

## Beko, Michele

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**From:** Aaron Knapp <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 23, 2025 10:09 AM  
**To:** Sheriff Jack Hall; CityCouncilMailGroup@cityoflorain.org; Carissa Woytach; Robert J. Gargasz; David O'Brien; Tony Cillo; Garon Petty; Brad Dicken; Jack Bradley; Patrick Riley; Rey Carrion; Jackie Conrad; Joseph LaVeck; Ted Kalo; Jeff Graham  
**Subject:** Records are posted illegally online

### Warning: Unusual link

This message contains an unusual link, which may lead to a malicious site. Confirm the message is safe before clicking any links.

### Stop breaking the Law Lorain and Lorain Schools:

School records in Ohio are subject to state and federal laws that limit the disclosure of student information. The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and Ohio law generally prohibit the disclosure of student records without the consent of the student or their parent.

### Who can access school records?

- **Parents:** Parents have the right to access their child's education records.
- **Students:** Students who are 18 or older can access their own records.
- **School officials:** School officials with a legitimate educational interest can access student records without consent. This includes school board members, administrators, supervisors, instructors, and support staff.

### What can be disclosed?

- Directory information may be released.
- Some public school records may be considered public records.

### What happens if there is a violation?

- Schools that violate FERPA may lose federal funding.
- Individuals who are responsible for unauthorized disclosure of student records may be subject to fines or other disciplinary actions.



For Immediate Release

April 11, 2023

**ADMINISTRATIVE INVESTIGATION / REVIEW OF 126 W. 27<sup>TH</sup> ST**

The administrative investigation and review of the incident that occurred at 126 W. 27<sup>TH</sup> St. on February 15, 2022 19:59 hours has been completed. Shortly after the incident, videos from the address were posted on social media and the event went "viral" with misleading and incomplete information.

Truth and Transparency is one of the utmost imperatives to the Lorain Police Department. The public has a right to know what we do, why we do it, and if we are doing within the confines of the Constitution. I took several steps to ensure a proper review of this incident took place. First, I directed the Lorain Police Department's Office of Professional Standards to conduct a complete administrative investigation into the incident. Second, I hired an outside expert to review the case independently of the Lorain Police Department's administrative investigation. Third, I met with the local NAACP Executive Board, including President Earl Head and gave them all the "raw" data, including reports and all videos from the residence and police BWC footage. Fourth, I met with community-based leaders and pastors and gave them all the "raw" data, including reports and all videos from the residence and police BWC footage. Finally, I requested the Lorain County Prosecutor JD Tomlinson conduct a complete review of the entire incident using all available statements and evidence to make a determination of what is true - not a Constitutional.

Attached to this release is the Executive Summary from the Lorain Police Department's administrative investigation, a statement from the ATF, the independent expert's review of the incident, the complete review from Lorain County Prosecutor JD Tomlinson and the complete IPT Administrative Investigation.

END

**Chief Jim McCann  
LORAIN POLICE DEPARTMENT**

☎ 440.204.1900 | 📠 440.204.2010 | 🌐 [www.lorainpolice.com](http://www.lorainpolice.com) | 188 West Erie Avenue • Lorain, Ohio 44042-0848

**126-W-27TH-ST-MEDIA-RELEASE-  
ADMINISTRATIVE-  
INVESTIGATION**  
PDF Document · 9.6 MB

# 10:06

grades kindergarten and above. Events should be reported as they occur in the End of Year Student (S) Collections and the SOES End of Year Student (S) Collections by districts to record and track non-EMIS reportable actions taken.

125 of 159

Event Date	Action Taken (Non-EMIS Reportable)	Absence Event (E)
10/31/2022		(A) Parent Notified
10/27/2022		(B) Student become
12/09/2021		(B) Student become
10/26/2021		(A) Parent Notified

Figure 34: Records provided to OPS from Lorain City Schools, pursuant to

**Investigative Report | IA-23-013 / 2023-5546**

OFFICE OF

**PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS | LORAIN**  
**POLICE DEPARTMENT**



Daily Attendance      IEP

# 10:06

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Report | IA-23-013 / 2023-5546

124 of 153

OFFICE OF

**PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS | LORAIN**  
**POLICE DEPARTMENT**

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Jacob Levi Hall was Truant from School on the Day of th

OPS obtained a Grand Jury Subpoena for the school records to school records provided by the Lorain City Schools, Jacob Levi Hall on February 15, 2023. The records also indicated that he had not been in school since October 17, 2022.

**Aaron Christopher Knapp, LSW, CDCA(p),BSSW**

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## Beko, Michele

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**From:** Aaron Knapp <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 13, 2025 1:36 PM  
**To:** Joseph LaVeck; City Group; Robert J. Gargas; Jack Bradley; Garon Petty; Lorain PD  
**Subject:** Response to Public Records Denial and Misapplication of R.C. 149.43(A)(1)(v)

**External sender** <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>

Make sure you trust this sender before taking any actions.

**Aaron Christopher Knapp, LSW, CDCA, BSSW**  
4220 Talbot Lane  
Lorain, OH 44055  
Email: a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com

**July 13, 2025**

**Joseph T. LaVeck, Esq.**  
Assistant Law Director & Police Legal Advisor  
City of Lorain  
200 W. Erie Avenue, 3rd Floor  
Lorain, Ohio 44052  
Email: joseph\_laveck@cityoflorain.org

**RE: Response to Public Records Denial and Misapplication of**

Dear Attorney LaVeck:

Thank you for your July 24, 2023 response to my public records request. I am a former Lorain Ohio Counselor, Social Worker, and Marriage & Family Therapist. I am respectfully submitting this written reply to clarify the applicable legal standards.

