May 13, 2020

Kate McMahon
Navdeep Bains
Records Access Officers
New York City Board of Correction
1 Centre Street, Room 2213
New York, New York 10007

Via email:  katemcmahon@boc.nyc.gov
            nbains@boc.nyc.gov

Re: Request Under Freedom of Information Law for COVID-19 Related Information

Dear Records Officers:

This letter constitutes a request under the New York Freedom of Information Law ("FOIL") under Article 6 of the Public Officers Law.

Please produce any and all documents reflecting:

(1) the cumulative number of incarcerated people who tested positive for COVID-19 while in New York City Department of Correction ("DOC") custody, including those who have since been released;

(2) demographic information, including race, gender, and age, of all incarcerated people who have tested positive for COVID-19 in DOC custody;

(3) the total number of incarcerated people who have been tested for COVID-19;

(4) the total number of people incarcerated by DOC since the date of the first COVID-19 test administered to a person in DOC custody;

(5) the number of people who have tested positive for COVID-19 broken out by each New York City jail facility where they were housed before being moved for any COVID-19 related care or quarantine;

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(6) the total number of people transferred to hospital settings for care related to COVID-19.

Requested Response:

If your agency does not maintain any of these public records, please let me know who does and include the correct custodian’s name and contact information.

Please furnish these records electronically, by email attachment sent to alesman@legal-aid.org if available or by flash drive if not. I agree to pay any reasonable fees of not more than $25. If the request cannot be filled electronically and the cost to copy and mail the requested material will be greater than $25, please notify me. Please provide a receipt indicating the charges for each document. A flash drive can be mailed to the following address: 199 Water Street, 6th Floor, New York, NY 10038.

Pursuant to N.Y. Pub. Off. Law §89(3)(a), I expect a response within the five (5) day statutory time limit. If this Request is denied in whole or in part, I respectfully ask that all deletions be justified by reference to specific exemptions in the FOIL. If the materials responsive to this request require redaction, please include an index of the redactions with a basis for each redaction. Finally, if you have any questions in processing this request, please contact me at 646-634-6844 or the address above.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,

Alex Lesman
Staff Attorney

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