

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT

In the Matter of a Complaint by)	Report of Hearing Officer
Carol Tracy,)	
Complainant)	Docket #FIC79-224
against)	January 21, 1981
The City and Town of East Hartford;)	
Police Department of the City and)	
Town of East Hartford; and Commander)	
of the Police Department of the City)	
and Town of East Hartford,)	
Respondents)	

The above-captioned matter was heard as a contested case on March 24, 1980, at which time the complainant appeared, and presented testimony, exhibits and argument on the complaint. The respondents did not appear.

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

1. The respondents are public agencies as defined by §1-18a(a), G.S.

2. By letter filed with this Commission on November 9, 1979, the complainant alleged that the respondents violated the Freedom of Information Act by refusing to allow her to examine the Police Department daily log for the six-month period from August 1978 until January 1979.

3. By letter filed with this Commission on March 24, 1980, the respondent Police Department contended that it has complied fully with the Freedom of Information Act.

4. The respondent Police Department argued that it did not have to comply with the complainant's request, however, because complainant requested to see six months at one time.

5. The respondent Police Department explained that each monthly log consists of 225 to 250 pages.

6. The Department's policy is to assign an employee to sit with the person examining the log "in order to maintain the integrity of the log."

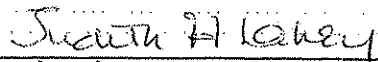
7. The respondent Police Department said it has no objection to allowing the complainant to see one month at a time but would consider longer periods of examination unreasonable because of its limited manpower.

8. Disclosure of the Police Department logs is required pursuant to §1-19(a).

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

1. The respondents shall forthwith allow the complainant to examine the police log at a mutually convenient time or times.

2. The Police Department may divide the period of time required for examination into more than one examination session if it allows the complainant to examine all of the requested documents promptly and if all of the examination sessions are completed within one week of the first session or whatever further time is acceptable to the complainant.



Commissioner Judith Lahey
as Hearing Officer

Approved by Order of the Freedom of Information Commission at its regular meeting of April 8, 1981.



Wendy Rae Briggs
Clerk of the Commission