You state that "even if there was a complaint made or information provided by a City of Lorain employee, it would not be a public record, as it is confidential information, as defined by R.C. 149.43(A)(1)(v) and R.C. 4757.38(B)(1). However, your interpretation misapplies these statutes by conflating the confidentiality obligations of the receiving agency (i.e., the Social Work Board) with those of the originating public office (i.e., the City of Lorain).

### 1. The Email Complaint, If Sent from a City-Issued Account, Is a Public Record Under Ohio Law

Under Ohio's Public Records Act, a "public record" includes any document, regardless of format, **"that is created or received by or coming under the jurisdiction of any public office of the state or its political subdivisions, which serves to document the organization, functions, policies, decisions, procedures, operations, or other activities of the office."** R.C. 149.011(G); see also R.C. 149.43(A)(1).

It is well-settled that **emails sent from city-owned computers or email accounts, relating to public business, are public records.** See *State ex rel. Wilson-Simmons v. Lake Cty. Sheriff's Dep't*, 82 Ohio St.3d 37 (1998); see also *State ex rel. Toledo Blade Co. v. Seneca Cty. Bd. of Comm'rs*, 120 Ohio St.3d 372, 2008-Ohio-6253.

A complaint submitted by a police officer or any city employee using city email or during the course of official duties **documents the activities of the city office.** The city's copy—whether in a sent folder, server archive, or data backup—is

Hey he this  
already - he  
created it  
Group

subject to R.C. 149.43, regardless of where else it may have been sent. As confirmed in *State ex rel. Cincinnati Enquirer v. Krings*, 2000 Ohio App. LEXIS 5854, the public's right of access does not depend on where a record ends up, but where it originated and whether it documents public business.

## **2. The Confidentiality of the Board's Investigative Records Does Not Extend to the City's Copy**

You cite R.C. 4757.38(B)(1), which indeed prohibits the Social Work Board from disclosing complaints or investigative records. However, this statute applies only to the Board. It does not prohibit the originating agency from disclosing the same document. There is no language in R.C. 4757.38 that extends this confidentiality mandate to third-party public offices like the City of Lorain. As the Ohio Attorney General's *Sunshine Laws Manual* explains, an exception to the Public Records Act must be "explicit," and cannot be implied or inferred from another agency's rules or duties.

Moreover, the Supreme Court of Ohio has been clear that a public record does not become confidential simply because it was later transferred to another agency with stricter disclosure laws. See *State ex rel. Findlay Publishing Co. v. Hancock Cty. Bd. of Comm'rs*, 80 Ohio St.3d 134 (1997).

## **3. R.C. 149.43(A)(1)(v) Does Not Apply Absent a Specific Prohibition on Release by Law**

R.C. 149.43(A)(1)(v) excludes from disclosure only records "the release of which is prohibited by state or federal law." To invoke this exemption, a public office must show that a specific statute *prohibits the public office in question*—in this case, the City of Lorain—from releasing the record. There is no such statute here. Again, R.C. 4757.38(B)(1) governs the Board—not your office, not the police department.

Unless you can cite an actual statute that forbids the City of Lorain from releasing an email authored and sent by one of its employees from city servers, the record remains a public record and must be disclosed.

## **4. Public Accountability Demands Disclosure When a Complaint Is Filed in the Name of a Public Agency**

Finally, I reiterate that the complaint in question was allegedly submitted not merely by a private citizen, but by an individual claiming to act on behalf of "the Lorain Police Department." If a complaint was filed purporting to represent a public agency, it absolutely qualifies as a matter of public interest, accountability, and transparency. It raises significant ethical and administrative questions if a city employee falsely represented the agency to an outside licensing body, and the public has a right to inspect such correspondence.

## **5. Next Steps**

I remain committed to resolving this matter cooperatively. However, if your office continues to deny this request without proper statutory justification, I will proceed with a formal complaint to the Ohio Court of Claims under R.C. 2743.75. Additionally, I will consider filing a whistleblower retaliation claim based on the retaliatory nature of the original complaint and the City's subsequent actions affecting my employment and licensure.

Please respond within a reasonable timeframe and reconsider the City's position in light of the above analysis. I request that the City of Lorain conduct a search of all city email servers, including Chief McCann's, for any communications sent to the Social Work Board between June 2023 and July 2023 referencing me or purporting to represent the Lorain Police Department.

Respectfully,

**Aaron Christopher Knapp, LSW, CDCA(p), BSSW**

**Aaron Christopher Knapp, BSSW, LSW, CDCA**  
**NASW Member ID: 886836612**

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## Beko, Michele

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**From:** Harper, Anita <Anita\_Harper@cityoflorain.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 12, 2025 10:56 AM  
**To:** Beko, Michele  
**Subject:** RE: Item C of the Board of Control  
**Attachments:** Wickens Herzer Panza Payments 3-1-20 to 2-12-25.pdf

Here you go..

---

**From:** Beko, Michele <Michele\_Beko@cityoflorain.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 12, 2025 9:54 AM  
**To:** Harper, Anita <Anita\_Harper@cityoflorain.org>  
**Subject:** FW: Item C of the Board of Control

