

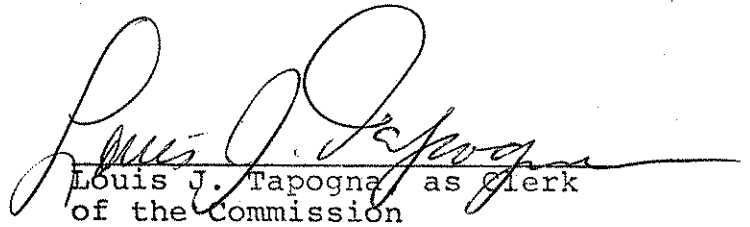
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT

In the Matter of a Complaint by)
Sonia M. Keith,) Withdrawal of Complaint
Complainant) Prior to Hearing

) Docket #FIC77-54
) April 11, 1977
)
)
State of Connecticut; and)
Commissioner of State Police,)

)
Respondent s)

The above captioned matter was withdrawn as a contested case on April 6, 1977.


Louis J. Tapogna as Clerk
of the Commission

Keith

March 7, 1977

Sonia M. Keith
17 Appletree Lane
Darien, Connecticut 06820

Dear Ms. Keith:

Please be advised that the Freedom of Information Commission, as a state agency, has jurisdiction only with respect to other public agencies within the State of Connecticut. The company and agency to which your letter of February 24, 1977 refers, concerns entities which are not public agencies within the meaning of the Freedom of Information statute. Therefore, access to the records kept in the files of those agencies are governed by laws that are outside of the statute governing the operation of this Commission and the Commission is without jurisdiction concerning denials of the same.

If you wish to make an appointment with me concerning a better understanding of the Freedom of Information statute and its limitations, please feel free to contact this Commission during regular business hours at 566-5682.

Very truly yours,

Albert P. Lenge
Commission Counsel

APL:ca

February 24, 1977

Mr. Albert P. Lenge, Attorney
Freedom of Information Commission
30 Trinity Street
Hartford, Conn. 06115

Dear Mr. Lenge:

I will enclose three requests for assistance, regarding denials from Public Agencies.

I understand the Telephone Company has a file on me given to them by the F.B.I. I have written more than once to the F.B.I. in Washington, and New Haven, and they deny having any file on me.

Do you know if I can request information from them as a public Agency, or do I have to try somewhere else.

I sent material regarding my situation with my first letter, which should be in your file.

I would like an appointment to discuss this situation further with you, and will try to call you. My phone calls are all monitored, so I hesitate to do so.

I can not get my files from any agency in Washington. I get the run-around. If you have any suggestions, although I know it is not your area, I would appreciate knowing what else to try.

Sincerely,

Sonia W. Keith
17 Appletreelane
Darien, Conn. 06820

P.S. If you can make appointments by mail, I would appreciate it if you could make one for me. I am available any time of the week.

RECEIVED AND FILED
FEB 27 1977
COMMISION TO MODERNIZE
MORNING

February 24, 1977

Mr. Albert P. Lenge, Attorney
Freedom of Information Commission
30 Trinity Street
Hartford, Conn. 06115

Dear Mr. Lenge:

On February 10th, I wrote to Mr. Fred Measer, Identification (and/or Freedom of Information) Officer at the I.R.S., Hartford Office, Hartford Conn. requesting all material/information pertaining to me, in their files. I have not received a reply.

I requested all material regarding dossiers etc, including material pertaining to the tax audit. I have received no reply.

I contest the legality of the I.R.S.' decision to deny my request.

I will appreciate your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely, *Sam M Reith*
17 Appletreelane
Darien, Conn. 06820

RECEIVED AND FILED
FEB 24 1977
FBI - HARTFORD
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

~~Keith~~
Keith

March 9, 1977

Mr. Albert P. Lenge, Commission Counsel
State of Conn. FOIC
30 Trinity Street
Hartford, Conn. 06115

Dear Mr. Lenge:

I received your notices of hearings to be held, and wish to have an appointment with you, as you advised in a letter to me, previously.

