

From: [Mahr, Joseph](#)
To: [FOIA Metra](#)
Subject: Chicago Tribune - FOIA/ data of legal payouts
Date: Thursday, April 25, 2019 2:29:49 PM

Dear FOIA Officer:

Please consider this a request for *electronic* records under the Illinois Freedom of Information Act.

This request is for electronic records of all case-level information that denote settlement, verdict and other legal claim payouts by your agency, covering the period from Jan. 1, 2010, to present (or as close to present as practical).

For reference, public agencies typically track legal payouts electronically. For example, the City of Chicago compiles a dataset – which it calls its Judgement/ Verdict & Settlement Report – that contains the following fields of data for each applicable case:

CASE #
PAYEE
PAYMENT AMOUNT
FEES & COSTS
PRIMARY CAUSE
CITY DEPARTMENT INVOLVED
DISPOSITION
DATE TO COMPTROLLER

Your agency may capture different fields, and likely more fields. I am seeking all non-exempt fields of data your agency captures.

I would ask that the data be provided in a commonly accepted electronic format, such as Microsoft Excel, or text-delimited (such as .csv or tab-delimited).

As a member of the news media seeking these records in the public interest, I respectfully request fees be waived, per statute.

My goal is to get the records I need while limiting the burden on your agency. If you feel any aspect of this request is unduly burdensome, please contact me immediately to discuss while providing the remaining aspects of this request.

Thank you,

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