

ALLYSON C. MELANCON : 15TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT
VERSUS : DOCKET NUMBER
LAFAYETTE PARISH SHERIFF MARK GARBER : LAFAYETTE PARISH, LOUISIANA
GARBER

PETITION FOR WRIT OF MANDAMUS, DECLARATORY AND INJUNCTIVE RELIEF,
CIVIL PENALTIES, ATTORNEY FEES, AND DAMAGES

NOW INTO COURT, through undersigned counsel, comes Petitioner, ALLYSON C. MELANCON (MELANCON), a person of the full age of majority and domiciled in Lafayette Parish, Louisiana, who respectfully represents:

1.

Made defendant herein is LAFAYETTE PARISH SHERIFF MARK GARBER ("SHERIFF GARBER"), in his official capacity as Sheriff of Lafayette Parish and custodian of public records maintained by the Lafayette Parish Sheriff's Office.

2.

Louisiana's Constitution guarantees that "[n]o person shall be denied the right to observe the deliberations of public bodies and examine public documents, except in cases established by law." LSA-Const art. 12, § 3. The Louisiana Public Record's Law (LPRL) implements this constitutional right broadly. Under LSA-R.S. 44:31, "[p]roviding access to public records is a responsibility and duty of the appointive or elective office of a custodian and his employees," and "[t]he burden of proving that a public record is not subject to inspection, copying, or reproduction shall rest with the custodian." The Louisiana Supreme Court has made clear that "access to public records can be denied **only** when the Public Records Law or the Constitution specifically and unequivocally provide otherwise," and that any doubt must be resolved in favor of public access.

[Emphasis supplied]. *Shane v. Parish of Jefferson*, 2014-2225 (La. 12/8/15), 209 So. 3d 726.

3.

Body-worn camera (BWC) footage falls squarely within the LPRL's sweeping definition of "public records," which encompasses all "tapes, recordings, memoranda, and papers, and all copies, duplicates, photographs, including microfilm, or other reproductions thereof, or any other documentary materials, regardless of physical form

or characteristics, including electronically stored information or information contained in databases or electronic data processing equipment, having been used, being in use, or prepared, possessed, or retained for use in the conduct, transaction, or performance of any business, transaction, work, duty, or function which was conducted, transacted, or performed by or under the authority of the constitution or laws of this state." LSA-R.S. 44:1.

4.

Such footage recorded by law enforcement officers during execution of a search warrant constitutes a public record subject to disclosure unless specifically exempted by law. Further, upon information and belief, the execution of search warrants by LPSO deputies constitutes a law enforcement activity during which BWC activation may be required or routinely expected pursuant to agency policy, training, practice, or evidentiary preservation procedures.

5.

On April 20, 2026, at 1:30 p.m., MELANCON submitted a written public records request to SHERIFF GARBER seeking:

1. All video/audio recordings generated by Lafayette Parish Sheriff's Office Deputies executing a search warrant at 105 Springwood Circle, Lafayette, LA 70508 on or about March 12, 2025.
2. All video/audio recordings generated by Lafayette Parish Sheriff's Office Deputies executing a search warrant at 1600 Camellia Blvd, Bldg. F-100, Lafayette, LA 70508 on or about March 12, 2025.

See email exchange, attached hereto *in globo* as Exhibit A, along with respective search warrants attached hereto *in globo* as Exhibit B.

6.

In the request, MELANCON specifically cited LSA-R.S. 44:3(A)(8), demanded production in native format, and expressly requested written notification of any exemption or legal basis for withholding records. See Exhibit A.

7.

On April 22, 2026, SHERIFF GARBER, through Public Records Coordinator Briona Miller, acknowledged receipt of the request and advised: "Our office is in the process of determining what, if any, records are subject to this request and, if so,

whether any privileges or exemptions apply.” See Exhibit A.

8.

SHERIFF GARBER further represented that MELANCON would be notified within fourteen business days whether responsive records had been located and whether any exemptions applied. See Exhibit A.

9.

On May 12, 2026, after the self-imposed deadline expired without substantive response, MELANCON transmitted follow-up correspondence reminding SHERIFF GARBER of his obligations under the LPRL, including his burden under LSA-R.S. 44:31(B)(3), the availability of mandamus relief under LSA-R.S. 44:35, and the possibility of attorney fees, damages, and civil penalties for arbitrary or capricious noncompliance. See Exhibit A.

10.

In that correspondence, MELANCON specifically advised SHERIFF GARBER that the request was “narrow, specific, and readily identifiable” and further stated that there was “nothing about this request that reasonably justifies the delay encountered thus far.” See Exhibit A.

11.

On May 13, 2026, SHERIFF GARBER, through Records Clerk Saderia Johnson, responded: “In response to your request; there were no video/calls for service, where a warrant was being executed by Lafayette Parish Sheriff’s office at either address.” See Exhibit A. The response did not expressly state whether BWC footage existed, whether deputies activated BWC during execution of the warrants, whether responsive recordings had been deleted or destroyed, whether such recordings were maintained by another custodian or third-party vendor, or whether SHERIFF GARBER was asserting any statutory exemption from disclosure.

