

Note added by Michigan Plate Readers. Our questions on the City's two fee forms, sent October 26, 2026, 11:43 am EDT as a reply on the system exports thread to the Records Clerk of the Department of Public Safety, on both requests (FDPS-2026-10-06-A and -B). Text as sent, her first name replaced by her role; the quoted thread is left out. End of note.

Hi [the Records Clerk],

Thank you for the responses. I see that no deposit is required. Before you start the work I have some questions that might help me narrow the requests, potentially reducing the work (and fee) involved.

1. Which form is for which request? I see they're not duplicates (one is marked #1 and one #2) but they have the same amounts and hours and refer to the same volume-of-emails concern (though the exports request doesn't cover any emails).

2. Each form estimates 180 business days, citing the unknown volume of e-mails and other records. What does that estimate cover for each request? The exports request asks for standard exports the system produces directly. Of the documents request only items 4 and 6 cover correspondence (letters and emails about sharing, and correspondence with Flock about the retention period). If those two items account for the bulk of the work, I could consider narrowing or removing them. Either way - could you release records in stages, beginning with the exports?

3. The forms charge search and redaction labor. Michigan FOIA allows those charges only where "failure to charge a fee would result in unreasonably high costs" and the public body "specifically identifies the nature of these unreasonably high costs". Has the Department made that finding for these requests, and if so, what is it?

4. Has the public-interest fee waiver been decided?

Thank you,

Chance Ackley-Smith