

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION COMMISSION  
OF THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT

In the Matter of a Complaint by

Robert S. Caulfield,

Complainant

against

First Selectman of the Town  
of New Canaan,

Respondent

Report of Hearing Officer

Docket #FIC79-144

March <sup>10</sup>/<sub>2</sub>, 1981

The above entitled matter was scheduled for hearing January 30, 1980, at which time the parties appeared and presented evidence and argument on the complaint.

After consideration of the entire record the following facts are found:

1. The respondent is a public agency within the meaning of §1-18a(a), G.S.

2. By letter dated June 15, 1979, the complainant requested that the First Selectman, Mr. Noble, provide a copy of a letter which had been sent to him from Mr. Lazlo Papp, a member of the Planning and Zoning Commission.

3. The letter concerned the relocation of the police station.

4. On June 25, 1979, by letter of the same date, Selectman Noble refused to provide a copy of the letter without the consent of Mr. Papp.

5. The letter is on file in the office of the First Selectman.

6. Section 1-18a(d) provides in relevant part that "public records or files means any recorded data or information relating to the conduct of the public's business received or retained by a public agency ..."

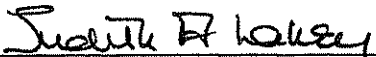
7. It is concluded that the letter is a public record under §1-18a(d), G.S. and that under §1-15, G.S. the complainant is entitled to a copy.

8. At hearing the respondent selectman had no objection to treating the letter as a public record.


The following order by the Commission is hereby recommended on

the basis of the record concerning the above-captioned complaint.

1. If it has not already done so, the respondent shall provide the complainant with a copy of the letter described at paragraphs 2 and 3.

  
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Commissioner Judith Lahey  
as Hearing Officer

Approved by Order of the Freedom of Information Commission at its regular meeting of April 22, 1981.

  
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Wendy Rae Briggs  
Clerk of the Commission