12.

Because the response was ambiguous and failed to clarify whether responsive BWC footage existed, MELANCON sought clarification and specifically asked: “For clarification, are you telling me that the deputies who searched the referenced

residence and office did NOT have BWC activated during execution of the warrant?"

See Exhibit A.

13.

Thereafter, Captain John Mowell, acting on behalf of SHERIFF GARBER, responded: "She is telling you there is no video responsive to your public record request." See Exhibit A.

14.

MELANCON again requested clarification and specifically advised SHERIFF GARBER: "The Public Records Law allows me to get BWC footage unless certain exceptions apply. You are obligated to tell me what those exceptions/exemptions are. You don't just get to play word games. So, that being said, kindly advise what exception/exemption LPSO is claiming; or tell me that no such video exists."

15.

In response, Captain Mowell stated: "No, 'semantics'. No, 'word games'. No exceptions apply because as was stated previously, we do not have any video responsive to your request."

16.

The custodian's bare response that there are "no public records responsive" fails in at least two distinct respects because it does not satisfy the mandatory statutory obligations imposed by LSA-R.S. 44:32 and LSA-R.S. 44:34.

17.

First, if the footage exists but SHERIFF GARBER is withholding it under an exemption, LSA-R.S. 44:32(D) requires him to provide written notification within five days (exclusive of Saturdays, Sundays, and legal public holidays) that includes "a reference to the basis under law which the custodian has determined exempts a record, or any part thereof, from inspection, copying, or reproduction." He must identify the specific statutory provision, not simply decline to produce. The Louisiana Attorney General has likewise recognized that when a custodian determines a requested record is not a public record or is otherwise exempt, the custodian must notify the requester and provide the legal justification supporting that determination. Capt. Jason Gully, La.

18.

Anticipating a claimed individual privacy rights exception, the owner of the subject residence and business has executed an Affidavit waiving any such right. See Exhibit C.

19.

Second, if the footage does not exist or is not in SHERIFF GARBER'S custody or control, LSA-R.S. 44:34 imposes its own mandatory certification requirement. That statute provides that if the requested public record "is not in the custody or control of the person to whom the application is made, such person shall promptly certify this in writing to the applicant, and shall in the certificate state in detail to the best of his knowledge and belief, the reason for the absence of the record from his custody or control, its location, what person then has custody of the record and the manner and method in which, and the exact time at which it was taken from his custody or control." Alternatively, to the extent responsive recordings once existed but were deleted, lost, destroyed, or otherwise removed from SHERIFF GARBER's custody or control, SHERIFF GARBER was obligated under LSA-R.S. 44:34 to provide a detailed written certification identifying the disposition of the records and the circumstances under which they ceased to exist or left SHERIFF GARBER's custody.

20.

A bare statement, after repeated requests for clarification in accordance with the LPRL, that there are no responsive records satisfies none of these requirements.

21.

Responsive BWC recordings, if created, would constitute electronically stored public records subject to mandatory preservation obligations once SHERIFF GARBER received MELANCON's public records request and subsequent correspondence specifically identifying the requested recordings. Any destruction, deletion, overwriting, or alteration of responsive recordings after notice of the request may constitute unlawful spoliation of evidence and additional arbitrary and capricious conduct under the LPRL.

22.

Louisiana Revised Statute 44:35(A) provides that any person who has been denied the right to inspect, copy, or obtain a copy of a record, either by a custodian's determination or by the passage of five days from the date of the request without receiving a written determination, may institute proceedings for a writ of mandamus, injunctive or declaratory relief, along with attorney fees, costs, and damages, in the district court for the parish in which the custodian's office is located.

23.

SHERIFF GARBER'S legally deficient response herein constitutes a denial triggering the rights delineated in LSA-R.S. 44:35 because the duties imposed upon a public records custodian under LSA-R.S. 44:32 and 44:34 are mandatory and ministerial in nature.

24.

Relevant to the LPRL, in mandamus proceedings, the court "has jurisdiction to enjoin the custodian from withholding records or to issue a writ of mandamus ordering the production of any records improperly withheld." Critically, "the court shall determine the matter *de novo* and the burden is on the custodian to sustain his action." As the Louisiana Supreme Court emphasized in *Shane v. Parish of Jefferson, supra*, this means the court gives no deference to the custodian's decision and the custodian must affirmatively prove its response was lawful.

25.

Courts have consistently held that the LPRL must be construed liberally in favor of access and that any exception must be narrowly construed. *Title Research Corp. v. Rausch*, 450 So.2d 933, 936 (La. 1984). Moreover, the LPRL does not permit a custodian to evade disclosure obligations through ambiguous, evasive, or conclusory responses that fail to clearly state whether requested records exist, are exempt, or are not within the custodian's possession or control.

26.

SHERIFF GARBER'S response, viewed in light of repeated requests for clarification and his continued refusal to provide either statutory exemptions or

certifications required by law, constitutes arbitrary, capricious, unreasonable, and legally deficient conduct under the LPRL.

