

## Beko, Michele

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**From:** Dull, Breanna <Breanna\_Dull@cityoflorain.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 11, 2025 11:50 AM  
**To:** Garon Petty; Partin, Maggie; Riley, Patrick; Comer,David; City Council Mail Group; Zaleski,Don  
**Subject:** RE: Minutes and videos of May 2023 council regular and committee meetings  
**Attachments:** 3.20.23 Reg Mins & Pub Hrg.pdf; 3.20.23 Reg Mins & Pub Hrg(1).pdf; 3.27.23 Pub Hearing energy aggregation.pdf; 3.27.23 Special Call Minutes.pdf; 3.27.23 Streets & Utilities.pdf; 3.27.23 Streets & Utilities(1).pdf; 4.3.23 Reg Mins.pdf; 4.10.23 B & L.pdf; 4.10.23 Parks & Rec.pdf; 4.10.23 Special Call Minutes.pdf; 4.17.23 Reg Mins.pdf; 5.1.23 Reg Mins.pdf; 5.8.23 Streets & Utilities.pdf; 5.15.23 Reg Mins.pdf; 5.15.23 Reg Mins(1).pdf; 6.5.23 Reg Mins.pdf; 6.12.23 Pub Hearing ZCA 1-2023 2500 West Erie.pdf; 6.26.23 B&L Bway Commons.pdf; 7.3.23 Reg Mins.pdf; 7.17.23 Reg Mins.pdf; 7.24.23 Parks & Rec & all of Council Committee.pdf; 7.24.23 Special Call Minutes.pdf; 1.17.23 Reg Mins.pdf; 1-3-2023 Reg Min.pdf; 2 Federal Programs 9.11.pdf; 2.6.23 Reg Mins.pdf; 2.13.23 Finance & All of Council.pdf; 2.13.23 Streets - Omni fiber.pdf; 2.20.23 Reg Mins.pdf; 3 9.11.23 Streets & Utilities.pdf; 3.6.23 Reg Mins.pdf; 3.13.23 B&L.pdf; 3.13.23 Special Call Minutes.pdf

Mr. Petty,

Please see the attached response and files requested. There will be more emails to follow, due to the volume of files requested.

*Breanna Dull, CMC*  
Clerk of Lorain City Council  
200 West Erie Avenue  
Lorain, Ohio 44052

440.204.2050  
440.204.2521 fax

**From:** Garon Petty <garonpetty@roadrunner.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, May 11, 2025 10:05 AM  
**To:** Dull, Breanna <Breanna\_Dull@cityoflorain.org>; Partin, Maggie <Maggie\_Partin@cityoflorain.org>; Riley, Patrick <Patrick\_Riley@cityoflorain.org>; Comer,David <DComer@CityofLorain.org>; City Council Mail Group <CityCouncilMailGroup@cityoflorain.org>  
**Cc:** Jim Dowdell <jwdowdell@frontier.com>; Robert J Gargas <rjgargas@gmail.com>; Aaron Knapp <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>; Andrew Geronimo, JD <andrew.geronimo@case.edu>; Tony Cillo <antcillo.cill@gmail.com>; Tom Niewulis <tniewulis@ncdcs.com>; Tori Middlebrooks <tmiddlebrooks4@gmail.com>; Bradley, Jack <Jack\_Bradley@cityoflorain.org>; Carrion, Rey <Rey\_Carrion@cityoflorain.org>; Lindsay Carr <Lindsay.Carr@OhioAGO.gov>; ethics@ethics.ohio.gov; NortheastRegion@ohioauditor.gov; Noelle Williams <noelle.williams@woio.com>; Brian Ames <bames00@gmail.com>; Brad Dicken <BDicken@chroniclet.com>; Craig Snodgrass <auditor@LorainCounty.com>; Andy Young <AYoung@chroniclet.com>; Julie Wallace <JWallace@chroniclet.com>; Carissa Woytach <cwoytach@chroniclet.com>; Carolyn White <cwhite@centurytell.net>; David Yost AG <AGOCARES@ohioago.gov>; rebecca kempton <REK5767@aol.com>; Linda Rivera <nrivera25594@gmail.com>; Mike.Brosky@fflorain.bank; Michael Scherach <mjscherach.law@centurytel.net>; Mike

Mason <Mike.Mason@woio.com>; Dennis Flores <dennisforlorain@gmail.com>; Natalio Rodriquez <natalio@centurytel.net>; VEK6173@aol.com; Nathan Manning <manning@ohiosenate.gov>  
**Subject:** Minutes and videos of May 2023 council regular and committee meetings

External sender <garonpetty@roadrunner.com>

Make sure you trust this sender before taking any actions.

Hello,

Please provide the meetings on demand videos and the official minutes taken for ALL council regular and committee meetings for the month of May 2023 per 149.43 ORC.

Also and explanation why council regular and committee meeting minutes and videos are no longer public Accessible for the years 2021, 2022, 2023. I have requested an explanation previously.

Please provide all of them from the years 2020 until the present.

The voted on City council rules for the years of 2015 until the present rules of record.

All records requests per 149.43 Ohio Revised Code.

All certificates of completion for the Ohio Sunshine Laws training per council Rules 41 of all council members for the last 15 years.

Thank you,  
Garon Petty



## Beko, Michele

---

**From:** Dull, Breanna <Breanna\_Dull@cityoflorain.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 11, 2025 11:44 AM  
**To:** Garon Petty; Partin, Maggie; Riley, Patrick; Comer,David; City Council Mail Group; Zaleski,Don  
**Subject:** RE: Minutes and videos of May 2023 council regular and committee meetings  
**Attachments:** Response .pdf; 1-27-20 police.pdf; 1-27-20 Water Sewer rates.pdf; 1-27-2020finance.pdf; 2-3-2020 reg.pdf; 2-10-2020 Eschtruth Farmland.pdf; 2-17-2020 Reg Min.pdf; 2-24-2020 ZCA 1-2020 & 2-2020.pdf; 3-9-2020 Finance.pdf; 3-10-2020 Finance.pdf; 4-20-2020regmin.pdf; 5-18-2020regmin.pdf; 6-1-2020 Reg Min.pdf; 6-8-2020 Finance.pdf; 6-15-2020reg min.pdf; 7-6-2020 Reg Min.pdf; 7-13-2020 Oster & Grove Ave rezonings.pdf; 7-20-20 3yr Sewer Rehab.pdf; 7-20-2020regminPDF.pdf; 8-10-2020 B & L.pdf; 8-10-2020 special call minutes.pdf; 9-3-2020 special call minutes.pdf; 9-8-2020 Reg Min.pdf; 9-14-2020 ZCA-7-2020.pdf; 9-21-2020REGMIN.pdf; 9-28-2020 B & L.pdf; 10-5-2020 Reg Min.pdf; 10-12-2020 police.pdf; 10-12-2020 special call minutes.pdf; 10-19-2020 regmin.pdf; 10-19-2020 regmin(1).pdf; 10-26-2020 Finance.pdf; 11-2-2020regmin.pdf; 11-16-2020.pdf; 11-23-2020 141 E. Erie & P&Z Code.pdf; 11-23-2020 police.pdf; 12-14-20 Slum & Blight.pdf; 12-14-20 Slum & Blight(1).pdf; 12-16-2020 budget.pdf; 12-21-2020 reg min.pdf; 12-21-2020 reg min(1).pdf; 119 pf.pdf; 119 sts.pdf; 474\_11-2-2020regmin.pdf; 489\_12-7-2020 reg min.pdf; corrected 3-2-2020 Reg Min.pdf; corrected 3-23-20 Spmin.pdf; 1-6-2020 regmin.pdf; 1-13-20 Oak Hill Blvd.pdf; 1-13-2020 Finance & Claims.pdf; 1-13-2020 Rezone 5109.5153 Leavitt Road.pdf; 1-21-2020 Reg Min.pdf

Mr. Petty,

Please see the attached response and files requested. There will be more emails to follow, due to the volume of files requested.

*Breanna Dull, CMC*  
Clerk of Lorain City Council  
200 West Erie Avenue  
Lorain, Ohio 44052

440.204.2050  
440.204.2521 fax

**From:** Garon Petty <garonpetty@roadrunner.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, May 11, 2025 10:05 AM  
**To:** Dull, Breanna <Breanna\_Dull@cityoflorain.org>; Partin, Maggie <Maggie\_Partin@cityoflorain.org>; Riley, Patrick <Patrick\_Riley@cityoflorain.org>; Comer,David <DComer@CityofLorain.org>; City Council Mail Group <CityCouncilMailGroup@cityoflorain.org>  
**Cc:** Jim Dowdell <jwdowdell@frontier.com>; Robert J Gargas <rjgargas@gmail.com>; Aaron Knapp <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>; Andrew Geronimo, JD <andrew.geronimo@case.edu>; Tony Cillo <antcillo.cill@gmail.com>; Tom Niewulis <tniewulis@ncdcs.com>; Tori Middlebrooks <tmiddlebrooks4@gmail.com>; Bradley, Jack <Jack\_Bradley@cityoflorain.org>; Carrion, Rey <Rey\_Carrion@cityoflorain.org>; Lindsay Carr <Lindsay.Carr@OhioAGO.gov>; ethics@ethics.ohio.gov; NortheastRegion@ohioauditor.gov; Noelle Williams

<noelle.williams@woio.com>; Brian Ames <bmames00@gmail.com>; Brad Dicken <BDicken@chroniclet.com>; Craig Snodgrass <auditor@LorainCounty.com>; Andy Young <AYoung@chroniclet.com>; Julie Wallace <JWallace@chroniclet.com>; Carissa Woytach <cwoytach@chroniclet.com>; Carolyn White <cwhite@centurytel.net>; David Yost AG <AGOCARES@ohioago.gov>; rebecca kempton <REK5767@aol.com>; Linda Rivera <nrivera25594@gmail.com>; Mike.Brosky@fflorain.bank; Michael Scherach <mjscherach.law@centurytel.net>; Mike Mason <Mike.Mason@woio.com>; Dennis Flores <dennisforlorain@gmail.com>; Natalio Rodriquez <natalio@centurytel.net>; VEK6173@aol.com; Nathan Manning <manning@ohiosenate.gov>

**Subject:** Minutes and videos of May 2023 council regular and committee meetings

External sender <[garonpetty@roadrunner.com](mailto:garonpetty@roadrunner.com)>

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The voted on City council rules for the years of 2015 until the present rules of record.

All records requests per 149.43 Ohio Revised Code.

All certificates of completion for the Ohio Sunshine Laws training per council Rules 41 of all council members for the last 15 years.

Thank you,  
Garon Petty

Agenda - View Meetings

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### Subscribe May, 2023

Agendas	Meeting	Minutes	Other Links
<a href="#">May 31, 2023</a>	Board of Control	<a href="#">Minutes</a>	
<a href="#">May 25, 2023</a>	Civil Service Commission	<a href="#">minutes</a>	<a href="#">Meeting on Demand</a>
<a href="#">May 25, 2023</a>	Fair Housing Board		<a href="#">Meeting on Demand</a>
<a href="#">May 24, 2023</a>	Board of Control	<a href="#">Minutes</a>	
<a href="#">May 18, 2023</a>	Demolition Board of Appeals		<a href="#">Meeting on Demand</a>
<a href="#">May 18, 2023</a>	Fair Housing Board		
<a href="#">May 17, 2023</a>	Board of Control	<a href="#">Minutes</a>	
<a href="#">May 11, 2023</a>	Sewer & Water Advisory Board	<a href="#">Minutes</a>	<a href="#">Meeting on Demand</a>
<a href="#">May 9, 2023</a>	Civil Service Commission	<a href="#">minutes</a>	<a href="#">Meeting on Demand</a>
<a href="#">May 3, 2023</a>	Board of Control	<a href="#">Minutes</a>	
<a href="#">May 3, 2023</a>	May Planning Commission		<a href="#">Meeting on Demand</a>
<a href="#">May 3, 2023</a>	May Zoning Board of Appeals		<a href="#">Meeting on Demand</a>

**Search Agenda Items**

## Beko, Michele

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**From:** LaVeck, Joseph <Joseph\_LaVeck@cityoflorain.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 3, 2025 11:37 AM  
**To:** 'Aaron Knapp'  
**Subject:** RE: Response to Public Records Denial and Misapplication of R.C. 149.43(A)(1)(v)

Mr. Knapp:

The City is still working on processing your public records request.

