

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION COMMISSION  
OF THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT

In the Matter of a Complaint by

FINAL DECISION

Robert Jarrett,

Complainant

against

Docket #FIC 2025-0167

Superintendent of Schools, Consolidated  
School District of New Britain; and Consolidated  
School District of New Britain,

Respondents

February 25, 2026

The above-captioned matter was heard as a contested case on July 18, 2025, at which time the complainant and respondents appeared, stipulated to certain facts, and presented testimony, exhibits and argument on the complaint.

After consideration of the entire record, the following facts are found and conclusions of law are reached:

1. The respondents are public agencies within the meaning of §1-200(1), G.S.
2. It is found that, by email to the respondents dated February 19, 2025, the complainant requested that the respondents provide him with copies of the following records:

(1) Investigative Reports & Documentation

- i. All reports, statements, incident logs, and findings related to the alleged theft incident involving me in 2023.
- ii. Any formal complaints or allegations made against me in connection with this incident.
- iii. All documentation regarding disciplinary actions or internal discussions concerning my employment status at the time.

(2) Communications Between Key Decision-Makers

- i. All emails, meeting notes, and internal communications (including Teams/Zoom discussions) involving:
  - a. Rebecca Gonzalez (Chief Operations Officer)
  - b. Maryellen Manning (Chief of Staff)
  - c. Robert Smedley
  - d. Tony Gasper (Superintendent)
  - e. Chris Aucoin (Former Custodial Manager)
- ii. Any administrators, HR personnel, or union representatives involved in the decisions about this incident.
- iii. Any emails or memos discussing my alleged involvement, investigation findings, or any disciplinary considerations.

(3) Union & District Handling of the Matter

- i. Documentation on how Local 1186 and Local 818 addressed this matter, including any records of grievances, hearings, or appeals related to it.
- ii. Copies of any official district policies used to assess, investigate, or determine outcomes in cases of alleged employee misconduct.

(4) Outcome & Resolution Records

- i. All records indicating the final decision regarding this incident, including whether charges were ever formally filed, dismissed, or resolved through internal disciplinary actions.
- ii. Any records clarifying why this matter was referenced again recently and whether it played a role in decisions regarding my employment.

3. It is found that, by email dated February 24, 2025, the complainant requested an update on the request described in paragraph 2, above.

4. It is found that, by email dated February 24, 2025, the respondents replied to the complainant, stating that the employee with “most of this information” “is still out on leave.”

5. It is found that, by email dated March 3, 2025, the complainant followed up a second time on his request, asked if any portion of the records responsive to the request could be provided to him, and when the respondents expected to complete the production. It is found that the respondents replied the same day that they were still waiting for the same employee to return to work in order to provide copies of responsive records.

6. It is found that, by email dated March 6, 2025, the complainant again requested a status update on his request.

7. It is found that, by email dated March 7, 2025, the respondents provided the complainant with copies of records responsive to his request.

8. By letter of complaint filed March 12, 2025, the complainant appealed to this Commission, alleging that the respondents violated the Freedom of Information (“FOI”) Act by failing to provide him with copies of all records responsive to his request, described in paragraph 2, above.

9. Section 1-200(5), G.S., provides:

“[p]ublic records or files” means any recorded data or information relating to the conduct of the public’s business prepared, owned, used, received or retained by a public agency, or to which a public agency is entitled to receive a copy by law or contract under 1-218, whether such data or information be handwritten, typed, tape-recorded, videotaped, printed, photostated, photographed or recorded by any other method.

10. Section 1-210(a), G.S., provides, in relevant part:

[e]xcept as otherwise provided by any federal law or state statute, all records maintained or kept on file by any public agency, whether or not such records are required by any law or by any rule or regulation, shall be public records and every person shall have the right to... (3) receive a copy of such records in accordance with section 1-212.

