

VOICE OF DETROIT <http://voiceofdetroit.net>
Editor, Reporter Diane Bukowski
P.O. Box 35278 Detroit, MI 48235
Direct Line: 313-825-6126 email: diane_bukowski@hotmail.com

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FOIA Coordinator
City of Detroit Law Department/Police Division
2 Woodward Avenue, Suite 500
Detroit, Michigan 48226-3437
FOIA@detroitmi.gov

To the City of Detroit FOIA Coordinator/Law Dept. Police:

This constitutes a request for records under the Michigan Freedom of Information Act (MCL 15.231 *et. al.*) On Feb. 7, 2019 a trove of homicide case files and other evidence which belong to the Detroit Police Department was retrieved from the home of retired Detroit Police Detective Olie McMillian, Jr. during eviction proceedings, according to various news reports. See: <http://voiceofdetroit.net/2019/02/11/house-with-old-homicide-evidence-belonged-to-retired-dpd-detective-olie-mcmillian-jr/> .

During a Board of Police Commissioners community meeting held Feb. 14, Chris Grambling, Director of Professional Standards and Constitutional Policing, reported that the findings included portions of 16 cases, going back to 1997 and likely through 2008, when Det. McMillian left the Homicide Department. He said the evidence included case files and physical evidence such as clothing, cell phones, and even one handgun. He said DPD representatives were sorting through the items found, to see if they belonged to cases that were closed or are still open, and then would report their findings to Wayne County Prosecutor Kym Worthy. See video at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N83C7Enk7q0/> .

We believe the “public interest in disclosure” outweighs the Michigan Freedom of Information Act’s exemption from disclosure of materials “encouraging frank communication between officials and employees of public bodies” (*see MCL 15.243(1)(m)*). Criminal case files even in open cases have always been public record.

The DPD said it is sorting through this material, then turning it over to the Wayne County Prosecutor, but this does not fulfill the public interest. The DPD has a long history of hiding materials in “miscellaneous files” and through other means.

We are therefore requesting a **detailed list of each case involved, with copies of all files and their contents including case numbers and defendants’ names, and photographs of all physical evidence discovered**, to ensure “citizens will get full and complete information regarding the affairs of government and the official acts of those who represent them.” (*See Supreme Court of Michigan, Diane BUKOWSKI and Michigan Citizen, Plaintiffs-Appellees, v. CITY OF DETROIT, Defendant-Appellant, Docket No. 129409, June 06, 2007*).

Please forward your response(s) within 5 days to diane_bukowski@hotmail.com and/or Diane Bukowski, Voice of Detroit, P.O. Box 35278, Detroit, MI 48235. Phone: 313-825-6126 (as listed in heading above). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Diane Bukowski
Editor, Voice of Detroit, LLC

cc: Atty. David A. Robinson
File