Thank you.

Best Regards,

Joseph T. LaVeck, Esq  
Chief Asst. Law Director & Police Legal Advisor  
200 W. Erie Avenue, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
Lorain, Ohio 44052  
[joseph\\_laveck@cityoflorain.org](mailto:joseph_laveck@cityoflorain.org)

**From:** LaVeck, Joseph  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 28, 2025 1:22 PM  
**To:** 'Aaron Knapp' <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>  
**Subject:** RE: Response to Public Records Denial and Misapplication of R.C. 149.43(A)(1)(v)

Mr. Knapp:

As you know, the Law Department is not the repository of records that may be responsive to your request. Your request is being processed, and I will have a response to you as soon as possible. I appreciate your continued patience.

Thank you.

Best Regards,

Joseph T. LaVeck, Esq  
Chief Asst. Law Director & Police Legal Advisor  
200 W. Erie Avenue, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
Lorain, Ohio 44052  
[joseph\\_laveck@cityoflorain.org](mailto:joseph_laveck@cityoflorain.org)

**From:** Aaron Knapp <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 28, 2025 12:36 PM  
**To:** LaVeck, Joseph <[Joseph\\_LaVeck@cityoflorain.org](mailto:Joseph_LaVeck@cityoflorain.org)>  
**Subject:** Re: Response to Public Records Denial and Misapplication of R.C. 149.43(A)(1)(v)

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

Make sure you trust this sender before taking any actions.

Its been 15 days on this matter (and longer due to previous denials) please accept this as 3 days notice of intent to file with court of claims

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

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.

On Tuesday, May 13, 2025 at 02:28:53 PM EDT, Aaron Knapp <[a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com](mailto:a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com)> wrote.

- On Jul 24, 2023, at 16:05, LaVeck, Joseph <[Joseph\\_LaVeck@cityoflorain.org](mailto:Joseph_LaVeck@cityoflorain.org)> wrote:

Mr. Knapp:

I am simply informing you that I am unaware of any complaint being made against you, but even if there was a complaint made or information provided by a City of Lorain employee to "the Board," any complaint or information provided would be confidential and therefore not a public record. See R.C. 149.43(A)(1)(v). See also R.C. 4757.38(B)(1).

Thank you.

Best Regards,

Joseph T. LaVeck, Esq

Assistant Law Director & Police Legal Advisor  
200 W. Erie Avenue, 3rd Floor  
Lorain, Ohio 44052

[joseph\\_laveck@cityoflorain.org](mailto:joseph_laveck@cityoflorain.org)

---

**From:** Aaron Knapp [<mailto:a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>]  
**Sent:** Monday, July 24, 2023 3:46 PM  
**To:** LaVeck, Joseph  
**Subject:** Re: Public Records Request

To be clear it was specifically stated to the Board that it was the "Lorain Police Department" not one particular person.

So as the legal advisor and law director are you saying that someone within the department filed this complaint and claimed to represent the Police Department as an agency?

We both know it was the chief who has harassed me since the department decided to break the law. Also now my employment has been threatened.

So you're stating that filing a false complaint saying that you represent the Lorain Police isn't a matter of public record?

I'm going to the court of claims next but I needed to give you an opportunity to respond. I've tried my best to handle this out of court. A simple apology and a fix of the problem.

To be clear I witnessed the Lorain Police post illegal documents online and tried to report it as a whistleblower. As such I consider myself protected under state and federal law.

And I've given the city multiple opportunities to deal with this the right way. Instead my employment has been attacked and my license threatened when the police broke the law.

I'm not the one who posted juvenile court records online in violation of Ohio Revised Code and then tried to cover it up.

In the end I think it's at minimum a matter of public record to inquire who filed the complaint representing a public agency?

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

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On Jul 24, 2023, at 13:18, LaVeck, Joseph <[Joseph\\_LaVeck@cityoflorain.org](mailto:Joseph_LaVeck@cityoflorain.org)> wrote:

Mr. Knapp

Please find this correspondence to serve as the response to your public records request dated July 23, 2023. At this time, the City of Lorain does not possess nor is aware of any complaint allegedly made against you, and even if a City employee did make such a complaint, such complaint would not be subject to disclosure, pursuant to R.C. 149.43(A)(1)(v).

Thank you

Best Regards,

Joseph T LaVeck, Esq

Assistant Law Director & Police Legal Advisor  
200 W Erie Avenue, 3rd Floor  
Lorain, Ohio 44052

[joseph\\_laveck@cityoflorain.org](mailto:joseph_laveck@cityoflorain.org)

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

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On Tuesday, May 13, 2025 at 02:25:27 PM EDT, Aaron Knapp <[a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com](mailto:a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com)> wrote:

Understood. I know this was almost a year ago. Recent discussion and discovery have lead me to understand the law differently in how it applies to the deferent branches of the government. In this case if he did use a city server to send it then it's my contention I would be afforded the document based on this interpretation of the the ORC.

Thank you. I'll forward the original.

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

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On May 13, 2025, at 13:45, LaVeck, Joseph <[Joseph\\_LaVeck@cityoflorain.org](mailto:Joseph_LaVeck@cityoflorain.org)> wrote

Mr. Knapp:

Thank you for your email. I am in the process of re-reviewing your original request, the response provided, and checking City records. I am working to provide a timely response to your request.

Thank you.

Best Regards,

Joseph T. LaVeck, Esq

Chief Asst. Law Director & Police Legal Advisor

200 W Erie Avenue, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor

Lorain, Ohio 44052

[joseph\\_laveck@cityoflorain.org](mailto:joseph_laveck@cityoflorain.org)

**From:** Aaron Knapp <[a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com](mailto:a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com)>

**Sent:** Tuesday, May 13, 2025 1:36 PM

**To:** LaVeck, Joseph <[Joseph\\_LaVeck@cityoflorain.org](mailto:Joseph_LaVeck@cityoflorain.org)>; City Council Mail Group <[CityCouncilMailGroup@cityoflorain.org](mailto:CityCouncilMailGroup@cityoflorain.org)>; Robert J. Gargas <[rigargas@gmail.com](mailto:rigargas@gmail.com)>; Bradley, Jack <[Jack\\_Bradley@cityoflorain.org](mailto:Jack_Bradley@cityoflorain.org)>; Garon Petty <[onelung2014@gmail.com](mailto:onelung2014@gmail.com)>; Lorain PD Records Request <[LPDRecordsRequest@cityoflorain.org](mailto:LPDRecordsRequest@cityoflorain.org)>

**Subject:** Response to Public Records Denial and Misapplication of R.C. 149.43(A)(1)(v)

---

**External sender** <[a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:joseph_laveck@cityoflorain.org)

**RE: Response to Public Records Denial and Misapplication of R.C. 149.43(A)(1)(v)**

Dear Attorney LaVeck:

Thank you for your July 24, 2023 response to my public records request regarding a complaint reportedly submitted to the Ohio Counselor, Social Worker, and Marriage & Family Therapist Board by a member of the Lorain Police Department. I respectfully submit this written reply to clarify the applicable legal standards and to dispute your cited basis for denial.

You state that “even if there was a complaint made or information provided by a City of Lorain employee to ‘the Board,’ any complaint or information provided would be confidential and therefore not a public record,” citing 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 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

---

**From:** Springowski, Mary <Mary\_Springowski@cityoflorain.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 28, 2025 9:15 AM  
**To:** Loraine Ritchey; Lorainmary; Riley, Patrick; Tony Cillo; Morris, Jacob; Failing, Mike  
**Cc:** Lor Ritch; Jack Hall; Soto, Rick  
**Subject:** Re: mary springowski

The fan fiction is humorous. For the record I have never met or spoken with Dave Moore or the other gentlemen mentioned in this.

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

---

**From:** Loraine Ritchey <lritch7@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 28, 2025 9:09:47 AM  
**To:** Lorainmary <lorainmary@gmail.com>; Riley, Patrick <Patrick\_Riley@cityoflorain.org>; Tony Cillo <tony.cillo@lcprosecutor.org>; Springowski, Mary <Mary\_Springowski@cityoflorain.org>; Morris, Jacob <Jacob\_Morris@cityoflorain.org>; Failing, Mike <Mike\_Failing@cityoflorain.org>  
**Cc:** Lor Ritch <lorrych7@gmail.com>; Jack Hall <jack.hall@hallforsheriff.com>; Soto, Rick <Rick\_Soto@cityoflorain.org>  
**Subject:** Fw: mary springowski

**External sender** <lritch7@yahoo.com>

Make sure you trust this sender before taking any actions.

Oh dear someone has upset senseicobrakai aka Aaron Knapp, Richard Malvern , George Patton etc. I have a flurry of emails this morning I am sharing because you should know this is ratcheting up ...

----- Forwarded Message -----

**From:** senseicobrakai@protonmail.com <senseicobrakai@protonmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 27, 2025 at 10:29:16 PM EDT  
**Subject:** Fw: mary springowski

----- Forwarded message -----

So the rumors of the secret meetings of springowski and dave moore are true.. Springowski, jerry donovan and jim sloan all in bed with dave moore.. and motor mouth mary connects the dots herself to dave..

She is also known to have a secret recorder that she records all interactions with the public and brags about recording jack bradley..

So Marty Gallagher has a big fundraiser for Moore in December 2022, then is put on the port authority board Jan 2023, then under dave moore's advice and campaign donor, tell marty to hire Bobby Ina and Rob Benjamin as advisors to buy the mall February 2023 after a port authority executive session.. both Ina under the name Metropolis and Rob Benjamin advisors are being paid \$16,000 a month and Ina per quarter are stealing money from the tax payers for doing absolutely nothing. Not to mention Hills Correctional also theiving money.

All of them donate back to Moore and Gallagher..

Rob benjamin and bobby ina are 2 close to the union theives.. Bobby Ina is sheetmetal workers union direct and a donor to dave moore and Rob and Bobby are close to Mary

All the spew and hatred she had for dave moore was all a smoke screen, she has been in bed with him and jd tonlinson littererly since day 1...

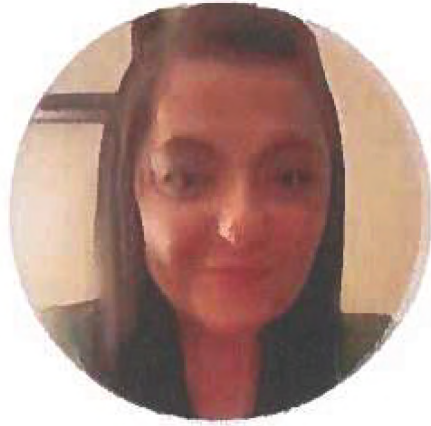
she is a Stinking irish pig! and now she connected the dots herself..

gosh darn if felon fogel only knew that the only political woman left in his life is a dave moore ally.

The longer the mall sits the more money Benjamin and Ina steal from the county under direction of Moore.

Motor Mouth Mary spills the beans....





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addressing their needs  
needed. The footprint  
former Midway Mall  
housing, training centers,  
medical and mental  
clinics, etc. Differences  
allow for individuals  
based on their requirements.  
Making this a county-wide effort  
means that everyone has  
responsibility in this  
community. There are  
issues this could address

   **33** >

## Most relevant ▾



 **Author**

**Mary Springowski for**  
**Homelessness is ep**  
**time. And, unfortun**  
**the homeless (not a**  
**number) often have**  
**issues, as well. Sor**  
**difficult for them as**  
**residential areas wh**  
**face hostility and re**



**Mary Spence**

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**In talking about  
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former Midway  
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**Mary Springowski for Lo...** ... X

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In talking about the homeless issue with Beth Henley , she mentioned that the former Midway Mall would be an ideal location for countrywide homeless shelter. Wraparound support services could be located on site as well as gender specific and family wings. It's an interesting concept.

