

X-MS-Exchange-CrossTenant-Message-Id: 3c356311-485a-4547-2b0f-08db74ead57e
X-MS-Exchange-CrossTenant-Id: b8732935-a4ab-4f23-bd92-d42785c4b1ad
X-MS-Exchange-CrossTenant-OriginalAttributedTenantConnectingIp: TenantId=b8732935-a4ab-4f23-bd92-d42785c4b1ad;Ip=[198.154.181.224];Helo=[mfod-usw2.prod.hydra.sophos.com]
X-MS-Exchange-CrossTenant-AuthSource: MW2NAM10FT094.eop-nam10.prod.protection.outlook.com
X-MS-Exchange-CrossTenant-AuthAs: Anonymous
X-MS-Exchange-CrossTenant-FromEntityHeader: HybridOnPrem
X-MS-Exchange-Transport-CrossTenantHeadersStamped: DM4PR10MB6229

Mr. Merritt,

I hope you are having a nice weekend.

I met with our IT Director on Thursday, and she has provided me with additional information in explanation of our estimate of the amount of time it would require to fulfill your request.

Our IT Director ran a search for one of the eight addresses listed in your public records request. It took approximately one hour for her to receive the results of the search (not including the time she spent setting up the search, which took approximately five minutes). She has not yet reviewed the results of the search, but in order to do so, she would need to load the results for each employee email account separately into our email program. Then, she would need to review each email (1) to ensure that nothing went haywire with the search; (2) to confirm that each email actually fell within the scope of your request; and (3) to flag any emails that she believed contained confidential or privileged information. Due to the volume of emails generated by her first search, she anticipates that it would take her several hours to review the emails retrieved as a result of each of the eight searches. Finally, once all eight searches were completed, she would collect, print, and collate all of the emails and send them to my office for my review. As I have previously mentioned, I anticipate that my review would not take more than an hour, and as a result, you would not be charged for my time.

It is still our best estimate that it would take our IT Director forty hours to fulfill your public records request. In fact, she has already spent more than an hour on your request and has not yet reviewed a single email.

If you would like us to proceed with your request, please arrange payment in the amount of \$1,558.44 with our County Auditor, Jane Heun, whom I've copied. If it takes our IT Director less than forty hours to complete your request, we will reimburse you the appropriate amount.

Many thanks,

Thomas

Thomas R Laehn, JD, PhD
Greene County Attorney

From: Michael J. Merritt <cipher.hunter@cipher.phoenixharbor.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 21, 2023 8:31 PM
To: Thomas Laehn <laehn@greencounty.iowa.gov>
Subject: Re: Public Records Request

Mr. Laehn,

Thank you for your response, Sir. I am requesting a search for the electronic mail addresses themselves. This should be able to be accomplished with very minimal time with a search for the addresses themselves against all data stored and preserved on your government body's mail server.

Take care, Sir.

Respectfully,

Michael J. Merritt, USN Retired/Writer
Founder: cipher.phoenixharbor.com
Creative Writer/Musician
Information Warfare Specialist
Information Systems Manager
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"Bricks made with testimony lacking evidence are equivalent to bricks made with straw without clay."

Cipher Hunter

On Wed, Jun 14, 2023 at 2:34 PM Thomas Laehn <laehn@greencounty.iowa.gov> wrote:
Dear Mr. Merritt,

I hope you are doing well.

My name is Thomas Laehn. I'm the county attorney in Greene County. The Greene County Recorder, Deb McDonald, whom I've copied, forwarded me your public records request.

I have attached both your request and a copy of Greene County's public records policy for your reference.

I am writing to confirm receipt of your request and to seek clarification regarding its scope.

First, with respect to the eight email addresses listed in section 2 of your request, are you requesting (1) emails sent and received by the Greene County Recorder or (2) emails sent and received by any Greene County employee?

Second, are you requesting emails sent or received during a specific time period? If so, could you please let us know the time frame for the emails you are requesting?

I want to make sure that the documents we provide you (if any exist) are fully responsive to your request.

Once I have a better understanding of the scope of your request, I can provide you with an estimate of the fee we would charge you, if any, to provide you with the documents you are seeking.

Many thanks,

Thomas

Thomas R. Laehn, JD, PhD
Greene County Attorney