



ARCS: 292-30

File: JAG-2013-01461

September 11, 2013

Sent via email:

Dear _____ :

Re: Request for Access to Records
Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIPPA)

I am writing further to your request received by the Ministry of Justice and Attorney General Your request is for:

“All departmental records from BC Corrections regarding violent incidents against correctional officers and between inmates from January 1, 2012 to August 1, 2013 including but not limited to email, memos, reports and audits.”

You narrowed your request on August 16, 2013 through conversation and email with Alan Hughes to:

“Statistical data on records from BC Corrections regarding violent incidents against correctional officers and between inmates from January 2012 to August 1 2013. “

Please find the following information located in response to your request.

- Between January 01 2012 and July 31 2013, there were 274 violent incidents against staff in B.C. Correctional Centres. This is an average of 0.5 violent incidents against staff per day. There are approximately 1500 staff members working in correctional centres.
- Between January 01 2012 and July 31 2013, there were 1,463 violent incidents between inmates in B.C. Correctional Centres. This is an average of 2.7 violent incidents between inmates per day. On any given day there are approximately 2500 inmates in 9 provincial correctional centres.

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Please note that correctional staff is trained to record all incidences of violence which can range from threatening statements to physical assaults. BC Corrections' Management Services Policy Manual defines violence as:

"Any planned act, or expression of intent to plan an act, to inflict physical or other harm against a person or a workplace, including verbal harassment, or damage to personal or public property. A threat can be spoken, written or symbolic."

It is important to keep in mind that many incarcerated individuals have violent criminal histories and that approximately 56% suffer from substance use and/or mental illness disorders which can lead to unpredictable behaviour.

Your file is now closed.

These records will be published on the BC Government's Open Information website a minimum of 72 hours after it is released electronically or a minimum of five business days after it has been released by mail in hardcopy. To find out more about Open Information, please access the Open Information website at: <http://www.openinfo.gov.bc.ca/ibc/index.page>

If you have any questions regarding your request, please contact Alan Hughes, the analyst assigned to your request, at 250 387-7673. This number can be reached toll-free by calling from Vancouver, 604-660-2421, or from elsewhere in BC, 1-800-663-7867 and asking to be transferred to 250 387-7673.

You have the right to ask the Information and Privacy Commissioner to review this decision. I have enclosed information on the review and complaint process.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Hudson", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Vicki Hudson, Manager
Justice / Social Team
Information Access Operations

Enclosures

<p>How to Request a Review with the Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner</p>
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If you have any questions regarding your request please contact the analyst assigned to your file. The analyst's name and telephone number are listed in the attached letter.

Pursuant to section 52 of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* (FOIPPA), you may ask the Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner to review any decision, act, or failure to act with regard to your request under FOIPPA.

Please note that you have 30 business days to file your review with the Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner. In order to request a review please write to:

Information and Privacy Commissioner
PO Box 9038 Stn Prov Govt
4th Floor, 947 Fort Street
Victoria BC V8W 9A4
Telephone 250-387-5629 Fax 250-387-1696

If you request a review, please provide the Commissioner's Office with:

1. A copy of your original request;
2. A copy of our response; and
3. The reasons or grounds upon which you are requesting the review.