Good Morning! If you send me the report of payments to other things going on –

Michele

*Michele T. Beko*  
*Administrative Asst/Office Manager*  
*Lorain Law Director's Office*  
*200 West Erie Avenue, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor*  
*Lorain, OH 44052*  
*440.204.2250*  
[Michele\\_beko@cityoflorain.org](mailto:Michele_beko@cityoflorain.org)



a lot of

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**From:** Garon Petty <garonpetty@roadrunner.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 11, 2025 5:33 PM  
**To:** Harper, Anita <Anita\_Harper@cityoflorain.org>; Beko, Michele <Michele\_Beko@cityoflorain.org>; Riley, Patrick <Patrick\_Riley@cityoflorain.org>; Bradley, Jack <Jack\_Bradley@cityoflorain.org>; City Council Mail Group <CityCouncilMailGroup@cityoflorain.org>; Kalo, Ted <Ted\_Kalo@cityoflorain.org>; Soto, Terri <Terri\_Soto@cityoflorain.org>; Dull, Breanna <Breanna\_Dull@cityoflorain.org>  
**Cc:** Robert J Gargas <rjgargas@gmail.com>; Aaron Knapp <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>; Michael Scherach <mjscherach.law@centurytel.net>; Brad Dicken <BDicken@chroniclet.com>; Darryl Tucker <dtucker@morningjournal.com>; Dan Gilles <Dgillescle@gmail.com>; Jackie Conrad <botanist62@hotmail.com>; Dennis Flores <dennisforlorain@gmail.com>; Tom Niewulis <tniewulis@ncdcs.com>; Mike Mason <Mike.Mason@woio.com>; Brian Ames <bmames00@gmail.com>; William Bobel <bobelectric@gmail.com>; mark campolo <vicchrismic4486@gmail.com>; lcp@lcpProsecutor.org; Lindsay Carr <Lindsay.Carr@OhioAGO.gov>; rebecca kempton <REK5767@aol.com>  
**Subject:** Item C of the Board of Control

**External sender** <garonpetty@roadrunner.com>

Make sure you trust this sender before taking any actions.

To whoever has the Public Records in Lorain government,

Please send me by 149.43 ORC the Total amount of money paid to Wickens, Herzer and Panza Law firm for services in case # 20cv200713 Lorain Common Pleas, from March of 2020 until the present by the city of Lorain.

Agenda  
destinyhosted.com



Thank you ,  
Garon Petty

## Beko, Michele

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**From:** Springowski, Mary <Mary\_Springowski@cityoflorain.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 6, 2025 10:38 AM  
**To:** Beko, Michele  
**Subject:** Re: this all came back to me

Thanks!

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

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**From:** Beko, Michele <Michele\_Beko@cityoflorain.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 6, 2025 10:36:33 AM  
**To:** Springowski, Mary <Mary\_Springowski@cityoflorain.org>  
**Subject:** RE: this all came back to me

We did receive Mary – thank you!

Michele

*Michele T. Beko*  
*Administrative Asst/Office Manager*  
*Lorain Law Director's Office*  
*200 West Erie Avenue, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor*  
*Lorain, OH 44052*  
*440.204.2250*  
[Michele\\_beko@cityoflorain.org](mailto:Michele_beko@cityoflorain.org)



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**From:** Springowski, Mary <Mary\_Springowski@cityoflorain.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 6, 2025 10:35 AM  
**To:** Riley, Patrick <Patrick\_Riley@cityoflorain.org>; McCann, James - Chief <Jim\_McCann@cityoflorain.org>; Morris, Jacob <Jacob\_Morris@cityoflorain.org>; tony.cillo@lprosecutor.org; Zaleski, Don <Don\_Zaleski@cityoflorain.org>  
**Cc:** Brad Dicken <bdicken@chroniclet.com>; Carissa Woytach <cwoytach@chroniclet.com>; Darryl Tucker <dtucker@morningjournal.com>; Heather Chapin <hchapin@morningjournal.com>; Loraine Ritchey <lritch7@yahoo.com>  
**Subject:** Fw: this all came back to me

Mrs. Ritchey asked me to forward this to you all due to her concerns for my safety as she feels things are escalating.

---

**From:** lorainmary <[lorainmary@gmail.com](mailto:lorainmary@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 6, 2025 9:24 AM  
**To:** Springowski, Mary <[Mary\\_Springowski@cityoflorain.org](mailto:Mary_Springowski@cityoflorain.org)>  
**Subject:** FW: this all came back to me

**Warning: Unusual sender** <[lorainmary@gmail.com](mailto:lorainmary@gmail.com)>

You don't usually receive emails from this address. Make sure you trust this sender before taking any actions.

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

----- Original message -----

From: Loraine Ritchey <[lritch7@yahoo.com](mailto:lritch7@yahoo.com)>

Date: 2/6/25 9:51 AM (GMT-05:00)

To: Lorainmary <[lorainmary@gmail.com](mailto:lorainmary@gmail.com)>

Subject: this all came back to me

in the city of Lorain Email group Maybe you can share it with them :)

Loraine Ritchey

From:lritch7@yahoo.com

To:Riley, Patrick,McCann, James - Chief,Morris, Jacob,Tony Cillo,Zaleski, Don and 18 more...

Cc:Marty Gallagher,Brad Dicken,Carissa Woytach,Darryl Tucker,Heather Chapin and 2 more...

Bcc:Lor Ritch

Thu, Feb 6 at 9:42 AM

As you may or not be aware I have been concerned as this verbal slugging off by (Attorney) Bob Gargasz ( **under the guise of "personal opinion"** is escalating and very concerning.

**These emails and there are more than one ....and posts on social media by Bob Gargasz and Garon Petty for years, not weeks not months has been most worrying to me for more than two years .**

ALL OF YOU SAW WHAT HAPPENED WITH OFFICER PALMER AND DIXIE THE DOG when those posts reached out to a community who believed the erroneous information, the life threats by strangers, conspiracy theorists , the socially challenged . The LPD and the officer faces death threats and terrible verbal retribution .. All because a fake name George Patton ( aka Aaron Knapp) put up erroneous information on Lorain, Ohio. ... See LPD Police Investigation and also Part one of my own thoughts [Lorain, Oh - A DOG Succumbs As Does REASON / CIVILITY | OH Her Again!](#)

I have reached out to the Law Dept on more than one occasion, Chief McCann and the Prosecutor at the time J.D. Tomlinson. I did so in order have a documented paper trail of my concerns . I still have concerns

I realize that Council At Large Springowski is a public figure and therefore open to criticism ... this is in my view **targeted harassment with "lawyer speak"** .