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25 comments 1 share



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**Most relevant** ▾



✍️ Author

**Mary Springowski for Lorain**

Homelessness is epidemic at this time. And, unfortunately, many of the homeless (not all but a fair number) often have mental issues, as well. Sometimes it is difficult for them assimilating in residential areas where they may face hostility and residents who are concerned about what could be perceived as antisocial behavior. Creating a community that afforded them dignity, independence while still

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Sent from [Proton Mail](#) for YourMom

## Beko, Michele

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**From:** Loraine Ritchey <lritch7@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 28, 2025 9:10 AM  
**To:** Lorainmary; Patrick Riley; Tony Cillo; Mary Springowski; Morris Jacob; Mike\_Failing@cityoflorain.org  
**Cc:** Lor Ritch; Jack Hall; rick\_soto@cityoflorain.org  
**Subject:** Fw: mary springowski

**External sender <lritch7@yahoo.com>**

Make sure you trust this sender before taking any actions.

Oh dear someone has upset senseicobrakai aka Aaron Knapp, Richard Malvern , George Patton etc. I have a flurry of emails this morning I am sharing because you should know this is ratcheting up ...

----- Forwarded Message -----

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----- Forwarded message -----

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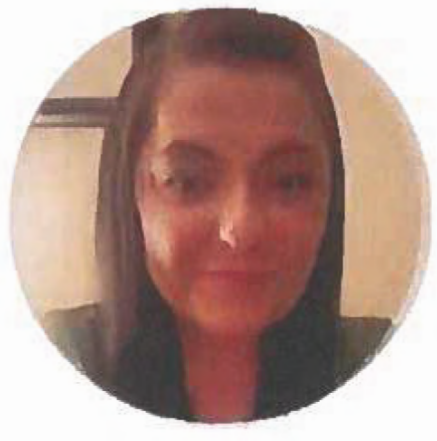
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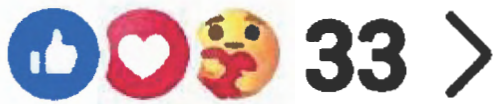
Motor Mouth Mary spills the beans....





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**Most relevant** ▾



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25 comments 1 share



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**Most relevant** ▾



✍️ Author

**Mary Springowski for Lorain**

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Sent from [Proton Mail](#) for YourMom

## Beko, Michele

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**From:** Aaron Knapp <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 14, 2025 7:56 AM  
**To:** City Group; Jack Bradley; Rey Carrion; Patrick Riley; Robert J. Gargas; Leigh Prugh; Tony Cillo; Melissa Troth  
**Subject:** Settlement  
**Attachments:** Aaron Knapp Claim Version 3.0.pdf

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

Make sure you trust this sender before taking any actions.

As the Newspaper stated today, its better to talk, than wait to settle. This is what I have written up so far. I'm unsure if it will be Robert (based on medical issues) or per se, but this will be filed. So if you're willing to discuss settlement now Id strongly advise we do.

Attached is a "Draft" copy of my Lawsuit I will be filing, either with or without Robert (based on his recent medical issues) so if you want to discuss settlement before I file Im willing to entertain offers.

Lack of response will be seen as Tacit approval and I will move forward in filing.

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

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## Beko, Michele

---

**From:** Aaron Knapp <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 13, 2025 2:29 PM  
**To:** Joseph LaVeck  
**Subject:** Re: 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.

- On Jul 24, 2023, at 16:05, LaVeck, Joseph <Joseph\_LaVeck@cityoflorain.org> wrote:

Mr. Knapp:

I am simply informing you that I am unaware of any complaint being made against you, but even if there was a complaint made or information provided by a City of Lorain employee to "the Board," any complaint or information provided would be confidential and therefore not a public record. See R.C. 149.43(A)(1)(v). See also R.C. 4757.38(B)(1).

Thank you.

Best Regards,

Joseph T. LaVeck, Esq

Assistant Law Director & Police Legal Advisor  
200 W. Erie Avenue, 3rd Floor  
Lorain, Ohio 44052

joseph\_laveck@cityoflorain.org

---

**From:** Aaron Knapp [mailto:a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, July 24, 2023 3:46 PM  
**To:** LaVeck, Joseph  
**Subject:** Re: Public Records Request

To be clear it was specifically stated to the Board that it was the "Lorain Police Department" not one particular person.

So as the legal advisor and law director are you saying that someone within the department filed this complaint and claimed to represent the Police Department as an agency?

We both know it was the chief who has harassed me since the department decided to break the law. Also now my employment has been threatened.

So you're stating that filing a false complaint saying that you represent the Lorain Police isn't a matter of public record?

I'm going to the court of claims next but I needed to give you an opportunity to respond. I've tried my best to handle this out of court. A simple apology and a fix of the problem.

To be clear I witnessed the Lorain Police post illegal documents online and tried to report it as a whistleblower. As such I consider myself protected under state and federal law.

And I've given the city multiple opportunities to deal with this the right way. Instead my employment has been attacked and my license threatened when the police broke the law.

I'm not the one who posted juvenile court records online in violation of Ohio Revised Code and then tried to cover it up.

In the end I think it's at minimum a matter of public record to inquire who filed the complaint representing a public agency?

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

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On Jul 24, 2023, at 13:18, LaVeck, Joseph <Joseph\_LaVeck@cityoflorain.org> wrote:

Mr. Knapp:

Please find this correspondence to serve as the response to your public records request dated July 23, 2023. At this time, the City of Lorain does not possess nor is aware of any complaint

allegedly made against you, and even if a City employee did make such a complaint, such complaint would not be subject to disclosure, pursuant to R.C. 149.43(A)(1)(v).

Thank you.

Best Regards,

Joseph T. LaVeck, Esq

Assistant Law Director & Police Legal Advisor  
200 W. Erie Avenue, 3rd Floor  
Lorain, Ohio 44052

joseph\_laveck@cityoflorain.org

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

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On Tuesday, May 13, 2025 at 02:25:27 PM EDT, Aaron Knapp <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com> wrote.

Understood. I know this was almost a year ago. Recent discussion and discovery have lead me to understand the law differently in how it applies to the deferent branches of the government. In this case if he did use a city server to send it then it's my contention I would be afforded the document based on this interpretation of the the ORC.

Thank you. I'll forward the original.

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

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On May 13, 2025, at 13:45, LaVeck, Joseph <Joseph\_LaVeck@cityoflorain.org> wrote:

Mr. Knapp:

Thank you for your email. I am in the process of re-reviewing your original request, the response provided, and checking City records. I am working to provide a timely response to your request.

Thank you.

Best Regards,

Joseph T. LaVeck, Esq

Chief Asst. Law Director & Police Legal Advisor

200 W. Erie Avenue, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor

Lorain, Ohio 44052

[joseph\\_laveck@cityoflorain.org](mailto:joseph_laveck@cityoflorain.org)

**From:** Aaron Knapp <[a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com](mailto:a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com)>

**Sent:** Tuesday, May 13, 2025 1:36 PM

**To:** LaVeck, Joseph <[Joseph\\_LaVeck@cityoflorain.org](mailto:Joseph_LaVeck@cityoflorain.org)>; City Council Mail Group <[CityCouncilMailGroup@cityoflorain.org](mailto:CityCouncilMailGroup@cityoflorain.org)>; Robert J. Gargas <[rjgargas@gmail.com](mailto:rjgargas@gmail.com)>; Bradley, Jack <[Jack\\_Bradley@cityoflorain.org](mailto:Jack_Bradley@cityoflorain.org)>; Garon Petty <[onelung2014@gmail.com](mailto:onelung2014@gmail.com)>; Lorain PD Records Request <[LPDRecordsRequest@cityoflorain.org](mailto:LPDRecordsRequest@cityoflorain.org)>

**Subject:** Response to Public Records Denial and Misapplication of R.C. 149.43(A)(1)(v)

---

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

July 13, 2025

**Joseph T. LaVeck, Esq.**

Assistant Law Director & Police Legal Advisor

City of Lorain

200 W. Erie Avenue, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor

Lorain, Ohio 44052

Email: [joseph\\_laveck@cityoflorain.org](mailto:joseph_laveck@cityoflorain.org)

## **RE: Response to Public Records Denial and Misapplication of R.C. 149.43(A)(1)(v)**

Dear Attorney LaVeck:

Thank you for your July 24, 2023 response to my public records request regarding a complaint reportedly submitted to the Ohio Counselor, Social Worker, and Marriage & Family Therapist Board by a member of the Lorain Police Department. I respectfully submit this written reply to clarify the applicable legal standards and to dispute your cited basis for denial.

You state that “*even if there was a complaint made or information provided by a City of Lorain employee to ‘the Board,’ any complaint or information provided would be confidential and therefore not a public record,*” citing 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 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:** Garon Petty <garonpetty@roadrunner.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 8, 2025 8:31 AM  
**To:** Dull, Breanna; Partin, Maggie; Patrick Riley; City Council Mail Group  
**Cc:** Brian Ames; Aaron Knapp; Robert J Gargas  
**Subject:** Fwd: Violations of Ohio Sunshine Law 121.22

External sender <garonpetty@roadrunner.com>

Make sure you trust this sender before taking any actions.

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Garon Petty <garonpetty@roadrunner.com>  
**Subject: Re: Violations of Ohio Sunshine Law 121.22**  
**Date:** March 10, 2025 at 10:20:57 AM EDT  
**To:** Lindsay Carr <Lindsay.Carr@OhioAGO.gov>, David Yost AG <AGOCARES@ohioago.gov>, ethics@ethics.ohio.gov, Patrick Riley <Patrick\_Riley@cityoflorain.org>, City Council Mail Group <CityCouncilMailGroup@cityoflorain.org>, "Dull, Breanna" <Breanna\_Dull@cityoflorain.org>, lcp@lcpProsecutor.org, "Comer, David" <dcomer@cityoflorain.org>, "Beko, Michele" <Michele\_Beko@cityoflorain.org>, Lorain Police <Kyle\_Gelenius@cityoflorain.org>, "Partin, Maggie" <Maggie\_Partin@cityoflorain.org>, "Bradley, Jack" <Jack\_Bradley@CityofLorain.org>, "Soto, Rick" <Rick\_Soto@CityofLorain.org>, "Kokoski, Lori" <lori\_kokoski@cityoflorain.org>, "Arredondo, Joel" <Joel\_Arredondo@CityofLorain.org>  
**Cc:** Robert J Gargas <rjgargas@gmail.com>, "Andrew Geronimo, JD" <andrew.geronimo@case.edu>, Aaron Knapp <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>, Jackie Conrad <botanist62@hotmail.com>, Michael Scherach <mjscherach.law@centurytel.net>, Brad Dicken <BDicken@chroniclet.com>, clandestinecanary <clandestinecanary@proton.me>, Noelle Williams <noelle.williams@woio.com>, Carolyn White <cwhite@centurytell.net>, Stephanie Jablonsky <stephanie.jablonsky@thefire.org>, Institute for Justice <ifj@ij.org>, Dennis Flores <dennisforlorain@gmail.com>, Jon Morrow <greaterlorainareacaucus@gmail.com>, Jonathan.Schuppe@nbcuni.com, sandemeilander@yahoo.com, Elsebeth Baumgartner <baumgartner.elsebeth@yahoo.com>, Kathryn Kennedy <kathrynkennedy627@gmail.com>

Good morning council clerk, Please send me the certificates for the Sunshine Law Training course and any other training courses completed of all council members per council rules 41 and 149.43 ORC for the last 10 years.

Beth Henley, JoAnne Moon, Angle Arroyo, Joshua Thornsberry and Mary Springowski.  
Council Rules 41  
is clear on the retention of records.