The situation seems to have 'gotten out of hand', and until the discussions etc. are progressing properly, there is no sense trying to accomplish anything. Each step must be taken in an orderly fashion, to give everyone the benefit of the FOI statutes, written to protect us all.

When I called you last week, it was to make an appointment, but somehow that did not take place. You stated that I must have gotten the wrong letter, when I told you I found it 'arbitrary'. I told you I talked to a young lady, who advised me to re-write the State Police, and ask for "everything". You told me she was not a lawyer, and that you 'could not tell me exactly how to write the letter', but to re-write it. The young lady also told me she thought I had written the letters of complaint of denial too late, and not within the fifteen days.

I wish to make an appointment with you, to find out how to proceed properly, to extract files from the state police, and I have other questions to ask you, which you advised me to do in your ~~first~~ second letter. I will appreciate this assistance, and will call your office for an appointment next week.

Sincerely,

Sonia W. Keith

17 Appletree lane
Darien, Conn. 06820

P.S. I do not wish to proceed with the hearings until all avenues to obtain my files have been exhausted. Due to the fact that I have been unable to hire an attorney (because of Government interference) I have not had adequate instruction, nor have I been able to get the correct information re: procedure. I understand that this is what the Freedom Of Information Commission is for.

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MARCH 10 1977
STATE OF CONNECTICUT
COMMISSION ON FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT

Keith

March 9, 1977

Mr. Albert P. Lenge, Commission Counsel
State of Conn. FOIC
30 Trinity Street
Hartford, Conn. 06115

Dear Mr. Lenge:

I read your letter carefully, and find it to be arbitrary. I followed your instructions in the first letter. And, sent a letter with some questions, and listed the agencies who did not reply to my request.

Can you specifically tell me if I am entitled to files from these agencies?

1. Darien Police Department, a public Agency
2. State Police, a public Agency
3. I.R.S. , a public Agency
4. The Sounthern New England Tel Co.

In your letter to me of March 7, you referred to "the Company" and "the Agency", that were not under the FOI statute in Conn. You failed to mention the Police agencies, which gives me to understand that they are under the Sate of Conn. staute.

I properly stated that the Darien Police Dept. 'denied' my request by failing to reply to my request, and I sent you the notice of denial within the fifteen days. I also stated that the State police sent me the certificate, which is not a denial, but is not satisfactory. Can you please advise me how to get my files, and what systems to request, if thatis the way to get them?

I will appreciate your assistance in this matter, and a reply at your earliest conveniece.

Sincerely,
Sonia M. Keith
17 Appletree lane
Darien, Conn.

P.S. You stated that my letter of complaint "need only contest the legality of the agency's denial of my request". Will you prodeed with my complaint regarding the Darien Police Dept? If not, please advise me to whom to write.

RECEIVED TO REQUEST
2/28/77

February 24, 1977

Mr. Albert P. Lenge, Attorney
Freedom of Information Commission
30 Trinity Street
Hartford, Conn. 06115

Dear Mr. Lenge:

On February 10th I wrote to Commissioner Leonard requesting all material/information pertaining to me in their files, regarding surveillance by the State Police, or other information.

I received a certificate of 'good conduct' found in the Criminal Name File, "by name check only". This reply came from Sgt. Robert Hull, Commanding Officer State bureau of Identification.

This does not fulfill my request. I contest the legality of the Department of State Police's decision to deny my proper request.

Sincerely,

Samia W. Keith
17 Appletreelane
Darien, Conn. 06820

RECEIVED AND FILED

MAR 1 1977

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION
COMMISSION

17

Keith

November 30, 1976

Sonia M. Keith
17 Appletree Lane
Darien, Connecticut 06820

Dear Ms. Keith:

This Commission received your letter dated November 16, 1976 on November 26, 1976. Please be advised that you may invoke the jurisdiction of the Freedom of Information Commission by appealing to it within 15 days from a denial of a request for a copy of a record made to any public agency in the State of Connecticut. Failure to respond within 4 business days may be deemed a denial and you may appeal to this Commission therefrom.

