep your information confidential.

**Frank Bello**

NYPD-Contract Administration  
Assistant Commissioner  
(646) 610-5220 Work  
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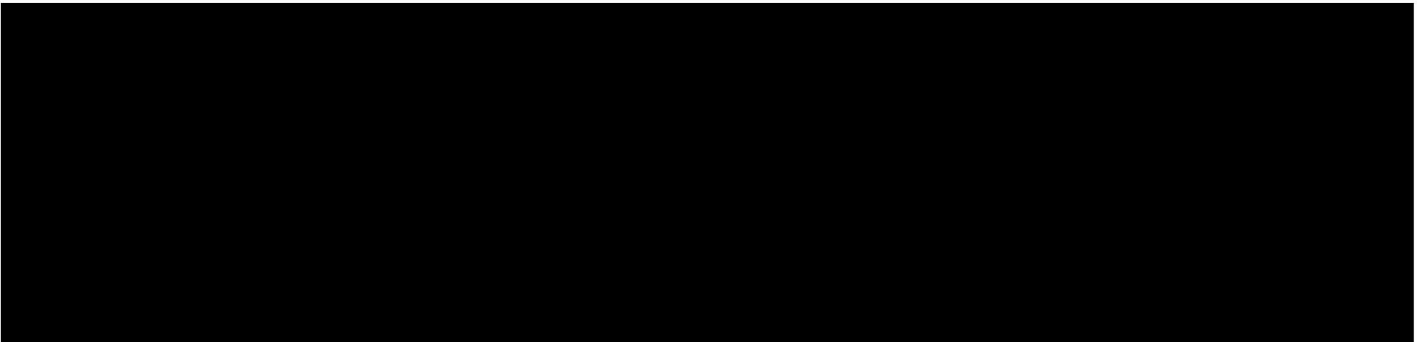
2801 Mission St., Santa Cruz, CA 95060 USA

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**From:** Larry Samuels [larry@predpol.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, March 18, 2016 8:53 AM  
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**CC:** BELLO, FRANK  
**Subject:** Predictive Test - PredPol's request for a conversation

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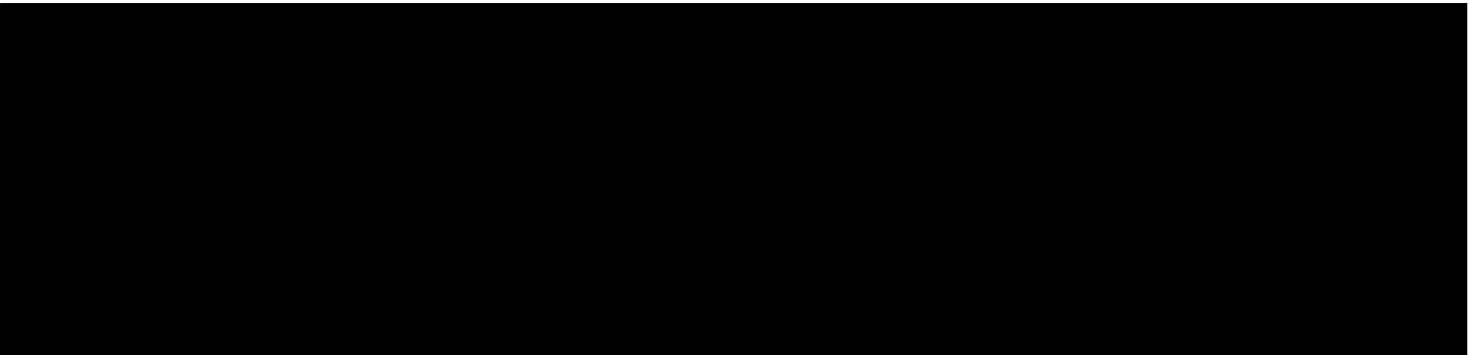
Larry Samuels  
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**From:**  
**To:** BELLO, FRANK  
**Subject:** FW: Predictive Test - PredPol's request for a conversation  
**Attachment(s):** "Clarifications to Implementation IV.docx"

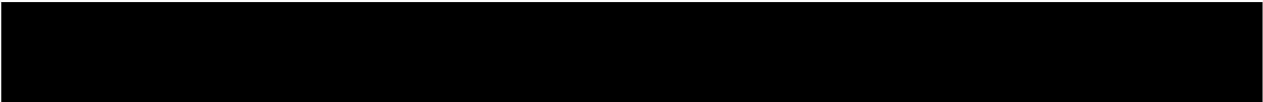


Claudia

Claudia Castro, Adm. P.A.  
NYPD Contract Administration Unit  
90 Church Street, Suite 1206  
New York, NY 10007  
Phone# 646-610-4786  
Fax #646-610-5224

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**From:** WILLIAMSON, DOUGLAS  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 24, 2016 12:31 PM  
**To:** CASTRO, CLAUDIA  
**Subject:** RE: Predictive Test - PredPol's request for a conversation



Doug

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**From:** CASTRO, CLAUDIA  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 24, 2016 12:26 PM  
**To:** WILLIAMSON, DOUGLAS  
**Subject:** FW: Predictive Test - PredPol's request for a conversation



Claudia Castro, Adm. P.A.  
NYPD Contract Administration Unit  
90 Church Street, Suite 1206  
New York, NY 10007  
Phone# 646-610-4786  
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**Sent:** Wednesday, March 23, 2016 2:47 PM  
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Santa Cruz, CA 95060  
Santa Cruz, CA 95062

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F: 831.331.4551  
[www.predpol.com](http://www.predpol.com)

New York City Police Department  
Police Commissioner's Office  
1 Police Plaza  
New York, NY 10038

March 3, 2016

Evaluation of predictive accuracy is essential to projecting the impact of predictive policing in the field. The present plan for accuracy testing developed by NYPD requires PredPol follow a fixed grid of spatial units defined by NYPD. Use of a fixed grid does not reflect current practice by PredPol and introduces significant analytical problems that NYPD should be made aware of. The enclosed information is confidential, as PredPol has applied for intellectual property (U.S. patent) protection on the concept.