Please send my request ASAP.  
Thank You,  
Garon Petty

shall be identified in the notice and no other business shall be considered. Should the legislative authority adjourn into Executive Session during a special and/or emergency meeting, the topic shall be directly related to matters identified in the notice.

**RULE 3 - Public Meetings**

All regular, special, emergency, committee, work sessions and public hearings etc., of the legislative authority shall be open to the public and conducted in accordance with O.R.C. 121.22. All minutes and records of the Council shall be available to the public to view and/or purchase in the Clerk of Council Office during business hours.

1 | Page

**RULE 4 - Committee-of-the-Whole**

may be resolved into a Committee-of-the-Whole by a majority

...any member may call him to order. The question of order shall be decided immediately and without debate.

**RULE 41- Other Rules/Council Chamber**

Except as provided herein, the most current version of Roberts Rules of Order shall govern the proceedings of Council. It shall be the duty of the Presiding Officer to comprehend and enforce such rules together with the rules herein set forth. No person, other than members of Lorain City Council, staff or other city official shall enter the designated area beyond the bar of the chamber assigned to the Elected Officials after commencement of the meeting. A space shall be designated in the Council Chamber as "Reserved for the Media" and shall be used only by the media in attendance for that purpose.<sup>2</sup> Members of Council shall attend the following training sessions prior to the end of their term and submit the certificate of completion to the Clerk for retention purposes. Ohio Attorney General Sunshine Law Training, BRIT/PERC training module(s) Sensitivity Basics -(two sessions) and Diversity -(one session.)



On Mar 4, 2025, at 1:30 PM, Garon Petty <garonpetty@roadrunner.com> wrote:

Hello,

The last twenty minutes of the March 3, 2025 Lorain City Council meeting and during the whole meeting has clear violations of Ohio's Sunshine Laws 121.22 ORC. Whispering, Texting, passing notes. The Council Clerk monitors the activities of members during the meetings on a computer. Yet violations of the Ohio Sunshines Laws are not reported many times in the Council approved meeting minutes.

Council rule 41 reads, Council members will attend and complete the Sunshine Law training provided by the Ohio Attorney General and provide a certificate of completion at the end of their term. I would like a copy of all council Sunshine Laws certificates for the year of 2022 of current and past members of council which certificates are on record sent to all I have included in this Public Records Request 149.43 by Friday March 7, 2025.

Also I have observed by the Council provided Meeting on Demand videos, that many members of council violate rules 45 and 46 of Lorain City Council. Use of Electronic Devices. What punishments are provided in Lorain city council rules and the Ohio Revised Code to STOP those Observed Violations of Law?

How will Lorain City Council protect the Ohio Sunshine Laws and your Oaths to uphold the Laws of Ohio in the future?

Thank you,  
Garon Petty

Meeting: City Council Regular  
Meeting  
lorainoh.suiteonemedia.com

[<favicon.ico>](#)

**Beko, Michele**

---

**From:** Garon Petty <garonpetty@roadrunner.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, May 3, 2025 11:54 AM  
**To:** Robert J Gargas; lcp@lcprosecutor.org; Sheriff Jack Hall; City Council Mail Group; Michael Scherach; Patrick Riley; Bradley, Jack; Dull, Breanna; Aaron Knapp; David Yost AG; Lindsay Carr  
**Subject:** Why are meetings missing from the Lorain government page for October 2022 and other dates?  
**Attachments:** e4ffe391-278d-4a1e-8598-c7c367077ad2.jpeg

## Beko, Michele

---

**From:** Garon Petty <garonpetty@roadrunner.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 30, 2025 11:05 AM  
**To:** Ted Kalo  
**Cc:** Robert J Gargas; Aaron Knapp; lcp@lcprosecutor.org; Sheriff Jack Hall; City Council Mail Group; Bradley, Jack; Carrion, Rey; mallory\_holmes@cityoflorain.org; Michael Scherach; Denise Wilms; Stephanie Jablonsky; Institute for Justice; Julie Wallace; Darryl Tucker; David Yost AG; Lindsay Carr; jeanne Petty; Patrick Riley; Lorain Police; Anthony Nici; Andrew Geronimo, JD; Stewart, Scott; Comer,David; Zaleski, Don; Carissa Woytach  
**Subject:** Court Transcripts.

External sender <garonpetty@roadrunner.com>

Make sure you trust this sender before taking any actions.

Per 149.43,

Please provide my attorney Robert Gargas and me with the written transcripts of Lt Morris audio testimony in front of Judge Elwell in case number 2024CRB02378.

Thank you,  
Garon Petty

## Beko, Michele

---

**From:** Garon Petty <garonpetty@roadrunner.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 26, 2025 8:33 AM  
**To:** Robert J Gargas; Aaron Knapp; Michael Scherach; VEK6173@aol.com; Sylvia Duvall; Natalio Rodriquez; Tom Niewulis; Tony Cillo; Lindsay Carr; Jeanne Petty; Institute for Justice; Jonathan.Schuppe@nbcuni.com; Sheriff Jack Hall; Jackie Conrad; rebecca kempton; Carissa Woytach; LorainNAACP@gmail.com; Brian Ames; Dan Gilles; Kathryn Kennedy; Elsebeth Baumgartner; Carolyn White; Bradley, Jack; mallory\_holmes@cityoflorain.org; Patrick Riley; Carrion, Rey; Stephanie Jablonsky; David Yost AG; Andrew Geronimo, JD; clandestinecanary; Clevescene; Fox 8; Noele Williams  
**Subject:** Go get Nelson

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

Make sure you trust this sender before taking any actions.

My wife and I were told to leave a TownHall meeting at Morningside HOA because I didnt live there. But 5 elected officials and the Lorain Prosecutor who initially charged me with crimes Mallory-Holmes Santiago was allowed to stay even though they DONT live there.

None on the city/county officials spoke up for our Rights.

Please understand what happened to us.

"First day of class, the law teacher walked in." The first thing he did was ask for the name of a student sitting in the front row:

- What's your name?
- My name is Nelson.
- Get out of my class and never come back! he ordered him.

Nelson was confused. The teacher was heading towards him, he got up quickly, packed up his stuff and left the classroom.

Everyone was scared and outraged but no one was talking.

- Very Good! Let's get it started. What are laws for? asked the teacher.

The students were still scared, but slowly they started answering the question.

- To have order in our society.
- No!
- So that people pay for their actions.
- No! Does anyone know the answer to this question?
- For justice to be done, spoke shy a young girl.
- Finally! Justice! But what is justice?

Everyone was starting to get mad at the teachers attitude. However, they kept answering.

- To protect the rights of the people.
- Okay. But still?

- To differentiate good from bad, to reward those who do good.
- Okay, so answer this question: Did I act correctly when I kicked Nelson out of class?

Everyone was silent, no one responded.

- I want an unanimous answer!
- NO! They answered with one voice.
- Could we say I committed an injustice?
- Yes!

- And why has nobody done anything about it? Why do we want laws and rules if we don't have the will to practice them? Each of you is obliged to speak up when you witness an injustice. All of you. Don't ever stay quiet again!

Go and get Nelson. After all, he is the teacher, I'm from another period.

You know, when we don't stand up for our rights, dignity is lost, and dignity can't be negotiated. "

- Doris Carrier

## Beko, Michele

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**From:** Springowski, Mary <Mary\_Springowski@cityoflorain.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 25, 2025 8:19 PM  
**To:** Loraine Ritchey; Riley, Patrick; LaVeck, Joseph; Beko, Michele; Julie Wallace; Morris, Jacob; Tony Cillo; Soto, Rick  
**Subject:** Re: More Harassment

I have been slandered and libeled. At no time did I publicly speak and certainly not to Mr. Petty. The comments he is falsely attributing to me were made by other people who ARE bona fide residents of Morningside. When someone referred to him as Aaron, I did quietly correct them in a private aside. I can feel reasonably certain it wasn't overheard. Of course, I have proof of all of this. Someone might want to inform Sheriff Hall and Mayor Bradley that the Open Meetings Act was NOT violated as none of the council members present represented a quorum of any committees and certainly didn't represent a majority of the members of Council. But those type of erroneous assumptions occur when people are allowed to go on unchecked and proffer opinions and their interpretations of law despite the fact they are not, with the exception of Mr. Gargas, attorneys. The misogyny I have experienced at the hands of these people is beyond comprehension. For a society that abhors domestic violence and other violence against women, we turn a blind eye to the abuse of women in the public eye. Is this like victim shaming? I do not hold any hope that anyone who could do something will actually do something because it doesn't affect them personally and we all know that is the only time anything is ever done. These people are getting bolder and it will more than likely take them committing a physical act of violence before anything is done. As a rule, I have not responded to any of their nonsense but now they're trying to co-opt private HOA meetings for their own purposes and it is my contention that this is all politically motivated. So, Loraine, I appreciate your efforts but given who this has been sent to they might as well publicize open season on Mary Springowski.

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**From:** Loraine Ritchey <lritch7@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 25, 2025 7:48:54 PM  
**To:** Riley, Patrick <Patrick\_Riley@cityoflorain.org>; LaVeck, Joseph <Joseph\_LaVeck@cityoflorain.org>; Beko, Michele <Michele\_Beko@cityoflorain.org>; Springowski, Mary <Mary\_Springowski@cityoflorain.org>; Julie Wallace <jwallace@chroniclet.com>; Morris, Jacob <Jacob\_Morris@cityoflorain.org>; Tony Cillo <tony.cillo@lprosecutor.org>; Soto, Rick <Rick\_Soto@cityoflorain.org>  
**Subject:** More Harassment

### Warning: Unusual link

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For months, in fact years I have sent you issues of what I perceive to be targeting of Mrs. Springowski by Petty, Knapp and Bob Gargas. I guess they have been received and filed. However, now Gargas (who is the attorney) for Petty and Knapp continues his verbal diarrhea at the expense of Mary Springowski who does not engage with them. This is blatant targeted verbiage to discredit her without foundation. She is entitled to go about representing the people of Lorain without fear from this trilogy of the "unplugged." I am filing a formal complaint to someone not sure who yet but I will

do the research. . We cannot allow this "trio of the vindictive" to keep damaging people their lives and profession . You have turned deaf ears for months as to my concerns and NOW you must realize the escalation and how dangerous this is becoming . Thank You Loraine Ritchey

Bob Gargasz writes..

[Robert J. Gargasz](<https://substack.com/profile/27590081-robert-j-gargasz...>)

[10h](<https://lorainpoliticsunplugged.substack.com/.../111920885>)

Mary Springowski (MS), knick -named (the red headed devil), demonstrates her malice and hatred towards Mr. Petty and contempt for the concepts of "honesty and transparency" in government.

MS demonstrates herself a tyrant who abuses her authority as a city council person. She must be defeated if honest government is to exist, blossom, and thrive in Lorain, Ohio.

MS has falsely described Mr. Petty in the past claiming fraudulently a fear of him. Being broadcast should be the least of her fears: MS has engaged in an orchestrated conspiracy against Mr. Petty's civil rights and has culpability for conspiring to bring false and malicious accusations, charges, and prosecutions against Mr. Petty.

MS is slated to be a star witness whom from the witness stand must explain her series of false statements make to an alleged investigator during an ordered "make it happen" investigation.

After the termination of a council meeting, it is not possible to trespass in city hall. Every citizen has the right to approach city administration or council representatives to seek redress of their grievances or just to say hi. MS believes otherwise and needs to be removed at the ballot box for her appalling actions expressed again seeking to conduct public business privately. Her willingness to violate the sunshine laws could not be demonstrated more clearly.

Just as illegal as trying to conduct a Town Hall meeting in private (secret in violation of OMA. Are her false statements and accusations to a police officer and her conspiring to conduct a malicious prosecution of Mr. Petty.

MS has not just shown her true colors, she has demonstrated herself as having a penchant for dishonesty and should never have been vested with power or authority by any legitimate political authority.

The demonstration of her character and ability to violate state law and orchestrate the removal of Mr. Petty and his wife from what was to be a public meeting, only serves to explain why she must be voted out of public office!