"

The Democratic party was too clever to see you are the local equivalent of Kamala Harris. Shame on those local hooded politicians (democrats founded the KKK)! Are you going to begin your political meetings in crack houses now with passed out scantily dressed Lady in Black lying around in a drug induced stupor?

Democrats the ship is singing a losing tune. Abandon that boat and come over to the Party of Lincoln. Free yourselves from that Godless, woke, corrupt, poisonous, treasonous cult and party of war and fear mongering.

The Republican Party invites you to begin anew, repent and change. Support the Republic, its Constitution and The Bill of Rights! Are you a Patriot?

Will you condemn those amongst you who represent an evil to America, Lorain County, and especially the People of Lorain, Ohio (The International City)?

Mr. Wysocki, thank you for protecting our school children while on a field trip. invaded by so many dangerous and violent gangs, rapists, robbers, thieves all are criminals illegal aliens.

In my OPINION Gargasz lumps all his enemies and enemies of the nation in one email .... including the Red headed devil ( his main target. ) in with who the Marxist Anarchists and communists to be machined gunned down at stacked like cord wood on the steps of city hall

Lorraine Ritchey

From:lritch7@yahoo.com

To:James - Chief McCann

Cc:Patrick Riley

Bcc:Lor Ritch,Mary Springowski

Sat, Jan 14, 2023 at 2:12 PM

Dear Chief McCann,

As I have made you aware I am very concerned as to the seemingly escalating rhetoric by Mr. Petty with regard to Mrs. Springowski. His latest tirade on the forums re the data breach is very worrying to me. As you are aware I was very involved with the data breach situation and have taken insults and innuendo galore. I wrote a 23 page report on the whole situation. People have only a limited amount of information and half truths and sound bites are being bandied about at the cost of reputations of perfectly innocent people. .

Having been on the forums this morning trying to clarify what really happened. I understand that not only did Mr. Petty reach out to the Mayor , Law Director etc but to you with regard to Mrs. Springowski and his conclusions of criminal intent . This was fueled , **IN MY OPINION by a chastising statement made by Mayor Bradley with regard to Mrs. Springoswki , the IRS etc. Should you require a copy of that exchange I have the minutes and also the information being put out on the forum. the City council meeting November 2022. My concern is for the welfare of my friend .**

Therefore, please find a public records request to your Dept. with regard to any correspondence electronic or otherwise, and please make note of my concerns with this persons actions.



**Robert Gargas: 'Marxist anarchists' and 'communists' should be shot, 's...**

Robert Gargas, the Republican candidate for Lorain County Prosecutor, has publicly called for the killing of "M...

So if any of you can't hold bullying accountable for a member of City of Lorain Government then PLEASE tell me who can!!!!

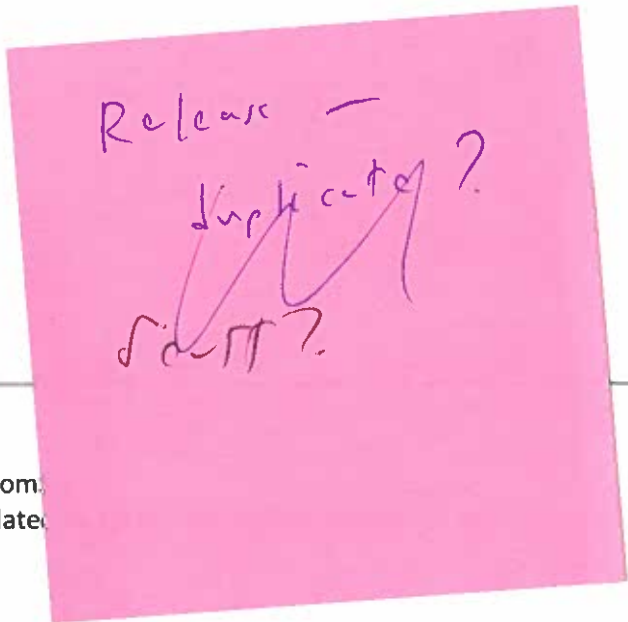
Thank you Loraine Ritchey

**Beko, Michele**

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**From:** Bowles, Scott <Scott\_Bowles@cityoflorain.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 28, 2025 2:19 PM  
**To:** Dull, Breanna  
**Subject:** Fw: Public Records Request – Communications Related to Aaron Christopher Knapp

Scott Bowles  
Assistant Prosecutor  
City of Lorain Law Department  
(440) 204-2250



---

**From:** Bowles, Scott <Scott\_Bowles@cityoflorain.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 20, 2025 10:19 AM  
**To:** a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>  
**Subject:** Re: Public Records Request – Communications Related to Aaron Christopher Knapp

Mr. Knapp,

I am in receipt of your public records request dated August 20, 2025 at 5:46am. I expect this request, as currently constructed to be quite voluminous. Should any responsive emails be to or from "a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com," would you like these records to be produced?

