



November 25, 2020

Samah Assad
CBS 2
Via Email: sfassad@cbs.com

Re: Freedom of Information Act Request 20-060-436

Mr. Assad,

On behalf of the Civilian Office of Police Accountability (COPA), I am responding to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request seeking:

[...] any and all police body worn camera video connected to a COPA investigation involving CPD's execution of a search warrant on 164 N. Hermitage Ave., 1st floor apartment of Anjanette Young, which occurred Feb. 21, 2019. The subject of the video, Ms. Young, gives the city permission to release the video to CBS 2, as described in the attached letter in which she signed earlier this year for a FOIA request I filed directly with the Chicago Police Department at that time.

In response to your request, COPA has identified the investigation described above as log no. 2019-0004600. Please be advised that this investigation is pending and we are unable to produce the responsive footage to your request at this time. Specifically, COPA is still in the process of serving allegations and conducting all necessary officer interviews. Therefore, any officer Body Worn Camera (BWC) footage falls under the pending investigations privilege at this time, as premature release of this footage would interfere with the integrity of our investigation.

This exemption from production exists under 5 ILCS 140/7(1)(d)(i) and (ii), which permits the withholding of documents created in the course of an administrative enforcement proceeding to the extent that disclosure would interfere with "pending or actually and reasonably contemplated law enforcement proceedings conducted by any law enforcement or correctional agency," or "active administrative enforcement proceedings."

To the extent that you consider this a denial of your FOIA request, you have a right of review by the Illinois Attorney General's Public Access Counselor, who can be contacted at 500 South Second Street, Springfield, Illinois 62706 or by telephone at (217) 558-0486. You may also seek judicial review of denial under 5 ILCS 140/11 of FOIA.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Samantha Bowler".

Samantha Bowler
Paralegal II/FOIA Officer