MS is a cancer to Lorain. MS must be excised for the good of Lorain, Ohio. A poisonous dishonest politician who breaches her oath of office, the Morning Side incident, is but the latest demonstration of her malice towards The Rule of LAW and proper government in Lorain, Ohio.

Robert J. Gargasz.

All reactions:

11

## Beko, Michele

---

**From:** Aaron Knapp <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 25, 2025 6:18 PM  
**To:** City Group; Jack Bradley; Patrick Riley; Sheriff Jack Hall; erik@vermiliondaily.com, Robert J. Gargasz; Garon Petty; Breanna Dull  
**Subject:** Records request

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

**Date:** April 25, 2025

### VIA EMAIL

#### Public Records Request

City of Lorain  
Law Department / Public Records Officer  
200 West Erie Avenue  
Lorain, OH 44052

Dear Public Records Officer,

Pursuant to the **Ohio Public Records Act, R.C. 149.43**, I respectfully request copies of the following public records related to the event referred to as the "Morningside HOA Townhall" meeting, held in April 2025, which included the attendance of multiple City Council members, the Mayor, and the Sheriff:

1. **All official city documentation** regarding the scheduling, planning, notice, or participation in the "Morningside HOA Townhall" meeting; including but not limited to calendars, announcements, notices, agendas, or meeting planning materials.
2. **All communications (including emails, text messages, and internal messages)** between or among City Council members, the Mayor, city administrative staff, or other city officials **regarding:**
  - o The Morningside HOA Townhall event;
  - o Garon Petty;
  - o The decision or discussion surrounding the nature or status of the event (public vs. private);
  - o Any instructions or discussions about asking individuals to leave the event.
3. **Any records identifying who officially invited City officials** (Mayor, Council members, Sheriff) to attend the Morningside HOA Townhall meeting, including invitations, requests, or correspondences with HOA leadership or residents.
4. **Any records, documentation, or communications that discuss or establish the event as "private,"** including any emails, messages, directives, signage instructions, or verbal guidance provided before or during the event to that effect.

If any portion of this request is denied, please provide the legal authority for the denial as required by **R.C. 149.43(B)(3)** and release all segregable portions of otherwise exempt material.

I am requesting these records in electronic format where possible. If there are any costs associated with the fulfillment of this request, please notify me in advance.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter. I look forward to your response within a reasonable period as defined by Ohio law.

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

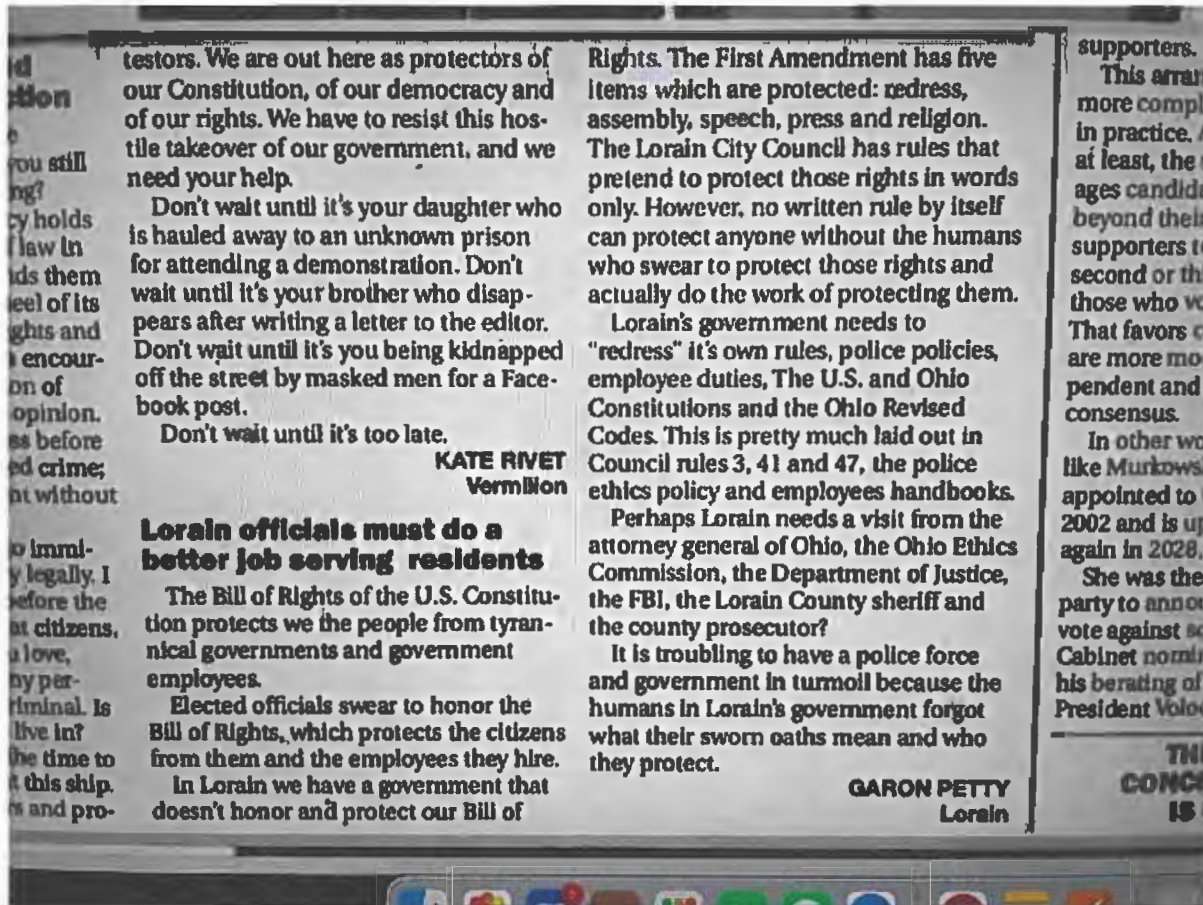
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**Beko, Michele**

**From:** Garon Petty <garonpetty@roadrunner.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 25, 2025 7:42 AM  
**To:** Robert J Gargas; Andrew Geronimo, JD; David Yost AG; City Council Mail Group; Bradley, Jack; mallory\_holmes@cityoflorain.org; Patrick Riley; lcp@lcprosecutor.org; Sheriff Jack Hall; Darryl Tucker; Michael Scherach; Mike Mason; Kathryn Kennedy; Aaron Knapp; Elsebeth Baumgartner; Denise Wilms; Mike.Brosky@fflorain.bank; William Bobel; Dennis Flores; Lisa Swenski; rebecca kempton; Natalio Rodriquez; VEK6173@aol.com; Sylvia Duvall; Carissa Woytach; Brad Dicken; Brian Ames; Linda Rivera; Jackie Conrad; clandestinecanary; Clevescene; Jonathan.Schuppe@nbcuni.com; Stephanie Jablonsky; Institute for Justice; ethics@ethics.ohio.gov; Lindsay Carr; Tony Cillo; Tom Niewulis  
**Subject:** Fwd: "A Town Hall for Some: The Night Lorain Officials Shut the Door on Transparency"

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Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Aaron C Knapp from Aaron's Substack  
<lorainpoliticsunplugged@substack.com>  
**Subject:** "A Town Hall for Some: The Night Lorain Officials Shut the Door on Transparency"  
**Date:** April 25, 2025 at 2:00:38 AM EDT  
**To:** garonpetty@roadrunner.com  
**Reply-To:** Aaron C Knapp from Aaron's Substack  
<reply+2oifij&5j0f6l&&dfbfe76e64b9f334e8a629d7fd288d9c8586971055eb5e212c7b6bf  
c372a87b6@mg1.substack.com>

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# "A Town Hall for Some: The Night Lorain Officials Shut the Door on Transparency"

By Aaron C. Knapp | Lorain Politics Unplugged

AARON C KNAPP

APR 25



READ IN APP

## I. A Gathering in the Shadows

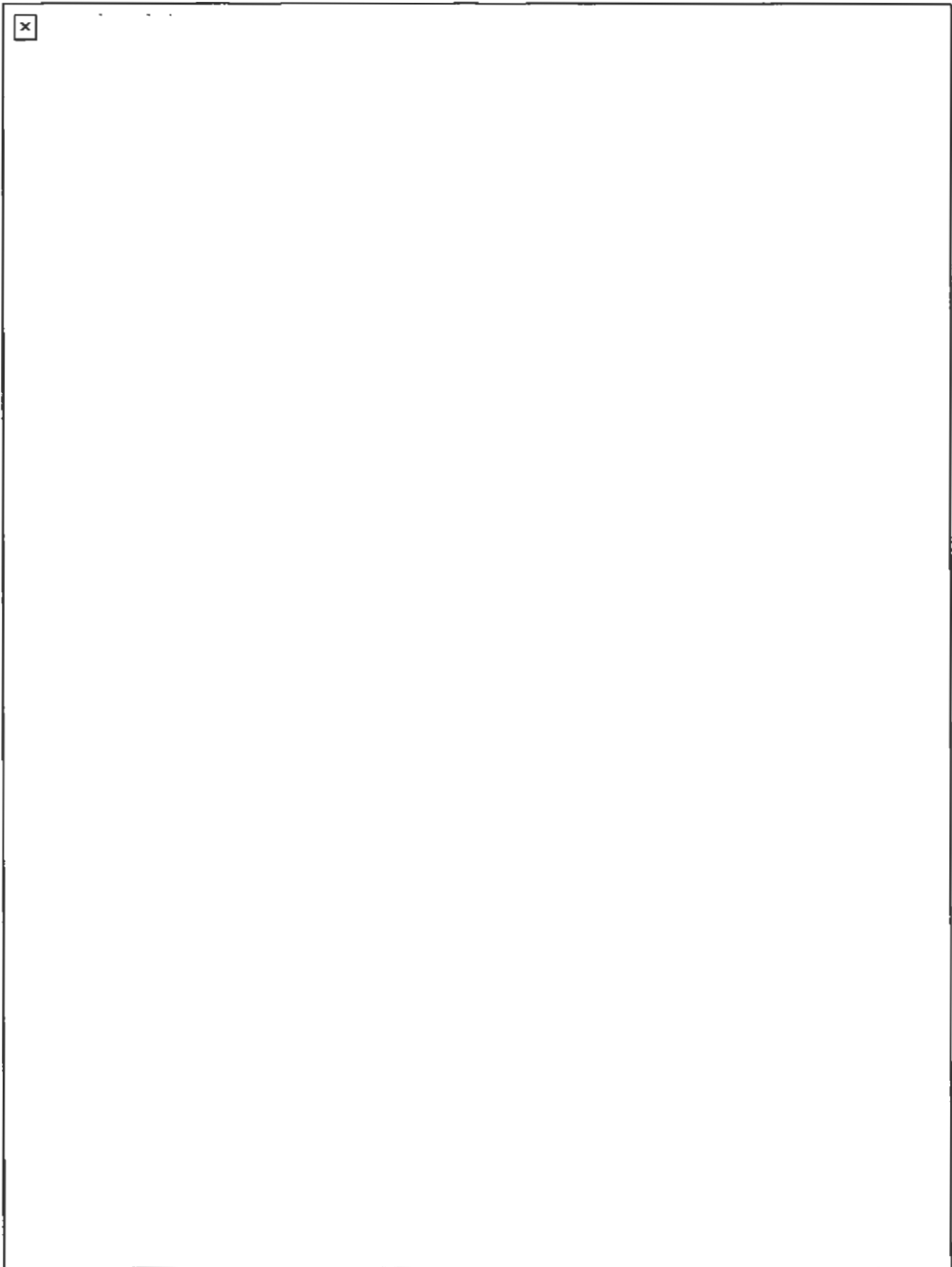
On a quiet evening in Lorain, an event billed as a "town hall" unfolded at the Morningside HOA clubhouse. At first glance, it seemed like a community dialogue: a place where concerned citizens and elected officials could engage in public discussion. Instead, it quickly became a moment of confrontation—a litmus test for the health of transparency in local government.

