



**OHIO DEPARTMENT
OF PUBLIC SAFETY**
SAFETY • SERVICE • PROTECTION

- Bureau of Motor Vehicles
- Emergency Management Agency
- Emergency Medical Services
- Office of Criminal Justice Services
- Ohio Homeland Security
- Ohio State Highway Patrol



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John Born, Director

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March 17, 2017

Ms. Catherine Becker
4275 White Spruce Lane
Grove City, Ohio 43123
Becker.271@osu.edu

Dear Ms. Becker,

On February 3, 2017, you submitted a public records request to the Ohio Department of Public Safety (DPS). Specifically, you requested, "...public records that pertain to the deployment of 37 state troopers under the Emergency Management Assistance Compact to assist with security regarding protests against the Dakota Access Pipeline near the Standing Rock Sioux Reservation in North Dakota from on or approximately October 29, 2016 to on or approximately November 15, 2015."

The request, as stated, is overly broad and therefore denied. Ohio law provides that a requester has a duty to identify the records sought with sufficient clarity. *State ex rel. Dillery v. Icsman* (2001), 92 Ohio St.3d 312, 314. In your request, you have asked for any and all records pertaining to a particular subject matter. Please note that your request fails to satisfy the requirements of Ohio public records law that a request must be specific and particularly describe what is being sought from the public office. *State ex rel. Zauderer v. Joseph* (1989), 62 Ohio App.3d 752, at 756. A governmental office has no duty to "seek out and retrieve those records which would contain the information of interest to the requester." *State ex rel. Fant v. Tober* 1993 WL 173743 (Ohio App. 8 Dist.). That is, a public office is under no obligation to search for records containing selected information. *State ex rel. Thomas v. Ohio State University* (1994), 71 Ohio St. 3d 245. Therefore, to the extent that you have requested that this office initiate searches for various types of records containing specific information, rather than identifying the specific records you seek, your request is inappropriate under applicable legal standards. Please contact me should you be willing to provide more specific information regarding your request.

Please feel free to contact me should you have any questions or wish to narrow your overly broad request.

Sincerely,

P.R. Casey IV
Associate Legal Counsel
Public Records Manager

Mission Statement

"to save lives, reduce injuries and economic loss, to administer Ohio's motor vehicle laws and to preserve the safety and well being of all citizens with the most cost-effective and service-oriented methods available."

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