27.

MELANCON is entitled to civil penalties pursuant to LSA-R.S. 44:35(E)(1), in an amount up to One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) per day, exclusive of weekends and legal holidays, for each day SHERIFF GARBER failed to provide the written notifications required by LSA-R.S. 44:32.

28.

MELANCON is further entitled to mandatory attorney fees and costs pursuant to LSA-R.S. 44:35(D), should MELANCON prevail in this action.

29.

MELANCON reserves the right to seek in camera review of any allegedly exempt recordings or documents pursuant to LSA-R.S. 44:35(B).

WHEREFORE, Petitioner, ALLYSON C. MELANCON, respectfully prays that:

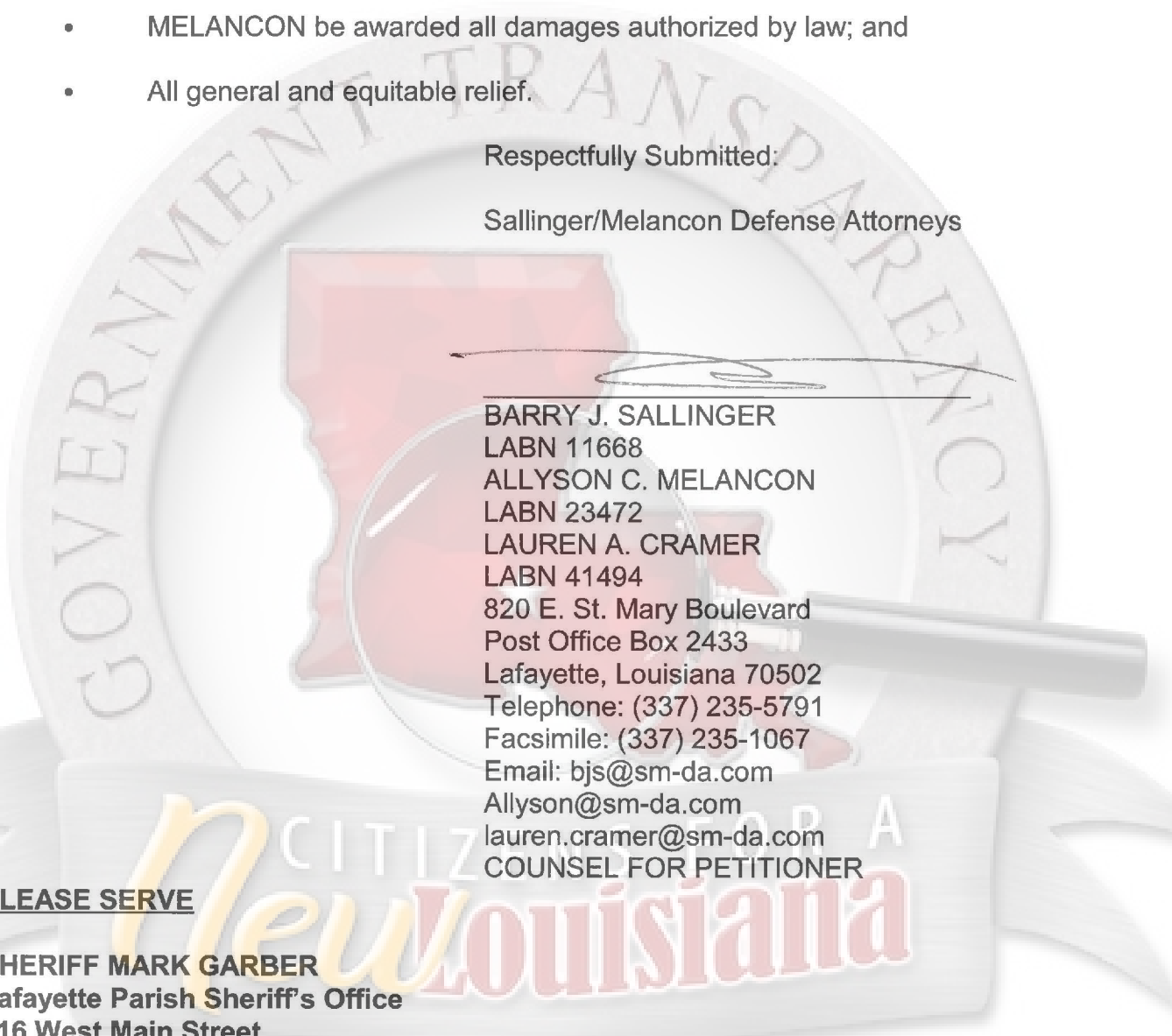
- This Court declare that SHERIFF GARBER'S response constituted a constructive denial under the LPRL;
- SHERIFF GARBER be ordered to produce a privilege or exemption log identifying each withheld recording or portion thereof, the statutory basis asserted for withholding, the date of the recording, and the custodian maintaining same;
- A writ of mandamus issue directing SHERIFF GARBER to immediately produce all responsive public records requested by MELANCON;
- SHERIFF GARBER be ordered to provide a legally sufficient written certification compliant with LSA-R.S. 44:34 identifying the status, location, and custody of the requested records;
- SHERIFF GARBER be ordered to specifically identify each statutory exemption relied upon for any withheld record;
- This matter be tried by preference and in a summary manner pursuant to LSA-R.S. 44:35C;
- This Court conduct an *in camera* inspection of any records claimed to be

exempt;