Garon Petty, a well-known local journalist and government watchdog, attended the event with his wife. They were personally invited by their city council representative. They arrived in good faith, expecting an open forum.

What happened next exposed deeper issues about the way public business is conducted in Lorain—and who gets to witness it.

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*"I was invited by our councilperson," Petty later said. "Nobody told us it was only for Morningside residents. And when I looked around, there were people*

*there who definitely weren't Morningside residents. There was a judge candidate, a few council people, and others I didn't recognize."*

---

Councilwoman Springowski and an unidentified individual began speaking loudly across the room toward Petty and his wife, singling them out without ever directly approaching. The comments escalated into what Petty later described as a "tongue-lashing"—a verbal reprimand that culminated in the assertion that the event was a "private meeting." Only after this verbal exchange were Petty and his wife explicitly told they needed to leave. The message was unmistakable: they were not welcome to stay and observe. The tone and volume of the remarks clearly signaled that he and his wife were expected to leave. This did not come from a uniformed officer or security detail, but rather from someone affiliated with the HOA, seemingly prompted by a whispered exchange with one of the council members present.

In a video recording of the incident, Councilwoman Mary Springowski sounded audibly agitated. She remarked, "I can tell that obviously you're recording me, and now I'm going to be broadcast." Her tone underscored a clear discomfort with being filmed, despite the public setting and her role as an elected official. "I can tell that obviously you're recording me," she said. "And now I'm going to be broadcast." Her tone made it clear she was uncomfortable with being captured on video, despite the public nature of the event and her status as an elected official.

---

*Petty calmly responded, "Are we in public?" The question hung in the air.*

---

**"I live in the 7th Ward," Petty clarified. An unidentified voice—possibly an HOA representative—interjected: "I hear you, sir, but this is private property."**

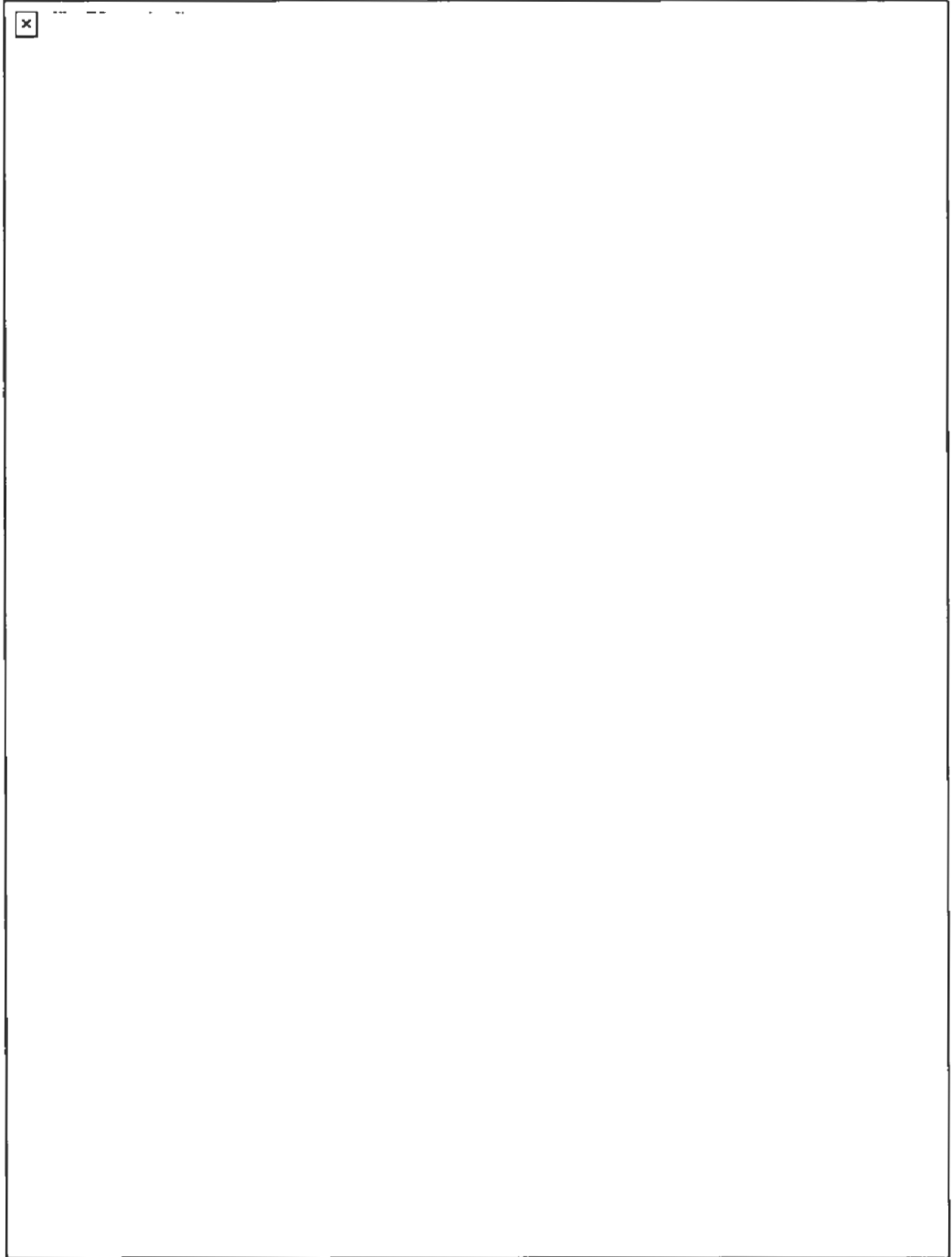
---

*Petty pushed back again: "Is this a private meeting?" The same voice replied, "It is a private meeting."*

---

**Looking around the room, Petty pointed out the hypocrisy: "The prosecutor, the mayor... and you're going to have a private**

meeting without the rest of us?" When no answer came, he concluded, "Yeah, I'm leaving."



Mayor Bradley (left) SHeriff Hall (Right) Video still Credit Garon Petty

Later, Petty stated publicly that he followed up with the Lorain County Sheriff, who was present at the event in uniform. According to Petty, the sheriff consulted with the county prosecutor and confirmed that, based on the number of public officials present and the sheriff's own participation in an official capacity, the gathering indeed qualified as a "public meeting" under Ohio's Open Meetings Act.

The exchange, brief as it was, revealed the deeper question at play: can public officials hold public business meetings behind closed doors, on private property, and eject citizens who come to observe? According to Ohio law, the answer is no.

## **II. The Law: Ohio's Open Meetings Act**

Ohio's Open Meetings Act, codified in **ORC 121.22**, is clear: any prearranged discussion of public business by a majority of a public body must be open to the public. This includes informal gatherings—especially when elected officials discuss city business. If a majority of council members are present, or if the mayor and sheriff are attending in their official capacities to address public concerns, the meeting cannot be hidden behind a veil of "private property."

### **Transparency is not optional. It's the law.**

**At this particular meeting, three city council members, the mayor, and the county sheriff were present. According to legal definitions, that constitutes a public meeting. Yet no public notice was issued. No minutes were taken. And when Garon Petty showed up with a camera, they asked him to leave.**

Ohio courts have made it clear that the setting of a meeting—be it city hall or a private clubhouse—does not exempt a public body from the requirements of the OMA. If business is discussed and decisions are contemplated, the public has a right to be there.

Councilwoman Springowski's own words on social media only reinforce this: she publicly posted "Morningside HOA townhall meeting..."—using the very terminology of public accessibility.



Facebook Post Mary Springowski FOr Lorain Page

Yet, when a citizen arrived to document it, he was turned away.

"There were no signs saying residents only," Petty added. "We were invited. But once they saw who we were, suddenly it was 'private.'"

That last-minute classification of the event as private, made after citizens showed up to observe, is highly suspect—and potentially unlawful.

And when only select individuals are removed—particularly those critical of or independent from city officials—it doesn't just raise legal questions. It raises ethical ones.

### III. The Moment of Exclusion: A Transcript of Power

The following interaction was captured on camera and serves as a pivotal moment in the debate over the meeting's legality:

**Mary Springowski (Councilwoman At-Large):** "I can tell that obviously you're recording me, and now I'm going to be broadcast."

**Garon Petty:** "Are we in public?"

**Springowski:** *[No response]*

**Petty:** "I live in the 7th Ward."

**Unknown Voice (Possibly HOA Representative):** "I hear you, sir, but this is private property."

**Petty:** "Is this a private meeting?"

**Unknown Voice:** "It is a private meeting."

**Petty:** "The prosecutor, the mayor... and you're going to have a private meeting without the rest of us? ... Yeah, I'm leaving."

This exchange reveals a telling contradiction: public officials claim the authority to conduct business that affects an entire city, yet invoke privacy to control who gets to observe.

Springowski's comment—focused not on the content of Petty's questions but on the fact she was being recorded—speaks volumes. Transparency, it appears, was an inconvenience.

Petty, to his credit, did not escalate the situation. "I didn't want to cause a scene," he said afterward. "I wanted to document what was happening, but I wasn't going to fight to stay where I wasn't welcome—even if the law said I had every right to be there."

He left. But the damage to the public's trust had already been done.

## **IV. Penalties and Ramifications for Violating Ohio's Open Meetings Act**

Violations of Ohio's Open Meetings Act (OMA) carry significant legal and political consequences. The law is not merely a guideline—it has teeth.

Under **ORC 121.22(I)**, any person may bring a lawsuit in the local Court of Common Pleas to enforce compliance. If a court finds that a public body violated the OMA, it can impose a **civil forfeiture of \$500 per violation**. Additionally, the court must award **reasonable attorney's fees and court costs** to the prevailing plaintiff. These provisions are designed not only to compensate citizens for being unlawfully excluded but also to deter public bodies from operating in secrecy.

More importantly, **any actions taken during an unlawful meeting can be invalidated**. That means if decisions or commitments were made during the "private" Morningside town hall, a court could rule them null and void.

Willful violations of an OMA injunction can even result in **removal from public office**. Though rare, this penalty exists for officials who repeatedly or knowingly violate court orders related to the Act.

**Beyond legal ramifications, the political consequences can be just as damaging. Exposing a local official's disregard for transparency can erode public trust and raise serious questions about their fitness to serve. When officials show contempt for the very laws that keep government accountable, they forfeit the moral authority to govern.**

Councilwoman Springowski and others in attendance may soon find themselves answering difficult questions—not just from constituents, but potentially from a judge.

The incident at Morningside was not just a misstep. It was a line crossed. And in a state that prizes open government, there are consequences for closing the door.

**Aaron C. Knapp is a local journalist, disabled veteran, and government accountability advocate based in Lorain, Ohio. This piece is part of an ongoing series published through Lorain Politics Unplugged.**

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## Beko, Michele

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**From:** Aaron Knapp <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 25, 2025 2:06 AM  
**To:** Sheriff Jack Hall; lcp@lcpProsecutor.org; David Yost AG; ethics@ethics.ohio.gov; Andrew Geronimo, JD; Jackie Conrad; Robert J Gargas; mike.brosky@fflorain.bank; Tom Niewulis; lorainnaacp@gmail.com; Tori Middlebrooks; mark campolo; Natalio Rodriquez; vek6173@aol.com; Sylvia Duvall; mallory\_holmes@cityoflorain.org; Bradley, Jack; Michael Scherach; Andy Young; Darryl Tucker; Fox 8; Mike Mason; clandestinecanary; Clevescene; jonathan.schuppe@nbcuni.com; Brian Ames; Garon Petty  
**Subject:** Re: I was told to leave meeting while city officials were allowed to stay. Sunshine Laws violation?

### Warning: Unusual link

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■ **NEW REPORT:** A Lorain "town hall" turned into a private club the moment a watchdog journalist showed up with a camera.

Garon Petty was invited. He was calm. He asked, "Are we in public?" What followed was a loud exchange, a forced exit, and a public admission from the sheriff and prosecutor: **this was a public meeting** under Ohio law.