11. Section 1-212(a), G.S., provides, in relevant part: “[a]ny person applying in writing shall receive, promptly upon request, a plain, facsimile, electronic or certified copy of any public record.”

12. It is concluded that the requested records, to the extent they exist and are maintained by the respondents, are public records within the meaning of §§1-200(5) and 1-210(a), G.S.

13. It is found that, by email dated April 7, 2025, the complainant requested another status update on his request; specifically, regarding his request for “internal communications, meeting notes, and related documentation involving the individuals I listed in my original request.”

14. It is found that, by email dated April 7, 2025, the respondents provided the complainant with copies of additional responsive records. It is also found that the respondents clarified that they already had provided copies of all internal communications, notes or related documentation responsive to request (2) described paragraph 2, above.

15. It is found that, between April 7, 2025 and July 15, 2025, the respondents conducted another search and located additional records responsive to the complainant’s request. It is found that by email dated July 15, 2025, the respondents provided the complainant with copies of such records.

16. At the hearing on this matter, the respondents contended that they had provided the complainant with copies of all records responsive to his request, described in paragraph 2, above.

17. Also at the hearing on this matter, while the complainant acknowledged that the respondents provided him with copies of records responsive to his request, he contended that they failed to provide him with copies of all records responsive to the request described in paragraph 2, items (2) and (3), above.

18. The respondents’ witness testified, and it is found, that they conducted multiple searches for records responsive to such request, which included a search conducted by their IT department. Such searches included the respondents’ own further refinement of the search queries, and a search of the records of additional personnel not specifically identified in the request.

19. The respondents also testified, and it is found, that they did not locate any notes, records of Zoom and/or Teams meetings, or any records related to the subject investigation. The respondents explained, and it is found, that such investigation was handled by the New Haven Police Department (“NHPD”) and that the complainant could also request records from the NHPD.

20. With respect to the request described in paragraph 2, item (3) above, the respondents testified, and it is found, that there are no records responsive to the request pertaining to any union action related to the complainant’s alleged behavior, and that the respondents do not have written policies used to assess, investigate or determine the outcome of cases of general employee misconduct. It is found, however, that the respondents located a “standard of professionalism” document and provided a copy of such record to the complainant.

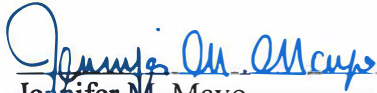
21. Based on all of the foregoing, it is found that the respondents conducted a reasonable and diligent search for the records described in paragraph 2, above, and that copies of all responsive records that exist and are maintained by the respondents have been provided to the complainant.

22. Therefore, it is concluded that the respondents did not violate the disclosure provisions of §§1-210(a) and 1-212(a), G.S., as alleged in the complaint.

The following order by the Commission is hereby recommended on the basis of the record concerning the above-captioned complaint:

1. The complaint is hereby dismissed.

Approved by Order of the Freedom of Information Commission at its regular meeting of February 25, 2026.

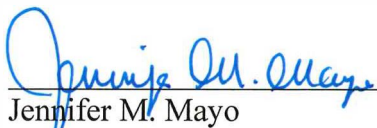
  
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Jennifer M. Mayo  
Acting Clerk of the Commission

PURSUANT TO SECTION 4-180(c), G.S., THE FOLLOWING ARE THE NAMES OF EACH PARTY AND THE MOST RECENT MAILING ADDRESS, PROVIDED TO THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION COMMISSION, OF THE PARTIES OR THEIR AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE.

THE PARTIES TO THIS CONTESTED CASE ARE:

**ROBERT JARRETT**, 99 Mansfield Avenue, New Britain, CT 06051

**SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS, CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT OF NEW BRITAIN; AND CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT OF NEW BRITAIN**,  
c/o Attorney Peter J. Murphy and Attorney Julie Reznik, Shipman & Goodwin LLP, One  
Constitution Plaza, Hartford, CT 06103

  
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Jennifer M. Mayo  
Acting Clerk of the Commission