- SHERIFF GARBER be ordered to preserve all potentially responsive electronically stored information, metadata, audit logs, retention logs, Axon/Evidence.com records, deletion logs, and chain-of-custody information pending final resolution of these proceedings;
- MELANCON be awarded reasonable attorney fees and all costs of litigation pursuant to LSA-R.S. 44:35(D);
- MELANCON be awarded civil penalties pursuant to LSA-R.S. 44:35(E);
- MELANCON be awarded all damages authorized by law; and
- All general and equitable relief.

Respectfully Submitted:

Sallinger/Melancon Defense Attorneys



BARRY J. SALLINGER
LABN 11668
ALLYSON C. MELANCON
LABN 23472
LAUREN A. CRAMER
LABN 41494
820 E. St. Mary Boulevard
Post Office Box 2433
Lafayette, Louisiana 70502
Telephone: (337) 235-5791
Facsimile: (337) 235-1067
Email: bjs@sm-da.com
Allyson@sm-da.com
lauren.cramer@sm-da.com
COUNSEL FOR PETITIONER

PLEASE SERVE

**SHERIFF MARK GARBER
Lafayette Parish Sheriff's Office
316 West Main Street
Lafayette, Louisiana 70501**

ALLYSON C. MELANCON : 15TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT
VERSUS : DOCKET NUMBER
LAFAYETTE PARISH SHERIFF MARK : LAFAYETTE PARISH, LOUISIANA
GARBER

VERIFICATION

STATE OF LOUISIANA

PARISH OF LAFAYETTE


BEFORE ME, the undersigned Notary Public, personally came and appeared:

ALLYSON C. MELANCON

who, after being duly sworn, did depose and say that she is the Petitioner in the above and foregoing matter and that the allegations contained therein are true and correct to the best of her knowledge, information, and belief after reasonable inquiry.


ALLYSON C. MELANCON

SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED before me on this 15th day of May, 2026.


BARRY J. SALLINGER
LABN 11668
NOTARY PUBLIC
My Commission is for Life.

CITIZENS FOR A
New Louisiana

Allyson C. Melancon

From: John Mowell <John.Mowell@lafayettesheriff.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 13, 2026 1:06 PM
To: Allyson C. Melancon
Subject: Re: PRR 042026 RE: PRR.

Allyson,

No, "semantics". No, "word games". No exceptions apply because as was stated previously, we do not have any video responsive to your request.

Thank you,

Captain John Mowell
Public Communications Director
Commander
Search and Rescue
Lafayette Parish Sheriff's Office



**LAFAYETTE PARISH
SHERIFF**

John Mowell

Public Communications Director

Public Affairs

lafayettesheriff.com

Tel: 337-236-5640

316 W. Main St.

P.O. Box 3508

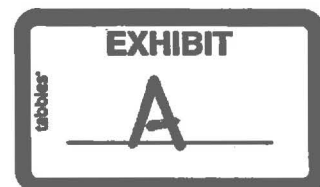
Lafayette, LA 70502



CITIZENS FOR A
New Louisiana

From: Allyson C. Melancon <Allyson@sm-da.com>
Date: Wednesday, May 13, 2026 at 12:34 PM
To: John Mowell <John.Mowell@lafayettesheriff.com>, Saderia Johnson
<Saderia.Johnson@lafayettesheriff.com>
Subject: RE: PRR 042026 RE: PRR.

John,



Semantics. The Public Records Law allows me to get BWC footage unless certain exceptions apply. You are obligated to tell me what those exceptions/exemptions are. You don't just get to play word games. So, that being said, kindly advise what exception/exemption LPSO is claiming; or tell me that no such video exists.

Thanks.

Allyson C. Melancon

SALLINGER/MELANCON
DEFENSE ATTORNEYS

820 E. St. Mary Blvd., Lafayette, LA 70503

Telephone: (337) 235-5791

Fax: (337) 235-1067

Website: www.sm-da.com



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From: John Mowell <John.Mowell@lafayettesheriff.com>

Sent: Wednesday, May 13, 2026 12:31 PM

To: Allyson C. Melancon <Allyson@sm-da.com>; Saderia Johnson <Saderia.Johnson@lafayettesheriff.com>

Subject: Re: PRR 042026 RE: PRR.