So why was he kicked out?

Read the full story here — including the transcript, the law, and the consequences city officials could face for shutting the door on transparency:

[https://open.substack.com/pub/lorainpoliticsunplugged/p/a-town-hall-for-some-the-night-lorain?r=5j0eca&utm\\_campaign=post&utm\\_medium=web&showWelcomeOnShare=true](https://open.substack.com/pub/lorainpoliticsunplugged/p/a-town-hall-for-some-the-night-lorain?r=5j0eca&utm_campaign=post&utm_medium=web&showWelcomeOnShare=true)

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

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On Thursday, April 24, 2025 at 04:28:47 PM EDT, Garon Petty <garonpetty@roadrunner.com> wrote:



Garon Petty was live. | By Garon |  
Facebook  
facebook.com

## Beko, Michele

---

**From:** Aaron Knapp <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 24, 2025 1:26 PM  
**To:** Jeff Graham  
**Cc:** FERPA.Complaints@ed.gov; David O'Brien; Brad Dicken; Robert J Gargas; City Council Mail Group; Jack Bradley; Tony Cillo; Patrick Riley; Rey Carrion; Jackie Conrad; Joseph LaVeck; Ted Kalo; Sheriff Jack Hall  
**Subject:** Re: Stuff

### **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.

So your statement is you only allowed it this time? LPD is a covered entity. Your school districts information is online. If you sent a request asking the LPD to respectfully remove it I bet they would.

So I'm asking you advocate for our children and your staff and request the city remove the information that is illegally online.

If you won't make that request can you give a statement as to why? And a statement for the article on why Lorain City Schools doesn't believe in advocating for their students and staff?

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

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On Apr 24, 2025, at 13:14, Jeff Graham <jgraham@lorainschools.org> wrote:

The opinion from the United States Department of Education (USDOE) office that rules on matters related to potential violations of Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) stated there was no violation of FERPA on the matter that you brought to my attention.

To answer your question about how parents can trust that I won't do that to their children, please review the email from the USDOE. I can't and won't post that information because it is illegal and inappropriate for the schools to do so. However, the schools didn't post the information you're questioning and the entity that did is allowed to. Again, please refer to the email.

Thanks Aaron,

Jeff

On Apr 24, 2025, at 12:53 PM, Aaron Knapp <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com> wrote:

Well I responded asking if you were errands going to request the LPD comply with removing the protected information off line. So I'm just looking for some assistance in getting juvenile information offline. I asked you to help, as the superintendent. I'm pretty sure I responded to that email asking specific questions about this matter. I'll go find that email as well.

So I'd like an official statement from the school district, you specifically, that the school is refusing to advocate to remove juvenile information from the internet that the police got from the school. And how other parents can trust you won't do the same to their kids?

**Aaron Christopher Knapp, investigative reporter**

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On Apr 24, 2025, at 09:16, Jeff Graham <jgraham@lorainschools.org> wrote:

I sent you the opinion from the United States Department of Education office that rules on Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and they said there was no violation. Please let me know what you're waiting for from me or the district that has not been provided to you.

Thanks Aaron,

Jeff

On Apr 24, 2025, at 9:03 AM, Aaron Knapp <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com> wrote:

Still waiting.

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

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On Mar 24, 2025, at 12:08, Aaron Knapp  
<a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>  
wrote:

It's been 3 weeks since I last heard from you. 3 more weeks of FERPA protected information still online. These are juveniles who were not charged with a crime. Let's be better than this.

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

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THE COPY YOU RECEIVED.

On Mar 4, 2025, at  
10:18, Aaron Knapp  
<a4xbeaverman@ya  
hoo.com> wrote:

Just following up. It's  
been a week and I  
wanted to see if you  
had gotten a  
response from State  
yet?

Lorain Schools and  
Lorain Police are  
racially distributing  
against these  
juveniles.

You cannot post  
juveniles pictures  
and school records  
online to punish  
them. It was almost  
3 years ago and they  
were never charged  
with a crime.

Noelle Williams I'm  
forwarding this to  
you since it seems  
19 News gets  
result's.

<preview.png>

126-W-27TH-ST-MEDIA-RELEASE-  
ADMINISTRATIVE-  
INVESTIGATION

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

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SENDER AND  
DELETE THE COPY  
YOU RECEIVED.

## Beko, Michele

---

**From:** Garon Petty <garonpetty@roadrunner.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 15, 2025 3:26 PM  
**To:** Aaron Knapp; Brian Ames; Bradley, Jack; City Council Mail Group; Patrick Riley; Robert J Gargas; ethics@ethics.ohio.gov; Lindsay Carr; Jon Morrow; Brad Dicken; Darryl Tucker; Comer,David; Clevescene; clandestinecanary; Mike Mason  
**Subject:** Re: Texting

Meeting: City Council Committee Meeting  
lorainoh.suiteonemedia.com



On Apr 15, 2025, at 3:16 PM, Garon Petty <onelung2014@gmail.com> wrote:

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Garon Petty <onelung2014@gmail.com>  
**Date:** Tue, Apr 15, 2025 at 3:15 PM  
**Subject:** Re: Texting  
**To:** Aaron Knapp <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>  
**Cc:** Breanna Dull <Breanna\_Dull@cityoflorain.org>, Robert J. Gargas <rjgargas@gmail.com>

Here is the meeting on demand from the April 14, 2025 Lorain Council Committee Meeting.

<https://lorainoh.suiteonemedia.com/event/?id=2832>

On Tue, Apr 15, 2025 at 4:56 AM Aaron Knapp <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com> wrote:  
I received the emails you sent in a different account. Thank you now I just need there's.  
Apologies for any confusion.

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

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On Apr 14, 2025, at 18:36, Aaron Knapp <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com> wrote:

So at 18:22 hrs angel Arroyo is seen texting or. Facebook scrolling while in council meeting earlier I saw Mr. Thornsberry. I'm writing a story on the fact that council members won't stop texting during the Lorain City Council meeting. I'm watching as Arroyo is still on his phone at the 1825 mark.

I want copies of all messages sent or received during the meeting, per the open meetings act.

It's 18:26 and I'm watching Thornsberry and Arroyo texting right now.

Please turn over all messages and phone activity of all council phones during the time the meeting was in session on 4/14/2025.

I'm forwarding this Brian Ames so perhaps he can get you to comply.

Madam clerk I'm still waiting on the emails you sent and received in a previous request.

Also I'd like to request copies of ALL of city councils Sunshine Law Certificates as required by Council Rules.

Texting during open meetings can raise concerns under Ohio's Open Meetings Act, as it could be considered a form of communication that constitutes a "meeting" if it involves the discussion of public business between a majority of board members. While not explicitly prohibited, it's crucial to ensure that any electronic communication, including texting, does not circumvent the requirement for open and public deliberation of public business.

In Ohio, the Ohio Supreme Court has determined that texting, like other electronic communication, can violate the [Open Meetings Act](#) if it constitutes a prearranged, private discussion of public business by a majority of a public body. This means that even though texting may not be explicitly mentioned in the law, it can still be considered a form of "meeting" that needs to be conducted openly.

Here's a more detailed explanation:

- **What the Open Meetings Act requires:**

The OMA generally requires that public bodies conduct all deliberations and official actions in open meetings that the public can attend and observe.

- **Electronic communication and the OMA:**

The Ohio Supreme Court has ruled that any form of communication, including text messages, email, or even tweets, can be considered a "meeting" under the OMA if it involves a prearranged discussion of public business by a majority of the public body.

- **Violations:**

If a majority of a public body engages in private, prearranged discussions about public business through text messages, it could be seen as a violation of the OMA.

- **Consequences:**

Violations of the OMA can lead to penalties for the public body, as outlined in the law.

- **Key takeaways:**

Public bodies should be mindful that texting, like other electronic communication, can be considered a meeting under the OMA and should not be used for prearranged, private discussions about public business.

**Aaron Christopher Knapp, Independent Reporter**

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## Beko, Michele

---

**From:** Garon Petty <garonpetty@roadrunner.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 17, 2025 8:47 AM  
**To:** Robert J Gargas; Dennis Flores; Denise Wilms; Jon Morrow;  
Jonathan.Schuppe@nbcuni.com; Bradley, Jack; Patrick Riley; City Council Mail Group;  
Lindsay Carr; lcp@lcprosecutor.org; Tony Cillo; Tom Niewulis; Sheriff Jack Hall; Kathryn  
Kennedy; Elsebeth Baumgartner; mark campolo; Natalio Rodriquez; rebecca kempton;  
Brad Dicken; Brian Ames; Carissa Woytach; Heather Chapin; Darryl Tucker; Lisa Swenski;  
Linda Rivera; Jackie Conrad; Jay Shore; Michael Scherach  
**Subject:** Fwd: False Statements

Please read..

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Garon Petty <garonpetty@roadrunner.com>  
**Subject: Re: False Statements**  
**Date:** April 17, 2025 at 8:42:22 AM EDT  
**To:** Garon Petty <onelong2014@gmail.com>

On Apr 17, 2025, at 8:40 AM, Garon Petty <onelong2014@gmail.com> wrote:

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Aaron Knapp <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>  
**Date:** Thu, Apr 17, 2025 at 8:33 AM  
**Subject:** Re: False Statements  
**To:** Jacob Morris <Jacob\_Morris@cityoflorain.org>, Sheriff Jack Hall  
<jhall@loraincountysheriff.com>, Robert J. Gargas  
<rjgargas@gmail.com>, Tony Cillo <antcillo.cill@gmail.com>, City Group  
<CityCouncilMailGroup@cityoflorain.org>, David Yost AG  
<AGOCARES@ohioago.gov>, Ohio Auditor <press@ohioauditor.gov>, Garon  
Petty <onelong2014@gmail.com>  
**Cc:** Lorain\_Records <lorain\_records@lorain.boe.ohio.gov>

Correction I "haven't" spoken to Morrow since March.

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

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On Apr 17, 2025, at 08:30, Aaron Knapp  
<[a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com](mailto:a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com)> wrote:

Chief James McCann is listed in a sheriff report as having regurgitated and repeated lies about heresy statements made by Jon Morrow to deputies about me. I want him charged.

Since the Oberlin prosecutors has refused charges on me and Hilton was the driving force, McCanns involved by admission, and Hilton has filed a PO.

I have all the proof this never happened, Morrow lied, and I hope he recorded the call, I record a lot of conversations.

So now your chief has participated again in ongoing harassment against me. I want a report against Morrow as well as McCann and copies of any communications McCann has had with Hilton in regards to Knapp on any phone, computer, or device.

You people are so screwed. This is the last straw. I have so much evidence on all of you.

I have spoken to Morrow since 3/27 so his statements are false and McCann is Bringing the 1.66 gpa big brain and believed then.

You guys are so screwed.

Give me my records or we go to court of claims.

I will be publishing the report showing how A Journal reporter gave up sources as well as shared lies to the police. Great job Heather! Great Job Jon! Great Job McCann! Great Job Lorain!

I want every message between Jane's McCan and Tia Hilton on any work device and any work related on personal devices.

You have 10 days.

**Aaron Christopher Knapp, citizen**

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**Beko, Michele**

---

**From:** Garon Petty <garonpetty@roadrunner.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 24, 2025 9:15 AM  
**To:** Dull, Breanna; Partin, Maggie; Patrick Riley; Comer, David; City Council Mail Group  
**Cc:** Robert J Gargas; Aaron Knapp; Andrew Geronimo, JD; Lindsay Carr; David Yost AG; Darryl Tucker; clandestinecanary; Kathryn Kennedy; Brad Dicken; Elsebeth Baumgartner; Jackie Conrad; Bradley, Jack; Natalio Rodriguez; VEK6173@aol.com; rebecca kempton; Carrion, Rey; Carissa Woytach; Noelle Williams; ethics@ethics.ohio.gov; lcp@lcpProsecutor.org; Lisa Swenski; Dennis Flores; Denise Wilms; Mike.Brosky@fflorain.bank; Michael Scherach; Fox 8; Institute for Justice; Stephanie Jablonsky; jeanne Petty; Tori Middlebrooks; Sheriff Jack Hall; Jonathan.Schuppe@nbcuni.com  
**Subject:** Re: Public records as required by Council rule 41.

