



Police Department
8495 Veterans Highway
Millersville, Maryland 21108
(410) 222-8740



Timothy J. Altomare
Chief of Police

December 7, 2015

BY EMAIL (MORRISRITE@MSN.COM) AND UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE

Ms. Marguerite R. Morris
701 Harvest Run Drive #104
Odenton, Maryland 21113

Dear Ms. Morris,

On November 19, 2015, Mr. Andrew Murray received your letter dated November 18, 2015, concerning your request for Anne Arundel County Police Department (“the Department”) records and has directed it to me for response as I am the Department’s Records Manager. The letter has been taken as a request pursuant to the Maryland Public Information Act (“MPIA”).¹

I am assuming that, as her mother, you are requesting this information as the representative of Katherine Morris. As her representative, you would be entitled to more information as a “person in interest” than any other member of the public. Otherwise, some of the material would have to be excluded or redacted. Before all of the material can be released, I need the certificate that designates you as her personal representative by the Register of Wills for Anne Arundel County. I would appreciate receiving this at your earliest convenience.

You have requested the following:

1. The names and contact information of every expert consulted to include the names of the forensic pathologist consulted.
2. The names, credentials and contact information of any experts that were consulted outside of the Anne Arundel County Police Department, to include cell phone tower experts.
3. Meeting times, places, and written minutes from those and any other consultations.
4. Please provide a copy of the exact information provided to those experts for their review.
5. Please provide copies of internal memos, emails and any other correspondence related to this matter and between all parties involved.
6. A response to whether or not any of the alleged list of persons of interest provided to the police department were ever contacted, alibied and/or questioned in any manner.
7. What internal and external phone records, data analysis were performed/utilized, or requested in relationship to this case.
8. Any and all copies of subpoenas for records or documents issued in this investigation.

¹ Md. Code Ann. Gen. Prov. Art. § 4-101, *et seq.*

The requests are granted in part and denied in part. Requests numbered 1, 2, 3 (partially), 6, and 7 are denied. Requests under the MPIA are for “public records,” which are documentary material. (MPIA §§ 4-101(j), 4-202(a)) Because requests numbered 1, 2, 6, and 7 are not requests for documents or documentary material, they are denied. Further, the MPIA does not require an agency to create a record specifically to respond to requests made under the statute.

Your request number 3 pertaining to written minutes for meetings with experts would be granted, but there were no minutes created of these meetings.

Your request number 4 is granted and a copy of the initial report provided to the Medical Examiner will be provided.

Your request number 5 is granted in part and denied in part. This request includes attorney-client privileged material, confidential work product material, and deliberative process material, such as memoranda and emails between the Department and the County Office of Law. Such material is denied from inspection pursuant to MPIA §§ 4-301(a)(1) and 4-344. With the exception of these excluded items, copies of internal memos, emails and any other correspondence related to this matter and between all parties involved that is not privileged, confidential or deliberative process material will be provided.

Pursuant to MPIA § 4-203(b)(2), I reasonably believe that your request for these records require more than 10 working days to produce records that do not contain privileged, confidential, or deliberative process material. I estimate approximately 30 additional days are needed to retrieve, redact and provide the emails requested. It is anticipated that potentially up to 500 pages of material may be produced in this email search. The Department is required by administrative order to charge 25 cents per page for this production. The anticipated cost for copies of this portion of the request may be up to \$125. This is only an estimate and the actual fee may be outside of the estimated fee range.

There are approximately 134 pages of documents, other than email, that are responsive to your request. The cost for copies of this portion of the request is \$33.50. I note that a substantial number of documents requested include emails and correspondence that are either from or to you based on your previous inquiries. Should you choose to refine the request to exclude these documents, the cost for copying the items would be dramatically reduced.

Two hours of time has been expended on a review of this material to date. This is being provided without a charge pursuant to MPIA § 4-206(c). I reasonably believe that the email search, redaction and provision as requested may take between two and six hours. The employee tasked with reviewing the records has an hourly rate of \$45.67. As a result, in addition to the copy costs stated above, the estimated range of fees is between \$91.34 and \$274.02. This is only an estimate and the actual fee may be outside of the estimated fee range.

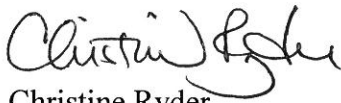
If you provide evidence of your appointment as personal representative, the material that may require redaction and work to do so would be somewhat reduced. In that event, the

Department is willing to conduct that redaction and provide a CD of the results in PDF format with no charges for copying costs.

Pursuant to MPIA § 4-203(d), I request a 30 day extension of time to provide you a more accurate range of fees that may be charged to comply with your requests and a 30 day extension of the deadline to provide documents that are not privileged, confidential, or related to deliberative process. Please advise whether you consent to the request for extension.

You may challenge any part of this response to your Request by filing an action in the appropriate court of law pursuant to MPIA § 4-362. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Christine Ryder
Records Manager