Scott Bowles  
Assistant Prosecutor  
City of Lorain Law Department  
(440) 204-2250

---

**From:** Falbo, Carlie <Carlie\_Falbo@cityoflorain.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 20, 2025 9:51 AM  
**To:** Bowles, Scott <Scott\_Bowles@cityoflorain.org>  
**Subject:** FW: Public Records Request – Communications Related to Aaron Christopher Knapp

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**From:** Aaron Knapp <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 20, 2025 5:46 AM

To: Riley, Patrick <Patrick\_Riley@cityoflorain.org>; Beko, Michele <Michele\_Beko@cityoflorain.org>; City Council Mail Group <CityCouncilMailGroup@cityoflorain.org>; Robert J. Gargas <rjgargas@gmail.com>; Garon Petty <onelung2014@gmail.com>; Lorain daily <erik@loraindaily.com>; Mike Mason <Mike.Mason@woio.com>; Clevescene <news@clevescene.com>; Noelle Williams <Noelle.Williams@woio.com>; Fox <tips@fox8.com>; Bradley, Jack <Jack\_Bradley@cityoflorain.org>; Zaleski, Don <Don\_Zaleski@cityoflorain.org>; City Council Mail Group <CityCouncilMailGroup@cityoflorain.org>; Brian Ames <bmames00@gmail.com>

**Subject:** Public Records Request – Communications Related to Aaron Christopher Knapp

External sender <[a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com](mailto:a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com)>

Make sure you trust this sender before taking any actions.

To Whom It May Concern,

Pursuant to the Ohio Public Records Act, I respectfully request the following records:

### **1. Date Range:**

- From January 1, 2025 to the present (August 2025)

### **2. Records Requested:**

- All emails, internal communications, attachments, and documents that:
  - Mention “Aaron Christopher Knapp”, or
  - Relate to or discuss any charges, investigations, or legal proceedings involving me in Lorain Municipal Court

### **3. Custodians of Records (Staff Involved):**

#### **Law Director’s Office**

- Patrick Riley (Law Director)
- Joseph LaVeck

- James McCann
- Kenneth Resar
- Donald Zaleski
- Joseph Pritchard
- Michele Beko
- Carlie Irvin

### **Prosecutor's Office**

- Mallory Santiago
- Rocky Radeff
- Denise Rakich
- Margarita Rivera
- Alexia Diaz

### **4. Format:**

Please provide records in electronic format (PDF, or original .eml format if possible).

### **5. Regarding Redactions and Privilege:**

I request the records unredacted, to the fullest extent permitted by law. I understand that not all communications involving attorneys are protected under attorney-client privilege or exempt from disclosure. In particular:

- Emails between public officials are not automatically exempt, and
- The burden of proving any exemption lies with the agency.

If you believe certain portions must be redacted, please cite the specific legal exemption used for each redaction or withheld record.

## **7. Additional Statement:**

If the City of Lorain is willing to spend public money to take Facebook post disputes to the Special Master, it should not hesitate to comply with a legitimate public records request concerning official communications and charging decisions.

This effort to withhold or delay records is not only unproductive — it's wasteful. You've already stated that Council has not acted, and yet resources are still being spent to fight over it. Stop wasting taxpayer dollars and release the records.

I find it especially troubling, Donald, that you're so flippant with my tax dollars — and yet seem unwilling to produce routine emails. If you continue to obstruct, this will cost the City far more than it would to comply.

## **8. Legal Notice:**

This is my official demand letter under the Ohio Public Records Act, and it will be submitted to the court as part of the record if compliance is not met in a lawful and timely manner.

Thank you for your attention to this request.

## **6. Contact:**

Please inform me in advance of any potential costs.

Thank you for your compliance with the Ohio Public Records Act and your attention to this request.

Sincerely,

Aaron Christopher Knapp

**Aaron Christopher Knapp, LSW, CDCA(p),BSSW**

NOTICE: THIS ELECTRONIC MESSAGE TRANSMISSION CONTAINS INFORMATION WHICH MAY BE CONFIDENTIAL OR PRIVILEGED. THE INFORMATION IS INTENDED ONLY FOR THE USE OF THE INDIVIDUAL(S) OR ENTITY(IES) NAMED ABOVE. IF YOU ARE NOT THE INTENDED RECIPIENT, PLEASE BE AWARE THAT ANY DISCLOSURE, COPYING, DISTRIBUTION, OR USE OF THE CONTENTS OF THIS INFORMATION IS PROHIBITED. IF YOU HAVE RECEIVED THIS ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION IN ERROR, PLEASE IMMEDIATELY NOTIFY THE SENDER AND DELETE THE COPY YOU RECEIVED.

## Beko, Michele

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**From:** Kelly Wahlers <kwahlers@ohiocourtclaims.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 24, 2025 9:46 AM  
**To:** breanna\_dull@cityoflorain.org  
**Subject:** 2025-00525PQ Court of Claims Public Record Request

**Warning: Unusual sender** <kwahlers@ohiocourtclaims.gov>

You don't usually receive emails from this address. Make sure you trust this sender before taking any actions.

Good afternoon,

My name is Kelly Wahlers, and I am the Court of Claims Staff Attorney assigned to triage the request by Aaron Knapp in 2025-00524PQ. Please let me know your current understanding of the request, whether anything has been provided to the requestor, and your stance on the request so that I can determine how this case should move forward.

Thank you,



**Kelly K. Wahlers, Staff Attorney**

Thomas J. Moyer Ohio Judicial Center | 65 South Front Street, 3rd Floor | Columbus, Ohio 43215  
Telephone: 614.387.9800 | [kwahlers@ohiocourtclaims.gov](mailto:kwahlers@ohiocourtclaims.gov) | [www.ohiocourtclaims.gov](http://www.ohiocourtclaims.gov)

**Caution: External email.** Do not open attachments or click on links if you do not recognize the sender.



**Beko, Michele**

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**From:** Failing, Mike <Mike\_Failing@cityoflorain.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 3, 2025 1:52 PM  
**To:** LaVeck, Joseph  
**Subject:** FW: Emails

**From:** Aaron Knapp <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, May 11, 2025 7:57 AM  
**To:** City Council Mail Group <CityCouncilMailGroup@cityoflorain.org>; Morris, Jacob <Jacob\_Morris@cityoflorain.org>; Bradley, Jack <Jack\_Bradley@cityoflorain.org>; Robert J. Gargas <rjgargas@gmail.com>; Sheriff Jack Hall <jhall@loraincountysheriff.com>; Tony Cillo <antcillo.cill@gmail.com>; Garon Petty <onelung2014@gmail.com>; Riley, Patrick <Patrick\_Riley@cityoflorain.org>; Carrion, Rey <Rey\_Carrion@cityoflorain.org>  
**Cc:** Failing, Mike <Mike\_Failing@cityoflorain.org>; David Yost AG <AGOCARES@ohioago.gov>; Craig Snodgrass <auditor@loraincounty.com>; Auditor <auditor@lcauditor.com>; Comer, David <DComer@CityofLorain.org>; Brian Ames <bmames00@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** Emails

**External sender <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>**  
Make sure you trust this sender before taking any actions.

