

May 19, 2015

Mike Katz-Lacabe 46 Eastbrook Street San Leandro, CA 94577

Re: Public

Public Records Request

Dear Mr. Katz-Lacabe:

You have requested documents in the possession, custody or control of the Boston Police Department under the Massachusetts Public Records Request Act (M.G.L. c. 66 §10). Specifically, you requested information relating to the Harris Corporation and Boeing.

As previously stated, the information you have requested is exempt from disclosure by MGL c. 4 s. 7(26)(f). Disclosure of the information contained in these documents would not be in the public interest and would prejudice the possibility of effective law enforcement. The protection of such investigatory materials and reports is essential to ensure that the Department can continue to effectively monitor and control criminal activity and thus protect the safety of private citizens.

More specifically, disclosing the existence of and capabilities provided by the type of equipment/technology referenced in your request would reveal sensitive technological capabilities possessed by the Department, and other members of the law enforcement community, and may allow individuals who are the subject of investigation wherein this equipment/technology is used to employ countermeasures to avoid detection by law enforcement. This would not only potentially endanger the lives and physical safety of law enforcement officers and other individuals, but also adversely impact criminal investigations. Additionally, the information contained within the requested documents could be used to construct a map or directory of jurisdictions that possess the investigative capabilities, thereby providing further information for potential suspects that could be used to evade detection.

Through public disclosures, the use of this technology will be rendered essentially useless for future investigations. In order to ensure that such equipment/technology, and any information related to its functions, operation and use, is protected from potential compromise it is not subject to disclosure as a public record.

For these reasons, the Department is denying your public records request. Please be advised that this office does not provide legal assistance, opinions or explanations about police policy to the public, and will not respond to any such request. If you have been denied records by the Boston Police Department, you have the right to appeal this decision with the Supervisor of Public Records at the Public Records Division of the Secretary of the Commonwealth.

Sincerely,

cc:

Nicole I. Taub

Shawn Williams, Esq., Secretary of the Commonwealth, Public Records Division, One Ashburton Place, Room 1719, Boston, MA 02108