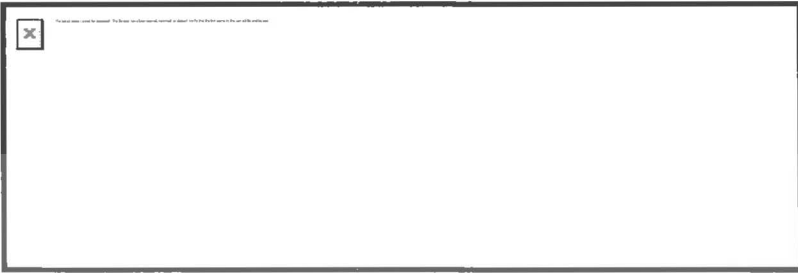
Mrs. Melancon,

She is telling you there is no video responsive to your public record request.

Thank you,

Captain John Mowell
Public Communications Director
Commander
Search and Rescue
Lafayette Parish Sheriff's Office





John Mowell

Public Communications Director
Public Affairs
lafayettesheriff.com

Tel: 337-236-5640

316 W. Main St.
P.O. Box 3508
Lafayette, LA 70502



From: Allyson C. Melancon <Allyson@sm-da.com>
Date: Wednesday, May 13, 2026 at 12:23 PM
To: Saderia Johnson <Saderia.Johnson@lafayettesheriff.com>
Cc: John Mowell <John.Mowell@lafayettesheriff.com>
Subject: RE: PRR 042026 RE: PRR.

Dpty Johnson,

For clarification, are you telling me that the deputies who searched the referenced residence and office did NOT have BWC activated during execution of the warrant?

Thanks.

Allyson C. Melancon

SALLINGER/MELANCON
DEFENSE ATTORNEYS

820 E. St. Mary Blvd., Lafayette, LA 70503
Telephone: (337) 235-5791
Fax: (337) 235-1067
Website: www.sm-da.com



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From: Saderia Johnson <Saderia.Johnson@lafayettesheriff.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 13, 2026 11:22 AM
To: Allyson C. Melancon <Allyson@sm-da.com>
Cc: John Mowell <John.Mowell@lafayettesheriff.com>
Subject: PRR 042026 RE: PRR.

Good morning Allyson,

My sincere apologies for the delay. In response to your request; there were no video/calls for service, where a warrant was being executed by Lafayette Parish Sheriff's office at either address.

Thank you,



Saderia Johnson

Records Clerk

Administrative Services

lafayettesheriff.com

Tel: 337-236-5845

303 West Vermillion Suite 120
P.O. Box 3508
Lafayette, LA 70502



From: Allyson C. Melancon <Allyson@sm-da.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 12, 2026 3:43 PM
To: Briona K. Miller <Briona.Miller@lafayettesheriff.com>
Cc: Jan V. Tumlin <Jan@sm-da.com>; Barry J. Sallinger <bjs@sm-da.com>; Saderia Johnson <Saderia.Johnson@lafayettesheriff.com>; John Mowell <John.Mowell@lafayettesheriff.com>
Subject: RE: PRR.

Congratulations to you! Sorry for the bother.

In that case, Saderia and John, please respond.

Thanks.

Allyson C. Melancon

SALLINGER/MELANCON
DEFENSE ATTORNEYS

820 E. St. Mary Blvd., Lafayette, LA 70503

Telephone: (337) 235-5791

Fax: (337) 235-1067

Website: www.sm-da.com



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From: Briona K. Miller <Briona.Miller@lafayettesheriff.com>

Sent: Tuesday, May 12, 2026 3:41 PM

To: Allyson C. Melancon <Allyson@sm-da.com>

Cc: Jan V. Tumlin <Jan@sm-da.com>; Barry J. Sallinger <bjs@sm-da.com>; Saderia Johnson <Saderia.Johnson@lafayettesheriff.com>; John Mowell <John.Mowell@lafayettesheriff.com>

Subject: Re: PRR.

Allyson,

Please accept my apologies - I began my maternity leave on April 27, earlier than expected. I am copying Capt. Mowell and Saderia Johnson on this, who are handling all requests until my return. They will be able to provide response to your request.

Thank you,
Briona Miller



Briona K. Miller

Public Records Coordinator

Public Affairs

lafayettesheriff.com

Tel: 337-236-5855

P.O. Box 3508
Lafayette, LA 70502



On May 12, 2026, at 2:33 PM, Allyson C. Melancon <Allyson@sm-da.com> wrote:

Briona,

On April 20, 2026, I submitted a Public Records Request to your office. Two days later, you responded advising that a response would be provided within fourteen days. That self-imposed deadline has now passed, and no substantive response has been received.

A blanket multi-day response period is not authorized by Louisiana's Public Records Law. Louisiana law generally requires that public records be made immediately available for inspection and copying, or within three business days where the records are in active use or otherwise unavailable at the time of the request. While the law recognizes that certain requests may require additional time for collection, segregation, review, or redaction, the custodian must provide a written estimate of the time reasonably necessary to comply. Whether any delay is permissible depends entirely upon whether the delay is objectively reasonable under the circumstances and proportional to the scope and complexity of the request.