I've been ignored long enough. I want every email sent from James McCann that contains my name. I want ALL the emails you have been lying and saying don't exist to a constituent.

You have one week. If I don't have them by a week from tomorrow, if not in my possession by the 19th, I take you to court. No excuses. Just emails. Period. I'm done.

This pig broke the law and I'm done playing games. You have lied and covered for him long enough.

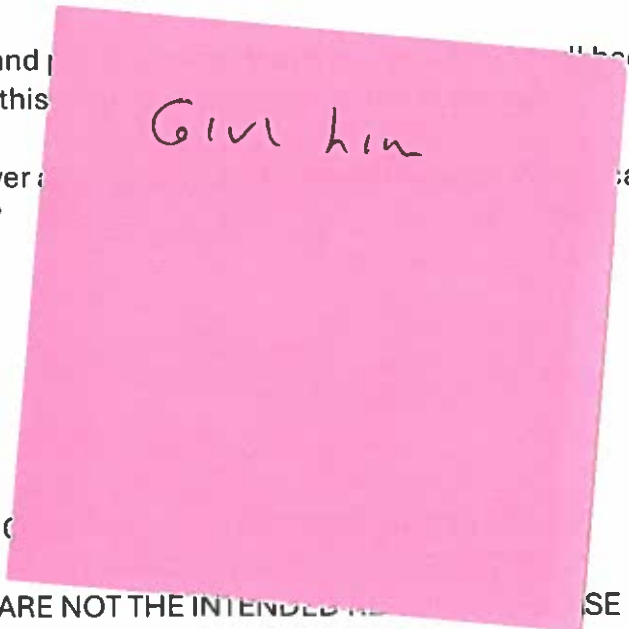
Ps: if you have been withholding them, I ccd the sheriff and previously asked and failed to respond, if I hear nothing this

I don't care who brings them but if Morris can hand deliver I'm certain you can hand deliver my requests as well??

Make it Happen.

**Aaron Christopher Knapp, LSW, CDCA(p), BSSW**

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## Beko, Michele

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**From:** Carbonaro, Joseph <Joseph\_Carbonaro@cityoflorain.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 18, 2025 1:27 PM  
**To:** Kalo, Ted  
**Cc:** Beko, Michele; Koziura, Joseph; Strader, John; Beko, Michele; Koziura, Joseph; Strader, John  
**Subject:** Re: Records Requests for contracts.

There is one agreement we have for sanitary sewer service with Sheffield Lake. The agreement should be in Docuware.

Thank you

Joe C

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 18, 2025, at 1:16 PM, Kalo, Ted <Ted\_Kalo@cityoflorain.org> wrote:

I do not have any contracts with the City of Sheffield Lake.

---

**From:** Beko, Michele <Michele\_Beko@cityoflorain.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 18, 2025 11:49 AM  
**To:** Koziura, Joseph <Joe\_Koziura@cityoflorain.org>; Carbonaro, Joseph <Joseph\_Carbonaro@cityoflorain.org>; Kalo, Ted <Ted\_Kalo@cityoflorain.org>  
**Cc:** Strader, John <John\_Strader@cityoflorain.org>  
**Subject:** FW: Records Requests for contracts.

Good Morning!

Don needs copy of the contracts listed below by you Joe. Also, if there any contracts for any type of services with the Lorain Municipal Court/Clerk of Courts Office/Sheffield Lake, please send copy of those.

Thank you – Michele

*Michele T. Beko*  
*Administrative Asst/Office Manager*  
*Lorain Law Director's Office*  
*200 West Erie Avenue, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor*  
*Lorain, OH 44052*  
*440.204.2250*  
[Michele\\_beko@cityoflorain.org](mailto:Michele_beko@cityoflorain.org)

