

August 22, 2012

Supervisor of Records
Office of the Secretary of the Commonwealth
McCormack Building, Room 1719
One Ashburton Place
Boston, MA 02108

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to appeal a denial of access to public records. On August 8, 2012, I emailed a public records request to the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH) (Attachment 1). The DPH acknowledged receipt of my request on the same day (Attachment 2). On August 10, 2012, I was mailed a letter merely stating that my request would cost money, and I would be “notified of the fee for producing” the requested documents (Attachment 3).

On August 20, 2012, I emailed the author of the August 10, 2012 letter, asking her for an update on my request (Attachment 4). I have yet to receive any response from the DPH.

Given that one of my requests was very simple (to provide data justifying the press release stating that there was a 60% kill rate of mosquitoes from the July, 2012 aerial spray), I am surprised that I have received absolutely nothing from the DPH. I interpret their silence as a constructive denial, as the August 10, 2012 letter cannot in any way be construed as a response, or a request for an extension of time.

This written request is over ten (10) days and under ninety (90) days old.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Kyla Bennett, Director
New England PEER