To reiterate, I requested: All video and audio recordings generated by Lafayette Parish Sheriff's Office deputies executing a search warrant at 105 Springwood Circle, Lafayette, Louisiana 70508, and 1600 Camellia Boulevard, Building F-100, Lafayette, Louisiana 70508.

This request is narrow, specific, and readily identifiable. I am well aware of the storage and retrieval dynamics associated with body-worn camera footage, and there is nothing about this request that reasonably justifies the delay encountered thus far.

In the spirit of professionalism and courtesy, I further remind you of the following provisions of Louisiana Public Records Law:

- The burden of proving that a public record is not subject to inspection, copying, or reproduction rests with the custodian. La. R.S. 44:31(B)(3).
- "Custodian" means the public official or head of any public body having custody or control of a public record, or a representative specifically authorized by him to respond to public records requests. La. R.S. 44:1(A)(3).
- Louisiana law expressly authorizes actions for writs of mandamus, injunctive relief, declaratory relief, or other appropriate relief to enforce compliance with the Public Records Law, and such proceedings are to be tried by preference and in a summary manner. La. R.S. 44:35.
- Attorney's fees and costs of litigation shall be awarded to the prevailing party. La. R.S. 44:35(D)(1).

• Where a court finds that a custodian arbitrarily or capriciously withheld requested records, or arbitrarily or unreasonably failed to respond as required by law, the court may award civil penalties of up to one hundred dollars per day, exclusive of weekends and legal holidays, together with damages, attorney's fees, and litigation costs. The custodian may additionally be held personally liable for such damages. La. R.S. 44:35(E).

I trust this matter can be resolved promptly and without the necessity of litigation. I therefore look forward to your immediate and complete response.

Thanks.

Allyson C. Melancon

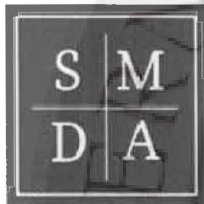
SALLINGER/MELANCON
DEFENSE ATTORNEYS

820 E. St. Mary Blvd., Lafayette, LA 70503

Telephone: (337) 235-5791

Fax: (337) 235-1067

Website: www.sm-da.com



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From: Briona K. Miller <Briona.Miller@lafayettesheriff.com>

Sent: Wednesday, April 22, 2026 4:29 PM

To: Allyson C. Melancon <Allyson@sm-da.com>

Subject: RE: PRR.

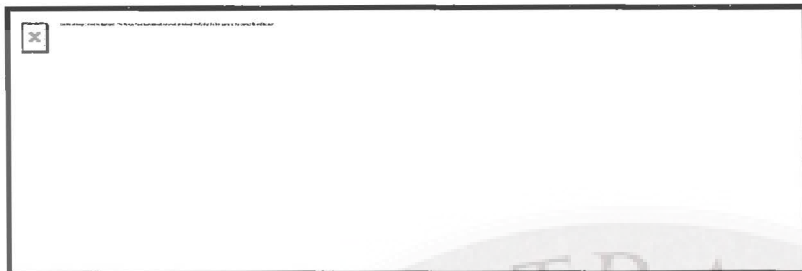
Good afternoon,

Please accept this correspondence as an acknowledgment of receipt of your public records request received by the Lafayette Parish Sheriff's Office on **April 20, 2026**. The request seeks records related to the following:

All video/audio recordings generated by Lafayette Parish Sheriff's Office Deputies executing a search warrant at 105 Springwood Circle, Lafayette, LA 70508 and 1600 Camellia Blvd, Bldg. F-100, Lafayette, LA 70508.

Our office is in the process of determining what, if any, records are subject to this request and, if so, whether any privileges or exemptions apply. This may take some time. You will be notified within 14 business days whether records have been located that are responsive and approximately when they will be ready for review.

Thank you,



Briona K. Miller

Public Records Coordinator
Public Affairs
lafayettesheriff.com

Tel: 337-236-5855

P.O. Box 3508
Lafayette, LA 70502



From: Allyson C. Melancon <Allyson@sm-da.com>

Sent: Monday, April 20, 2026 1:30 PM

To: LPSO_WEB_PIO_RECORDSREQUEST_EMAILGRP <recordsrequest@lafayettesheriff.com>

Subject: PRR.

Custodian,

Pursuant to the Public Records Act of Louisiana, LSA-R.S. 40:2531t seq., please provide the following public record information via email address, Allyson@sm-da.com; and/or facsimile, (337) 235-1067; and/or physical address, 820 E. St. Mary Blvd., Lafayette LA 70503. I am requesting this information in its native format.

In accordance with LSA-R.S. 44:3(A)(8) and (I),

1. All video/audio recordings generated by Lafayette Parish Sheriff's Office Deputies executing a search warrant at 105 Springwood Circle, Lafayette, LA 70508 on or about March 12, 2025.
2. All video/audio recordings generated by Lafayette Parish Sheriff's Office Deputies executing a search warrant at 1600 Camellia Blvd, Bldg. F-100, Lafayette, LA 70508 on or about March 12, 2025.