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

Please respond this is your duty.

On Apr 21, 2025, at 8:40 AM, Garon Petty <garonpetty@roadrunner.com> wrote:

Good morning,

When will I receive the certificates of completion (Sunshine Laws and other required courses) that is required by council rule 41?

I have asked per 149.43 public records. Please explain why I haven't received an explanation for my requests. I asked on March 21, 2025.

[cityoflorain.org](http://cityoflorain.org)



Thank you for your Response ASAP.  
Garon Petty

## Beko, Michele

---

**From:** Dull, Breanna <Breanna\_Dull@cityoflorain.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 21, 2025 9:19 AM  
**To:** Garon Petty; Partin, Maggie; Riley, Patrick; Comer,David; City Council Mail Group  
**Cc:** Robert J Gargas; Aaron Knapp; Andrew Geronimo, JD; Lindsay Carr; David Yost AG; Darryl Tucker; clandestinecanary; Kathryn Kennedy; Brad Dicken; Elsebeth Baumgartner; Jackie Conrad; Bradley, Jack; Natalio Rodriquez; VEK6173@aol.com; rebecca kempton; Carrion, Rey; Carissa Woytach; Noelle Williams; ethics@ethics.ohio.gov; lcp@lcpProsecutor.org; Lisa Swenski; Dennis Flores; Denise Wilms; Mike.Brosky@fflorain.bank; Michael Scherach; Fox 8; Institute for Justice; Stephanie Jablonsky; Jeanne Petty  
**Subject:** RE: Public records as required by Council rule 41.  
**Attachments:** RecReq Response.pdf; 22 Sunshine Law Certs.pdf

Mr. Petty,

I responded to your March 4, 2025 request on March 12, 2025, including the requested certificates. For your convenience, I've attached a copy of that response along with the certificates again.

Regards,

*Breanna Dull, CMC*  
Clerk of Lorain City Council  
200 West Erie Avenue  
Lorain, Ohio 44052

440.204.2050  
440.204.2521 fax

**From:** Garon Petty <garonpetty@roadrunner.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 21, 2025 8:40 AM  
**To:** Dull, Breanna <Breanna\_Dull@cityoflorain.org>; Partin, Maggie <Maggie\_Partini@cityoflorain.org>; Riley, Patrick <Patrick\_Riley@cityoflorain.org>; Comer,David <DComer@CityofLorain.org>; City Council Mail Group <CityCouncilMailGroup@cityoflorain.org>  
**Cc:** Robert J Gargas <rjgargas@gmail.com>; Aaron Knapp <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>; Andrew Geronimo, JD <andrew.geronimo@case.edu>; Lindsay Carr <Lindsay.Carr@OhioAGO.gov>; David Yost AG <AGOCARES@ohioago.gov>; Darryl Tucker <dtucker@morningjournal.com>; clandestinecanary <clandestinecanary@proton.me>; Kathryn Kennedy <kathrynkennedy627@gmail.com>; Brad Dicken <BDicken@chroniclet.com>; Elsebeth Baumgartner <baumgartner.elsebeth@yahoo.com>; Jackie Conrad <botanist62@hotmail.com>; Bradley, Jack <Jack\_Bradley@cityoflorain.org>; Natalio Rodriquez <natalio@centurytel.net>; VEK6173@aol.com; rebecca kempton <REK5767@aol.com>; Carrion, Rey <Rey\_Carrion@cityoflorain.org>; Carissa Woytach <cwoytach@chroniclet.com>; Noelle Williams <noelle.williams@woio.com>; ethics@ethics.ohio.gov; lcp@lcpProsecutor.org; Lisa Swenski <liswenski@gmail.com>; Dennis Flores <dennisforlorain@gmail.com>; Denise Wilms <denisewilms@aol.com>; Mike.Brosky@fflorain.bank; Michael Scherach <mjscherach.law@centurytel.net>; Fox 8 <tips@fox8.com>; Institute for Justice <ifj@ij.org>; Stephanie Jablonsky <stephanie.jablonsky@thefire.org>; Jeanne Petty <jeanne\_810@yahoo.com>  
**Subject:** Public records as required by Council rule 41.

**External sender** <[garonpetty@roadrunner.com](mailto:garonpetty@roadrunner.com)>

Make sure you trust this sender before taking any actions.

Good morning,

When will I receive the certificates of completion (Sunshine Laws and other required courses) that is required by council rule 41?

I have asked per 149.43 public records. Please explain why I haven't received an explanation for my requests. I asked on March 21, 2025.

cityoflorain.org



Thank you for your Response ASAP.  
Garon Petty

## Beko, Michele

---

**From:** Robert J. Gargasz <rjgargasz@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 16, 2025 2:14 AM  
**To:** City Council Mail Group; Judge\_Mihok@CityofLorain.org; Jack Bradley; Rey Carrion; Patrick Riley; Joel Arredondo; Don Zaleski; Joe K Auditor; Jacob Morris; Rocky Radeff; Tony Cillo; Maggie Partin; Kenneth Resar; Joseph Pritchard; Chief McCann; Aaron Knapp; Teresa Upton; jfr\_74@hotmail.com Jeff Riddel; David david@yesce.com Moore  
**Cc:** Marty Gallagher; MARTY GALLAGHER; renzlawllc@gmail.com; Renz LLC  
**Subject:** Mind Blowing CV19 Bioweapon Vax Still on Market – Dr. Sherri Tenpenny | Greg Hunter's USAWatchdog

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. <https://usawatchdog.com/mind-blowing-cv19-bioweapon-vax-still-on-market-dr-sherri-tenpenny/>

Sent from my iPhone

## Beko, Michele

---

**From:** Dull, Breanna <Breanna\_Dull@cityoflorain.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 15, 2025 3:39 PM  
**To:** Garon Petty; Riley, Patrick; Comer,David; City Council Mail Group; Bradley,Jack  
**Cc:** Robert J Gargas; Jon Morrow; Aaron Knapp; Kathryn Kennedy; Jackie Conrad; Natalio Rodriquez; rebecca kempton; jeanne Petty; lcp@lcpProsecutor.org; Lindsay Carr; ethics@ethics.ohio.gov  
**Subject:** RE: Blocked by city official.

Mr. Petty,

You're not. However, please refer to Mr. Comer's email sent to you on January 14th, which explains what was happening the last time you received this message from Google.

Regards,

*Breanna Dull, CMC*

Clerk of Lorain City Council  
200 West Erie Avenue  
Lorain, Ohio 44052

440.204.2050  
440.204.2521 fax

**From:** Garon Petty <garonpetty@roadrunner.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 15, 2025 3:23 PM  
**To:** Riley, Patrick <Patrick\_Riley@cityoflorain.org>; Comer,David <DComer@CityofLorain.org>; City Council Mail Group <CityCouncilMailGroup@cityoflorain.org>; Bradley, Jack <Jack\_Bradley@cityoflorain.org>  
**Cc:** Robert J Gargas <rjgargas@gmail.com>; Jon Morrow <greaterlorainareacaucus@gmail.com>; Aaron Knapp <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>; Kathryn Kennedy <kathrynkennedy627@gmail.com>; Jackie Conrad <botanist62@hotmail.com>; Natalio Rodriquez <natalio@centurytel.net>; rebecca kempton <REKS767@aol.com>; jeanne Petty <jeanne\_810@yahoo.com>; lcp@lcpProsecutor.org; Lindsay Carr <Lindsay.Carr@OhioAGO.gov>; ethics@ethics.ohio.gov  
**Subject:** Blocked by city official.

External sender <[garonpetty@roadrunner.com](mailto:garonpetty@roadrunner.com)>

Make sure you trust this sender before taking any actions.

I'm blocked by the city council clerk? Someone please explain why.

Mail Delivery Subsystem <mailer-daemon@googlemail.com>  
to me ▾

3:16 PM (1 minute ago)



## Message blocked

Your message to **Breanna\_Dull@cityoflorain.org** has been blocked. See technical details below for more information.



## Beko, Michele

---

**From:** Partin, Maggie <Maggie\_Partin@cityoflorain.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 24, 2025 10:11 AM  
**To:** Aaron Knapp; Koziura, Joseph; City Council Mail Group; Jackie Conrad; Bradley, Jack; Robert J. Gargas; Garon Petty; Zaleski, Don  
**Subject:** RE: Request  
**Attachments:** 048-24 (1).pdf; 035-25.pdf

Good morning,

Per your request, please see attached budgets for 2024/2025.

Thank you,

### Maggie Partin

Deputy Clerk of Lorain City Council  
200 West Erie Avenue  
Lorain, Ohio 44052

440.204.2050  
440.204.2521 fax

**From:** Aaron Knapp <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 24, 2025 3:50 AM  
**To:** Koziura, Joseph <Joe\_Koziura@cityoflorain.org>; City Council Mail Group <CityCouncilMailGroup@cityoflorain.org>; Jackie Conrad <botanist62@hotmail.com>; Bradley, Jack <Jack\_Bradley@cityoflorain.org>; Robert J. Gargas <rjgargas@gmail.com>; Garon Petty <onelung2014@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** Re: Request

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

Make sure you trust this sender before taking any actions.

I'm still waiting on this records request. AND as you passed the permanent budget I think it should be available?

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

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On Sunday, February 16, 2025 at 09:46:10 PM EST, Aaron Knapp <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com> wrote:

I'd like to request last years budget (2024) and the upcoming one (2025) the complete budget.  
Thank you.

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

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## Beko, Michele

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**From:** Aaron Knapp <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 23, 2025 8:51 AM  
**To:** watchdog@oig.ohio.gov; David Yost AG; David O'Brien; Brad Dicken; Carissa Woytach; Garon Petty; City Group; Tony Cilio; Patrick Riley; Rey Carrion, Jackie Conrad; Joseph LaVeck; Sheriff Jack Hall; Ted Kalo; Jack Hall; Jack Bradley; Breanna Dull; Jon Morrow; Jonathan Schuppe  
**Cc:** City Group  
**Subject:** Fwd: ATTENTION SI Phillip Langston Please see attached requested materials  
**Attachments:** Clip.jpg; attachment.html; 12.16.24 Reg Mins.pdf; attachment.html; 12.19.24 Special Call Minutes.pdf; attachment.html; DOC (1).pdf; attachment.html; DOC (2).pdf; attachment.html; Ethics complaint form.pdf; attachment.html; Radeff (03-22-22).pdf; attachment.html; BEFORE THE OHIO ETHICS COMMISSION.pdf; attachment.html

### 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.

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

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Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Aaron Knapp <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>  
**Date:** March 19, 2025 at 20:21:41 EDT  
**To:** Sheriff Jack Hall <jhall@loraincountysheriff.com>  
**Subject:** Fw: ATTENTION SI Phillip Langston Please see attached requested materials

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

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----- Forwarded Message -----

**From:** Aaron Knapp <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>  
**To:** Robert J. Gargasz <rjgargasz@gmail.com>; Garon Petty <onelung2014@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 19, 2025 at 08:21:11 PM EDT  
**Subject:** Fw: ATTENTION SI Phillip Langston Please see attached requested materials

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

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----- Forwarded Message -----

**From:** Aaron Knapp <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>  
**To:** bigjoejones61@gmail.com <bigjoejones61@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 19, 2025 at 08:20:37 PM EDT  
**Subject:** Fw: ATTENTION SI Phillip Langston Please see attached requested materials

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

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----- Forwarded Message -----

**From:** Aaron Knapp <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>  
**To:** ethics@ethics.ohio.gov <ethics@ethics.ohio.gov>; brian.ring@ethics.ohio.gov <brian.ring@ethics.ohio.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 19, 2025 at 12:08:28 PM EDT  
**Subject:** ATTENTION SI Phillip Langston Please see attached requested materials