**From:** Aaron Knapp <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>

**Sent:** Friday, January 31, 2025 1:05 PM

**To:** Koziura, Joseph <Joe\_Koziura@cityoflorain.org>

**Cc:** Robert J. Gargasz <rjgargasz@gmail.com>; Kokoski, Lori <Lori\_Kokoski@cityoflorain.org>; Carrion, Rey <Rey\_Carrion@cityoflorain.org>; Bradley, Jack <Jack\_Bradley@cityoflorain.org>; Riley, Patrick <Patrick\_Riley@cityoflorain.org>; Zaleski, Don <Don\_Zaleski@cityoflorain.org>; Arredondo, Joel <joel\_arredondo@cityoflorain.org>; City Council Mail Group <CityCouncilMailGroup@cityoflorain.org>; Radeff, Rocky <Rocky\_Radeff@cityoflorain.org>; Morris, Jacob <Jacob\_Morris@cityoflorain.org>; McCann, James - Chief <Jim\_McCann@cityoflorain.org>; Harper, Anita <Anita\_Harper@cityoflorain.org>; Andrew Geronimo JD <andrew.geronimo@case.edu>; Tom Niewulis <tniewulis@ncdcs.com>; Mike Mason <Mike.Mason@woio.com>; Brad Dicken <BDicken@chroniclet.com>; Brian Ames <bmames00@gmail.com>; Carissa Woytach <cwoytach@chroniclet.com>; VEK6173@aol.com; Natalio Rodriguez <natalio@centurytel.net>; Jackie Conrad <botanist62@hotmail.com>; Kathryn Kennedy <kathrynkennedy627@gmail.com>; Kirsten Hill <kirsten@kirstenhill.com>; Monica D. Pluta <Monica.Pluta@lcprosecutor.org>; Craig Snodgrass <auditor@loraincounty.com>; David J Moore <dmoore@loraincounty.us>; jriddell@loraincounty.us; mgallagher@loraincounty.us; Michael Scherach <mjscherach.law@centurytel.net>; Mike Doran <mikedoran@mikedoran.com>; Mike.Brosky@fflorain.bank; Dennis Flores <dennisforlorain@gmail.com>; Linda Rivera <nrivera25594@gmail.com>; Denise Wilms <denisewilms@aol.com>; Jim Renacci <jrenacci@gmail.com>; Jeanne Petty <jeanne\_810@yahoo.com>; sandemeilander@yahoo.com; David Yost AG <AGOCARES@ohioago.gov>

**Subject:** Re: Records Requests for contracts.

**External sender** <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>

Make sure you trust this sender before taking any actions.

What about contracts with the municipal court? In recent budget talk's Sheffield Lake received or made payments to the city of Lorain for something? What's that? Do you have an agreement for the municipal court and Sheffield lake, or do they have their own? How does that work?

**Aaron Christopher Knapp, LSW, CDCA(p), BSSW**

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On Jan 31, 2025, at 10:14, Koziura, Joseph <Joe\_Koziura@cityoflorain.org> wrote:

To all concerned,

The following items are the only contracts that this office is aware of, at this time, concerning the cities of Lorain and Sheffield Lake.

Mutual Aide for Safety Forces

Water Pollution Control (Sewage Services)

Regards,

Joe

---

**From:** Robert J. Gargasz <[rjgargasz@gmail.com](mailto:rjgargasz@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 28, 2025 4:25 PM  
**To:** Koziura, Joseph <[Joe\\_Koziura@cityoflorain.org](mailto:Joe_Koziura@cityoflorain.org)>; Kokoski, Lori <[Lori\\_Kokoski@cityoflorain.org](mailto:Lori_Kokoski@cityoflorain.org)>; Carrion, Rey <[Rey\\_Carrion@cityoflorain.org](mailto:Rey_Carrion@cityoflorain.org)>; Bradley, Jack <[Jack\\_Bradley@cityoflorain.org](mailto:Jack_Bradley@cityoflorain.org)>; Riley, Patrick <[Patrick\\_Riley@cityoflorain.org](mailto:Patrick_Riley@cityoflorain.org)>; Zaleski, Don <[Don\\_Zaleski@cityoflorain.org](mailto:Don_Zaleski@cityoflorain.org)>; Arredondo, Joel <[joel\\_arredondo@cityoflorain.org](mailto:joel_arredondo@cityoflorain.org)>; City Council Mail Group <[CityCouncilMailGroup@cityoflorain.org](mailto:CityCouncilMailGroup@cityoflorain.org)>; Radeff, Rocky <[Rocky\\_Radeff@cityoflorain.org](mailto:Rocky_Radeff@cityoflorain.org)>; Morris, Jacob <[Jacob\\_Morris@cityoflorain.org](mailto:Jacob_Morris@cityoflorain.org)>; McCann, James - Chief <[Jim\\_McCann@cityoflorain.org](mailto:Jim_McCann@cityoflorain.org)>  
**Cc:** Harper, Anita <[Anita\\_Harper@cityoflorain.org](mailto:Anita_Harper@cityoflorain.org)>; Andrew Geronimo JD <[andrew.geronimo@case.edu](mailto:andrew.geronimo@case.edu)>; Robert J Gargasz <[rjgargasz@gmail.com](mailto:rjgargasz@gmail.com)>; Aaron Knapp <[a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com](mailto:a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com)>; Tom Niewulis <[tniewulis@ncdcs.com](mailto:tniewulis@ncdcs.com)>; Mike Mason <[Mike.Mason@woio.com](mailto:Mike.Mason@woio.com)>; Brad Dicken <[BDicken@chroniclet.com](mailto:BDicken@chroniclet.com)>; Brian Ames <[bmames00@gmail.com](mailto:bmames00@gmail.com)>; Carissa Woytach <[cwoytach@chroniclet.com](mailto:cwoytach@chroniclet.com)>; [VEK6173@aol.com](mailto:VEK6173@aol.com); Natalio Rodriguez <[natalio@centurytel.net](mailto:natalio@centurytel.net)>; Jackie Conrad <[botanist62@hotmail.com](mailto:botanist62@hotmail.com)>; Kathryn Kennedy <[kathrynkennedy627@gmail.com](mailto:kathrynkennedy627@gmail.com)>; Kirsten Hill <[kirsten@kirstenhill.com](mailto:kirsten@kirstenhill.com)>; Monica D. Pluta <[Monica.Pluta@lcprosecutor.org](mailto:Monica.Pluta@lcprosecutor.org)>; Craig Snodgrass <[auditor@loraincounty.com](mailto:auditor@loraincounty.com)>; David J Moore <[DMoore@loraincounty.us](mailto:DMoore@loraincounty.us)>; [jriddell@loraincounty.us](mailto:jriddell@loraincounty.us); [mgallagher@loraincounty.us](mailto:mgallagher@loraincounty.us); Michael Scherach <[mjscherach.law@centurytel.net](mailto:mjscherach.law@centurytel.net)>; Mike Doran <[mikedoran@mikedoran.com](mailto:mikedoran@mikedoran.com)>; [Mike.Brosky@fflorain.bank](mailto:Mike.Brosky@fflorain.bank); Dennis Flores <[dennisforlorain@gmail.com](mailto:dennisforlorain@gmail.com)>; Linda Rivera <[nrivera25594@gmail.com](mailto:nrivera25594@gmail.com)>; Denise Wilms <[denisewilms@aol.com](mailto:denisewilms@aol.com)>; Jim Renacci <[jrenacci@gmail.com](mailto:jrenacci@gmail.com)>; Jeanne Petty <[jeanne\\_810@yahoo.com](mailto:jeanne_810@yahoo.com)>; [sandemeilander@yahoo.com](mailto:sandemeilander@yahoo.com); David Yost AG <[AGOCARES@ohioago.gov](mailto:AGOCARES@ohioago.gov)>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Records Requests for contracts.

