



Office of the Lieutenant Governor

The State House
115 State Street
Montpelier, VT 05633
www.ltgov.state.vt.us

[phone] 802-828-2226
[fax] 802-828-3198

Phil Scott, Lieutenant Governor

October 10, 2016

Ian Mandel
950 N. Washington Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

Dear Mr. Mandel:

This is in response to your narrowed access to records request dated October 6, 2016, and to express appreciation for your pared down scope. Your request seeks e-mail communications to and from Lt. Governor Scott and Rachel Feldman and 11 different email addresses from various time periods ranging from January, 2011 through September 22, 2016.

Our preliminary searches for the narrowed request identified 1,071 potentially responsive records. About 1,000 of these records are to or from raychfeldman@gmail.com or phil@philscott.org. In addition, a rough estimate shows that about 300 of the 1,071 total potentially responsive records are press releases distributed to a mass email list, which includes some of the email addresses named in the request.

If you choose to receive all records, assuming three to five minutes per message, it will take 3,200 to 5,300 minutes to appropriately review and examine the voluminous number of separate and distinct messages (and attachments) covered by your request. The estimated cost to do so will be between \$1,800 and \$3,000 for senior-level staff (57¢ per minute).

If you eliminated the press releases to the mass email list, assuming the abovementioned terms, it will narrow the number of potentially responsive records to about 700, which will take 2,100 to 3,500 minutes to appropriately review and examine. The estimated cost to do so will be between \$1,200 and \$2,000 for senior-level staff (57¢ per minute).

Please note this estimate does not include time which will be incurred beyond the review of responsive documents, and the final cost will likely include more time with counsel and on formatting responsive documents for delivery.

Consulting with counsel, obtaining archived records from the Department of Information and Innovation and performing the initial search and narrowed search, all of which were necessary to do per your request, took 480 minutes of senior-level staff time (57¢ per minute). Subtracting the first 30 minutes, the cost totals \$256.50 in already incurred charges. Please note we did not include time incurred by counsel and other state employees in this number.

Per your instructions, we will not move forward on this request until you define which scope you are requesting, and accept and pay such costs in a minimum of \$1,200 (\$1,456.50 if you include already-incurred staff time). Please remit a check made payable to the State of Vermont in the amount of \$1,200 or \$1,456.50 to cover these costs. If it appears this amount will be insufficient, as we process the request, we will provide you with the new balance.

As an alternative, you may choose to further narrow the scope of the request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in purple ink, appearing to read "Rachel Feldman", with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

Rachel Feldman
Chief of Staff, Office of Lt. Governor Phil Scott