Your letter of complaint need only refer to your letter of request and the date thereon, the subject matter sought and the person and/or agency from whom you are seeking the same. Your letter to us need only contest the legality of the agency's decision to deny your request.

If you have any further questions concerning the above please feel free to contact me at 566-5682.

Sincerely,

Albert P. Lenge
Attorney for the
Freedom of Information Commission

APL:ca

November 16, 1976

Secretary of State, Mrs. G. Schaeffer
30 Trinity Street
Hartford, Conn.

Dear Mrs. Schaeffer:

I would like to know how to obtain my files under the Privacy act, and the Freedom Of Information Act, from State Agencies, and the local Police in Darien.

I will enclose some letters which will serve to enlighten you regarding this horrendous situation.

I hve tried for two years to hire a lawyer, and the F.B.I., with the help of local phone employees (company employees) have interfered and made it impossible. The local police put me in a mental institution in 1963, afterharassing me, by getting me down to the Police Statgion, under false pretenses, because I told a local merchant he was dishonest. It happens that he is the local mafia, and runs the town.

Twice more, they tried to do the same thing, and two years ago, I made such a fuss, the policw called the F.D.I. and the combined efforts, almost destroyed me. I still am unable to get a lawyer, and am trying to get my files. My callés have been monitored all over the country, and my friends and family alienated, by these people.

I have been to every agency in Conn., and due to F.B.I. interference, I can not get a satisfactory answer from any of them.

In June a collection of letters I took to Mrs. Abzugs office was burgaled from her office, and a letter sent to me signed with her name. I was able to find out that Mr. Nicholas Callahan, Mr. Clarence Kelleys top aide stole them, signed Mrs. Abzugs name, and returned them to me. I wrote to Mt. Levi, and Mrl Kelley, and Mr. Callahan was subsequently fired. I have been to Washington since, and spoken to people in the Justice Dept., and no one has deniedit. However, I still can not obtain legal help, after two years of trying.

I would like to know how to get my files from the State P olice, and any other state agency, and the document and accompanying ,ettters signed by the Psychiatrist (with no examination) when the local Police incarcerated me. I want all my files, as they are compiled due to lies and mis-information given to government agencies, to protect the corrupt practices of the local P'lice.

Also, I want to file a complaint, in the District Court (I believe), and don'tkkow how to proceed without lega l advice. What do you suggest?

I will appreciate any help you can give me.

Sincerely
Soniam. Keith
17 Appletreelane
Darien, Conn. 06820

Chief of Police, John Jordan
Darien, Conn. 06820

Aug. 76

Dear Chief Jordan:

As I am not afforded protection by, or the right to complain to the Darien Police Dept, as are other residents of this town, I wish to document these facts and objections in writing, for your records.

Last May I went to the Triple-A Travel Bureau to get a routing to Andover, Mass and Stow, Mass; to see the I.R.S. to get my files, and to see a relative. In Andover I left my dog in my locked car. When I returned shortly afterward, my dogs' leash had been removed from his collar. When I reached Stow, my relative had been called by another relative to harass me, and find out how much and what I drink. On the way home from that trip I was stopped by a State Trooper for violating the speed limit, and he kneeled down to smell my breath and looked in the rear for a bottle. I was told I was going much faster than I was, and, the judge reduced the fine. When I returned home, I wrote Mrs. Moore at the Travel Agency, and told her what had occurred, because she had given the information to your department, and asked me point blank, if I was taking my dog. A few days later I arrived home one evening to find my door unlocked. The next evening while I put my car away, (after carefully locking the front door) I returned to find the door open and a shovel leaning against the kitchen wall. The next night my phone rang at midnight, and at 3:30 a.m. (which occurred dozens of times months before, the same pattern). Apparently these are warnings.