As I am sure you are aware, the custodian of the record bears the burden of proving that the record is **not** subject to inspection, copying, or reproduction by a member of the public. LSA-R.S. 44:31(3). However, whenever there is any doubt as to whether the public has the right of access to certain records, the doubt must be resolved in favor of the public's right to access. *Landis v. Moreau*, 2000-1157 (La. 2/21/01), 779 So. 2d 691, 694.

If you determine the public records requested herein are not subject to copying or reproduction, notify me in writing within three days of your reasons for such determination. If for any reason, my request for information cannot be sent without cost, then **PRIOR TO ANY COPYING**, please notify me immediately of the cost that will be involved.

Thanks.

Allyson C. Melancon

SALLINGER/MELANCON
DEFENSE ATTORNEYS

820 E. St. Mary Blvd., Lafayette, LA 70503

Telephone: (337) 235-5791

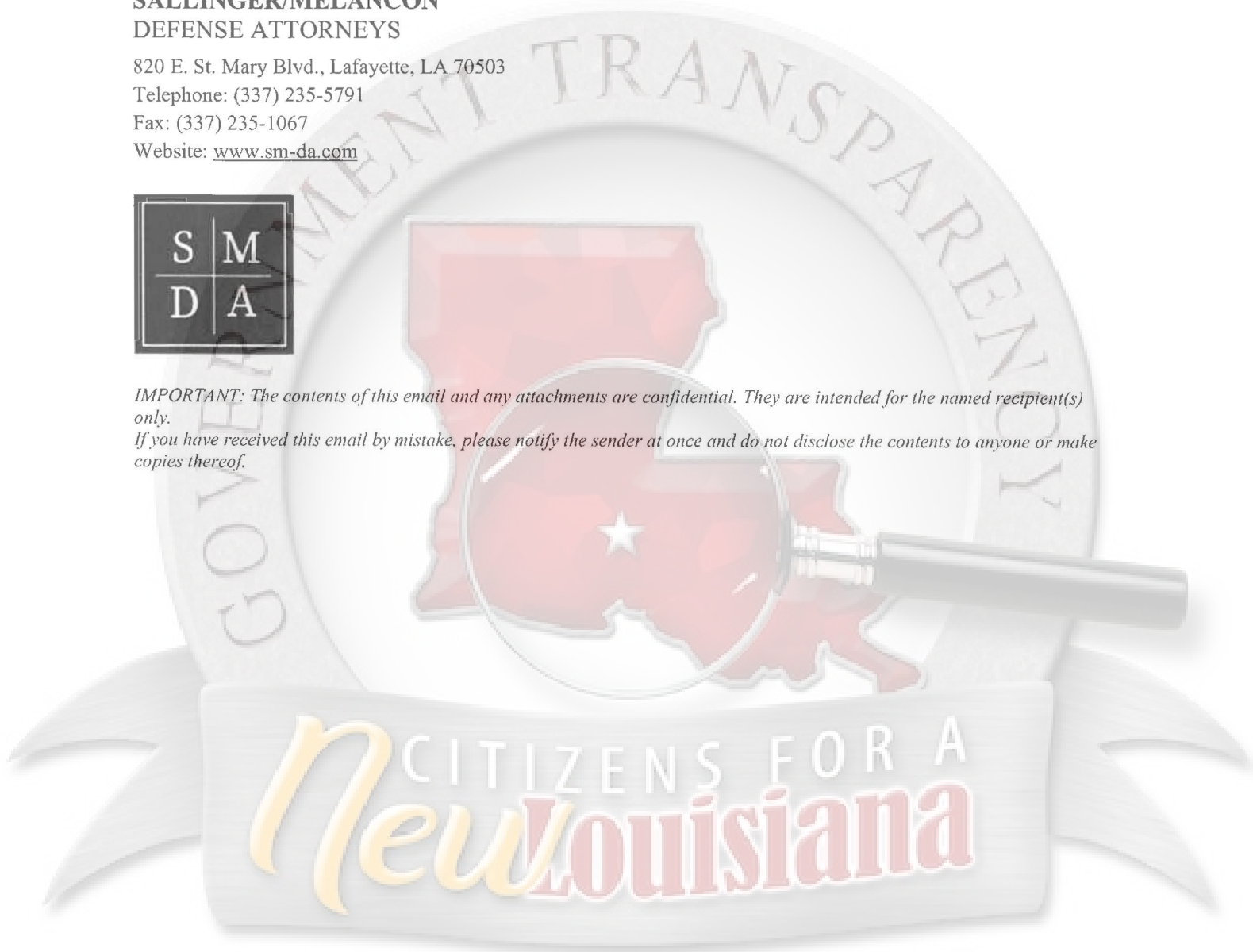
Fax: (337) 235-1067

Website: www.sm-da.com



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1048 AM
1115 AM

15TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT
PARISH OF LAFAYETTE
STATE OF LOUISIANA

CASE NUMBER:
25-00032962

WARRANT NUMBER:

SEARCH AND SEIZURE WARRANT

AFFIDAVIT HAVING BEEN MADE BEFORE ME BY Wesley Vanmieghem of the Lafayette Parish Sheriff's Office, that he has a good reason to believe that on or in:

RM Partners, LLC 1600 Camelia Blvd. Bldg. F-100
Lafayette, Louisiana 70508

Further described as:

Brick structure at the south west corner of 1600 Camelia Blvd. with 1 on the west side. Front door to the business is facing west into the parking lot. The rear of the building faces east along Camelia Blvd.