**External sender** <[rjgargasz@gmail.com](mailto:rjgargasz@gmail.com)>

Make sure you trust this sender before taking any actions.

ALL

Garon had requested city contracts Lorain has with Sheffield Lake, Ohio, service and monetary contracts lists.

Per 149.43 or any ORC that requires the public records to be made public when asked for.

As you are or may be a custodian of such records please provide them as requested by Mr. Petty.

The response provided by the Law Department is not adequate as it should have been referred to the appropriate custodian of the appropriate records.

The service director and auditor should each be a repository of such public records, correct?

Please respond to Mr. Petty.

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Garon Petty <[garonpetty@roadrunner.com](mailto:garonpetty@roadrunner.com)>  
**Date:** January 28, 2025 at 3:38:00 PM EST  
**To:** Lindsay Carr <[Lindsay.Carr@ohioago.gov](mailto:Lindsay.Carr@ohioago.gov)>, [lcp@lcprosecutor.org](mailto:lcp@lcprosecutor.org), [NortheastRegion@ohioauditor.gov](mailto:NortheastRegion@ohioauditor.gov)  
**Cc:** "Harper, Anita" <[Anita\\_Harper@cityoflorain.org](mailto:Anita_Harper@cityoflorain.org)>, "Andrew Geronimo, JD" <[andrew.geronimo@case.edu](mailto:andrew.geronimo@case.edu)>, Robert J Gargasz <[rjgargasz@gmail.com](mailto:rjgargasz@gmail.com)>, Aaron Knapp <[a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com](mailto:a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com)>, Tom Niewulis <[tniewulis@ncdcs.com](mailto:tniewulis@ncdcs.com)>, Mike Mason <[Mike.Mason@woio.com](mailto:Mike.Mason@woio.com)>, Brad Dicken <[BDicken@chroniclet.com](mailto:BDicken@chroniclet.com)>, Brian Ames <[bmames00@gmail.com](mailto:bmames00@gmail.com)>, Carissa Woytach <[cwoytach@chroniclet.com](mailto:cwoytach@chroniclet.com)>, [VEK6173@aol.com](mailto:VEK6173@aol.com), Natalio Rodriquez <[natalio@centurytel.net](mailto:natalio@centurytel.net)>, Jackie Conrad <[botanist62@hotmail.com](mailto:botanist62@hotmail.com)>, Kathryn Kennedy <[kathrynkennedy627@gmail.com](mailto:kathrynkennedy627@gmail.com)>, Kirsten Hill <[kirsten@kirstenhill.com](mailto:kirsten@kirstenhill.com)>, "Monica D. Pluta" <[Monica.Pluta@lcprosecutor.org](mailto:Monica.Pluta@lcprosecutor.org)>, Craig Snodgrass <[auditor@loraincounty.com](mailto:auditor@loraincounty.com)>, David J Moore <[DMoore@loraincounty.us](mailto:DMoore@loraincounty.us)>, [jriddell@loraincounty.us](mailto:jriddell@loraincounty.us), [mgallagher@loraincounty.us](mailto:mgallagher@loraincounty.us), Michael Scherach <[mjscherach.law@centurytel.net](mailto:mjscherach.law@centurytel.net)>, Mike Doran <[mikedoran@mikedoran.com](mailto:mikedoran@mikedoran.com)>, [Mike.Brosky@fflorain.bank](mailto:Mike.Brosky@fflorain.bank), Dennis Flores <[dennisforlorain@gmail.com](mailto:dennisforlorain@gmail.com)>, Linda Rivera <[nrivera25594@gmail.com](mailto:nrivera25594@gmail.com)>, Denise Wilms <[denisewilms@aol.com](mailto:denisewilms@aol.com)>, Jim Renacci <[jrenacci@gmail.com](mailto:jrenacci@gmail.com)>, jeanne Petty <[jeanne\\_810@yahoo.com](mailto:jeanne_810@yahoo.com)>, [sandemeilander@yahoo.com](mailto:sandemeilander@yahoo.com), David Yost AG <[AGOCARES@ohioago.gov](mailto:AGOCARES@ohioago.gov)>  
**Subject: Records Requests for contracts.**

Hello Ms Carr, Lorain County Prosecutor and Northeast Region of Ohio Auditor,

I am now asking for an investigation why I cant get my records request fulfilled from the City of Lorain, Ohio?

Hello, please send me a list of all contracts the city of Lorain, Ohio has with the city of Sheffield Lake, Ohio, service and monetary contracts lists.

Per 149.43 or any ORC that requires the public records to be made public when asked for.

Thank You

Garon Petty January 17, 2025

"Mr. Petty,

Please be informed that this office is not the keeper of any documents which constitute "a list of all contracts the City of Lorain has with the City of Sheffield Lake, Ohio and monetary contracts lists." You may wish to contact the Utilities Dept.

Law Director Riley" January 27, 2025

Help us in Lorain, Ohio please,

Garon Petty