Early in July I told my son I know why Mr. Kelleys top aide was fired and the next morning a police car was parked a few feet away from the end of Appletree lane, when I walked my dog at 8 a.m.. He remained there until I acknowledged his presence, and then drove off.

When I flew up north the end of April, this year, at 11:30 a.m., everyone in the first class was offered two drinks, and I obviously was not included, so I knew your department had instructed the F.B.I. to become involved in another scheme. I ordered two drinks and saw the stewardess making a point of checking up on how much I drank. The day after I got home I went to see a friend, and at 11:30 a.m. she offered me a drink which I took. To find out what the plan was. The next day I went to see a friend at noon, and she offered me two different kinds of alcohol. This occurred with several other friends during the next ten days. It has come to my attention that you have made a point of impressing my sons with the fact that I drink all day and night, at any hour, and anything., and this information was also passed along to the State Police, who have a dossier on me. This information is used to alienate my sons, prove to them I am a drinker, and to disillusion them, so they will be agreeable to assist you, against me.

Recently you urged one of my sons to obtain a key to my house, to enter and leave visible signs of entry, to dilute the fact that my house is being illegally entered, with your approval, for purposes of harassment.

A year ago while one son was attending a psychiatrist, your department gave mis-information about me to the F.B.I., who used my son, through his psychiatrist, to harass me, to pump me for personal information, and to alienate him from me; You have used the same brainwashing technique on my other son, absorbing his attention by defaming me, and disillusioning him, so that he is no longer motivated to continue his own life, and has become limited to leading a non-productive existence; predicated on manufactured lies.

I object to your tactics, and purpose, and feel it is time for the situation to be made a public issue, as it involves not only my career, family, reputation and town officials, but state officials, but dozens of residents who have been asked to harass me, pump me for information about my personal life, try to force me to make remarks about minority groups, homosexuals, etc., the government, and to try to compile remarks I might make in reply to provoked conversation to make me out to be a lesbian.

I wish it to be on record that I have asked for a public hearing, regarding this sickening situation; which includes the fact that I was harassed by your department, the phone co., and incarcerated illegally in the Fairfield Hills Mental Institution in 1963.

To this date I have been unable to obtain a lawyer, due to interference by the phone company, and the F.B.I., and all due to an original request from your department. It has come to my attention that I have been branded as "dangerous, and a dissident" when the real reason is to cover activities, by your department, that I object to.

Sincerely,

17 Appletree Lane
Darien, Conn. 06820

February 15, 1976

Chief of Police J. Jordan
Darien, Police Dept.

Dear Chief Jordan:

Many weeks ago I wrote to you twice requesting a copy of the document signed by the psychiatrist and used by the Darien Police Department, to commit me to the Fairfield Hills State Mental Institution. After the second request, you wrote and said there was no record of me having been committed to that institution. I then wrote, giving you the former name - which it was called at the time of my incarceration - and I have received no reply. I also wrote to Commissioner Hansen, and asked him to find out if the information was available to me or not, and if not why not. I have received no reply.

The document of commitment was signed by a psychiatrist unknown to me, with no examination given whatsoever, and no reason given, or any explanation for this action. To this day I have been unable to find out the reason. I have been informed that procedure of this sort is a criminal offense.

A short while ago I explained to one of my sons that after three requests, I could get no information from your department. One of them said "The police are sick of you bugging them". I strenuously object to this distortion of the truth. I have a right to defend myself, and am within my constitutional rights to make a civil request, and expect satisfaction in the way of a reply. This statement made to my son (or sons) was done obviously to further alienate them.

Also for the record, I would like to report that this morning between the hour of 11:00 and 11:30 my house was entered with a key, and a photograph of my sons was placed in another room, near the phone. This was done obviously for purposes of harassment.

Since my children, and all my former friends, business associates, and peripheral acquaintances have been urged to participate in my destruction by harassment, character assassination, and gathering facts for a dossier, I feel they have a right to know both sides of the story. Since they have been instructed not to listen to my side of the story, I shall send a copy to some of them.