To arrive at the said location:

From the intersection of Kaliste Saloom Road and Camelia Blvd., travel south on Camelia Blvd approximately 1900 ft. The entrance to 1600 Camelia Blvd. will be on the right. Once in the parking lot, Building F is the last building on the left.

there is now being concealed certain property, namely:

Any computers (laptop or desktop), tablets, cellular devices, or any other device that can be used to send emails or access Facebook.

Due to the volatile nature of system memory, any laptop or desktop that is located on and plugged in will have a "memory dump" completed prior to being taken into custody. The memory dump shall consist of making a copy of all information located in the volatile memory of the device that would be lost when the device is turned off.

is/are located, which property constitutes evidence of the violation of:

*1 Count of 18:1463--Political Material; Ethics: Prohibitions-- (Felony)

of the Louisiana Revised Statutes, and the affidavit submitted in support of this search warrant shows the necessary probable cause for its issuance. The purpose and reason for the search is to find and seize the item(s) listed above.

YOU ARE HEREBY ORDERED to search forthwith the aforesaid for the property specified serving this Search and Seizure Warrant and making the search during the day time or night time, Sundays or holidays, and if the thing(s) specified are found there, to seize it and hold them in safe custody pending further orders of the court. This shall be your warrant, whereof you are to make due return according to law.

Case Number 25-00032962

Warrant Number

Approved on Mar. 12, 2025 at 09:52 AM

EXHIBIT

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**15TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT
PARISH OF LAFAYETTE
STATE OF LOUISIANA**

**CASE NUMBER:
25-00032962**

WARRANT NUMBER:

SEARCH AND SEIZURE WARRANT

AFFIDAVIT HAVING BEEN MADE BEFORE ME BY Wesley Vanmieghem of the Lafayette Parish Sheriff's Office, that he has a good reason to believe that on or in:

**105 Springwood Circle
Lafayette, 70508**

Further described as:

Brick residence, garage on the left. Front door of the residence faces south. Alarm sign near the south west corner of the structure with the address 105 on it.

To arrive at the said location:

From the intersection of Kaliste Saloom Road and Comelia Blvd., west on Kaliste Saloom approximately 0.4 miles. Turn left onto Steiner Road and travel approximately 0.4 miles to East Bayou Parkway. Turn right and travel east on East Bayou Parkway approximately 0.4 miles. Turn left and travel north on Enchanted Oak Blvd. approximately 150 feet. Turn right and travel east on Springwood Circle and travel approximately 125 feet. The residence of 105 Springwood Circle is the second house on the left (northside of roadway).

there is now being concealed certain property, namely:

Any computers (laptop or desktop), tablets, cellular devices, or any other device that can be used to send emails or access Facebook.

Due to the volatile nature of system memory, any laptop or desktop that is located on and plugged in will have a "memory dump" completed prior to being taken into custody. The memory dump shall consist of making a copy of all information located in the volatile memory of the device that would be lost when the device is turned off.

is/are located, which property constitutes evidence of the violation of:

*1 Count of 18:1463--Political Materal; Ethics; Prohibitions-- (Felony)

of the Louisiana Revised Statutes, and the affidavit submitted in support of this search warrant shows the necessary probable cause for its issuance. The purpose and reason for the search is to find and seize the item(s) listed above.

YOU ARE HEREBY ORDERED to search forthwith the aforesaid for the property specified serving this Search and Seizure Warrant and making the search during the day time or night time, Sundays or holidays.

ALLYSON C. MELANCON : 15TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT
VERSUS : DOCKET NUMBER
LAFAYETTE PARISH SHERIFF MARK : LAFAYETTE PARISH, LOUISIANA
GARBER

AFFIDAVIT

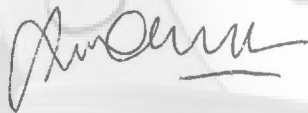
STATE OF LOUISIANA
PARISH OF LAFAYETTE

BEFORE ME, the undersigned Notary Public, personally came and appeared:

CHUN PING LAU

who, after being duly sworn, did depose and say, based on his personal knowledge,
that:

1. On or about March 12, 2025, he was the owner of the residence located at 105 Springwood Circle, Lafayette, LA 70508.
2. On or about March 12, 2025, his business was located at 1600 Camellia Blvd, Bldg. F-100, Lafayette, LA 70508.
3. He hereby waives any expectation of privacy he has relative to those locations.



CHUN PING LAU

SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED before me on this 17 day of May, 2026.

BARRY J. SALLINGER
LABN 11668
NOTARY PUBLIC
My Commission is for Life.

