



Illinois
Department of
Corrections

Pat Quinn
Governor

S. A. Godinez
Director

1301 Concordia Court • P.O. Box 19277
Springfield IL 62794-9277

Telephone: (217) 558-2200
TDD: (800) 526-0844

March 3, 2014

Benjamin L. Cavataro
prison.info.project@umich.edu

Re: Freedom of Information Act Request #140218170

Dear Mr. Cavataro:

This letter is in response to your request to the Illinois Department of Corrections for information pursuant to the Illinois Freedom of Information Act, 5 ILCS 140/1, et seq.

You have requested the following information:

1. Any current prisoner handbook or manual, whether system-wide or institution-specific.
2. All current prisoner grievance regulations, policies, guidelines, manuals, directives, rules, etc., including general grievance policies/guidelines/etc. and specific grievance policies/guidelines/etc. relating to, for example, health care or sexual assault.
3. Any records, created or updated from 2003 to the present, tallying or reporting:
 - o The number of grievances filed and resolved each year.
 - o The categories or subject matter of grievances filed and resolved, and number of grievances in each subject matter category used (for instance, grievances related to food, health care, use of force, etc., and including both ordinary and "sensitive" complaints such as those involving allegations of staff misconduct)
 - o Grievance outcomes or resolutions each year, by subject matter category and year.
 - o Statistics or data on length of time to resolve grievances, by subject matter category and year.
4. Any current policy for prisoner mail or correspondence, including regular and legal mail, prisoner receipt of newspapers, magazines, newsletters, and books.

Response: Responsive records are enclosed, with the exception of additional policies concerning prisoner mail or correspondence. The policy you included with your request is the policy used by the Department. In addition, the Department does not maintain statistical data concerning the length of time to resolve grievances.


In the event you view this response as a denial of your request, you have a right to have the denial reviewed by the Public Access Counselor (PAC) at the Office of the Illinois Attorney General, pursuant to 5 ILCS 140/9.5(a). You can file your request for review with the PAC to:

Public Access Counselor
Office of the Attorney General
500 South 2nd Street
Springfield, Illinois 62706

You also have the right to seek judicial review of your denial by filing a lawsuit in the state circuit court, pursuant to 5 ILCS 140/11.

If you choose to file a request for review with the PAC, you must do so within 60 calendar days of the date of this denial letter (5 ILCS 140/9.5(a)). Please note that you must include a copy of your original FOIA request and this denial letter when filing a request for review with the PAC.

Sincerely,



Lisa Weitekamp
Freedom of Information Officer

Enclosures