Sincerely,

in
1963

February 17, 1976

Mr. Van Sindren, Pres,
Southern N.E. Telephone Co.
227 Church Street
New Haven, Conn.

Dear Mr. Van Sindren:

I wrote to Mr. Ulman who turned my letter over to Mrs. Haynes. I have been corresponding with her, which has been a waste of time. The letters are in her files I trust.

The following situation has taken place three times. The first time I went to the telephone company for help, I wound up in a mental institution, with assistance from the phone company. The second time I managed to survive the harassment.

I am writing to you regarding this last attempt to destroy me, and the truth.

Over a year ago I again began to be harassed by local authorities, and the phone company due to a legitimate complaint to the police about a local merchant. After a series of incidents, I requested the telephone company to instigate an investigation. Your Mr. Davis was extremely helpful. Mr. Shea came to the house and we discussed the facts. He was extremely interested and cooperative. The next time he came he told me he was told to stop the investigation, and during an exchange of facts, we deduced who it was; a local official. The harassment continued and increased. *mcpa*
Police Chief

Shortly after that I went to Fla. driving with a relative. My car was bugged the entire trip, and my car broken several times, en route, and while in Florida.

In Florida I had my phone connected, and the installer insisted on putting the phone on the wall in the kitchen. I wanted it on a jack, because from experience, I knew the phone could be wired so that all conversations in a house could be monitored without even picking up the telephone. After two hours, the installer finally put the phone on a jack, and admitted to me that this "wiring" was possible, and that he had done it, (at another time) He asked me about "harassment" by the phone company, and if I went to Fla., to escape the harassment up north. The telephone company has done irreparable damage (using this system) to me.

By monitoring my calls and listening to all my conversations they could, in my living room with friends, all my friends were contacted and categorically urged to demoralize me in one way or another. Conversations were repeated, and damage done.

At the same time my mail was read, and in one instance re-written. (one instance that I know of). All phone calls and conversations monitored and computered, from my phone, friends phones, and all pay phones. The police were asked to follow me to find out where I was, and to check up where I was making calls.

To continue with these abuses,

All my business associates were contacted and told to take me apart. The woman I rented an apt. with told to try to drive me crazy. My builder was told I had no money to build the studio, and to give me the run around. My lawyers down there were told I was paranoid, and to insult me etc. My broker was told to "take my account apart". I was asked down in Florida, and in Conn. several times if I felt like suicide, or I was lead into conversations regarding suicide. There is a state law in Conn. if anyone ~~says they~~ want to kill themselves, they can be incarcerated in a mental institution. This is what your company had in mind for me, it is obvious.

On my trip north, more of the same. I was followed around from town to town by police. All phone calls monitored and my friends told to abuse me. "It was good for me to be deprived. I was paranoid, and it stemmed from being spoiled"

I doubt if many people survive this system of methodically destroying someone. No stone was left unturned to try to drive me crazy. My phone was wired to the police station here in Conn., because the police answered on several occasions when my friends would call, and when I tried to call home, and also when I picked up to dial. I could hear police calls. I have had conversations played back to me, that I had made at a previous time. These are only a few of the harassments. On more than one occasion I would pick up the phone to dial and a test man was listening, I asked how he could do this and he said "by cutting the dial tone".

During this entire time all my conversations were reported. All personal remarks, thoughts regarding minority groups, sex, my children, family were computed to compile a dossier on me. The I.R.S., intelligence, the F.B.I. (in part) State and local police and the mail in some areas, were organized to make sure I had no privacy in any area. My accountant was told to intimidate me regarding an audit the I.R.S. instigated, and cancelled, after many attempts to find out if I cheated on my income tax.

My friends were told to find out if I lied, would steal their credit cards, cheat department stores, if I had lesbian tendencies. They were urged to insult me harass me pump for all kinds of facts to get a complete picture of my personality and thoughts. They were told to pump me about the neighbors, what I thought about each and everyone I knew.

I have tried for ONE YEAR to obtain legal assistance. By using this same system, I have been unable to get any assistance. Each attempt I make is invalidated one way or another.

