

**GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
MAYOR'S OFFICE OF LEGAL COUNSEL
Freedom of Information Act Appeals: 2020-117 & 2020-118**

August 10, 2020

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

Mr. Quentin Howard

RE: FOIA Appeals 2020-117 and 2020-118 (Duplicate Appeals)

Dear Mr. Howard:

This letter responds to the administrative appeal you submitted to the Mayor under the District of Columbia Freedom of Information Act, D.C. Code § 2-537 (“DC FOIA”), challenging the failure of the Metropolitan Police Department (“MPD”) to respond to your DC FOIA request.

You submitted a DC FOIA request to MPD requesting a body camera audio recording from a specified event. On February 13, 2020, you filed duplicate appeals with this Office. MPD responded to those appeals on February 20, 2020, and stated that it closed your initial request because you failed to submit a declaration from your client authorizing the release of the requested record. However, because you submitted the required declaration on February 13, 2020, MPD reopened the DC FOIA request in order to review the responsive record and determine whether it must be redacted prior to production.

Based upon MPD’s statement that it will process your DC FOIA request, we remand this matter to MPD and dismiss your appeals. You may file a separate appeal in response to any future production of records to you. This shall constitute the final decision of this Office in connection with your appeal. If you are dissatisfied with this decision, you may commence a civil action against the District of Columbia government in the Superior Court of the District of Columbia in accordance with DC Code § 2-537.

Respectfully,

Mayor’s Office of Legal Counsel

cc: Teresa Quon Hyden, Assistant General Counsel
MPD (via email)