

**GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
MAYOR'S OFFICE OF LEGAL COUNSEL
Freedom of Information Act Appeal: 2022-054**

January 25, 2023

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL ONLY

Mr. Harry Gural

RE: FOIA Appeal 2022-054

Dear Mr. Gural:

This letter responds to the administrative appeal that you have submitted to the Mayor under the District of Columbia Freedom of Information Act, D.C. Code §§ 2-531, *et seq.* (“DC FOIA”). In your appeal, you have challenged the response of the Metropolitan Police Department (“MPD”) to your DC FOIA request.

On December 14, 2021, you submitted a DC FOIA request to MPD, identified as 2022-FOIA-01993, which sought certain data and crime statistics. You specified that you were seeking “both summary analyses of these data in numerical form, and written analyses by MPD that were shared with any other body in the administration.”

MPD denied your request on December 21, 2021 stating, “[p]lease note that the District of Columbia (DC) FOIA, DC Code §§ 2-531-539, provides that while a person has the right to request access to existing records, it does not require agencies to do research, analyze data, answer written questions, or create records to respond to a FOIA request.”

On December 27, 2021, you filed an appeal with this Office asserting MPD misinterpreted your request and reiterated that you are only seeking existing records.

We notified MPD of your appeal on December 29, 2021 and requested a response. On February 20, 2022, MPD responded to this inquiry explaining that it conducted “a search of the records of the Research and Analytical Services Branch” and produced all responsive records it identified with personal privacy redactions.

Because MPD has now answered your request, we dismiss this appeal as moot. This constitutes the final decision of this Office. If you are dissatisfied with this decision, you may commence a civil action in Superior Court in accordance with D.C. Code § 2-537.

Respectfully,

Mayor's Office of Legal Counsel

cc: Brandy Reaves, MPD FOIA Officer (via email only)