6. Commissioner Judith Lahey is hereby designated as hearing officer to conduct this hearing at the time and place herein specified and at any time and place to which the hearing may be adjourned, and to report in writing to the Commission concerning the facts and the issues presented on the record of this contested case.

7. This notice includes Attachment "A".

By Order of the Freedom of
Information Commission

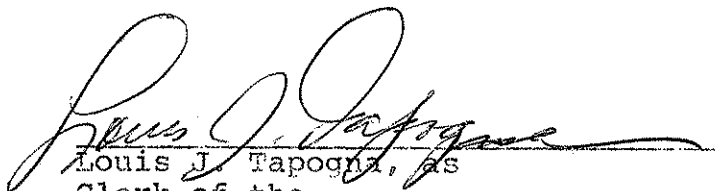


Herbert Brucker, Chairman

Dated this 15th day of
March, 1977.

The foregoing is hereby certified
to be a true and correct copy of
the Order of the Freedom of
Information Commission

By order of the Commission



Louis J. Tapogna, as
Clerk of the
Freedom of Information Commission

Freedom of Information Commission
of the State of Connecticut

In the Matter of a Complaint by)

Sonia M. Keith, Complainant) Designation of Hearing
Officer

against)
State of Connecticut; and) Docket #FIC77-54
Commissioner of State Police,) March 15, 1977

Respondents)

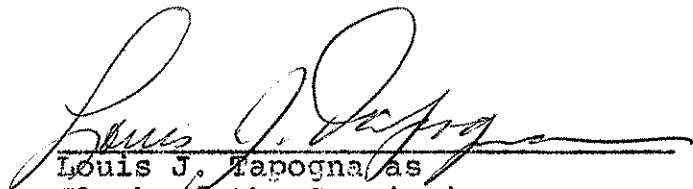
To: Commissioner Lahey,

You have been designated as a Commission Hearing Officer in the above-captioned matter by order of the Chairman.

Enclosed is a copy of the above-referenced Commission file for your use.

A written report of the facts and issues, and your recommendations for an order should be prepared when you have completed this matter.

By order of the Freedom of
Information Commission


Louis J. Tapogna, as
Clerk of the Commission



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION COMMISSION

30 TRINITY STREET

HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06115

Order to Show Cause

TO: State of Connecticut; and Commissioner of State Police, 100 Washington Street, Hartford, CT 06101, as Respondents; and Sonia M. Keith, 17 Appletree Lane, Darien, CT 06820, as Complainant.

1. You are each hereby ordered to appear at the Freedom of Information Hearing Room, 30 Trinity Street, Hartford, Connecticut, at 3 p.m. , on April 15, 1977 , for the purpose of showing cause why the Freedom of Information Commission should not grant the appeal of Sonia M. Keith of the Town of Darien and enter an order concerning the denial of the right of access to meetings and records of a public agency as provided by Sec. 25 of P.A. 76-435, formerly Sec. 14 of P.A. 75-342, of the Connecticut Public Acts, upon the facts alleged to the Commission as set forth in the attached complaint.
2. As the Respondents you are required, either in person or by counsel, to appear at the time and place herein provided to explain and otherwise defend yourselves against the charges set forth in the attached complaint.
3. The Complainant, is directed to attend this hearing at the time and place herein provided for the purpose of presenting this complaint to the Commission on the basis of the facts alleged in the complaint.
4. The Complainant and all Respondents are expressly advised that each of you shall be entitled to be represented by your respective attorney at the hearing, that you will be permitted to examine and cross-examine any witnesses who give testimony concerning these charges, and that you will be permitted to present witnesses and other evidence and arguments at the hearing of this matter.
5. The procedural regulations heretofore promulgated by the Freedom of Information Commission shall govern this hearing, which will be conducted as a contested case under Chapter 54 of the Connecticut General Statutes. If you have any questions concerning your obligations under this order to show cause, the Commission suggests that you contact your counsel or the Commission's counsel.