



Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and Trainmen

James J. Balonek
General Chairman - Division 815

17010 S. Blackfoot Drive ♦ Lockport, IL 60441 ♦ Phone: 708-473-0058 ♦ JJBLET815@comcast.net

May 6, 2019

Mr. Tom Stuebner
Metra
547 W. Jackson
Chicago, IL 60661

Re: Illinois Freedom of Information Act Request

Dear Mr. Stuebner:

Under the Illinois Freedom of Information Act, 5 ILCS 140, I am requesting an opportunity to inspect or obtain copies of public records that relate to a derailment incident that occurred at the 51st street yard facility on the Rock Island District on or about January 4, 2017. I am requesting any and all information that relates to mechanical/equipment damage, track/roadbed damage, discipline assessments and final costs associated with equipment and track repair including but not limited to labor and material costs. I am also requesting any and all statements made by employees who had knowledge of, were involved in or who made final determinations regarding this incident.

I understand that the Act permits a public body to charge a reasonable copying fee not to exceed the actual cost of reproduction and not including the costs of any search or review of the records (5 ILCS 140/6). If you estimate that there will be fees applied, please inform me first. However the law allows you to impose a waiver or reduction of fees when information is sought. This request is being made to assist our Organization in helping develop a cost analysis structure associated with derailments. The providing of this information will contribute to our Organization's ability to better represent our members.

I look forward to hearing from you in writing within five working days, as required by the Act 5 ILCS 140(3). Thank you for considering and responding to this request.

Sincerely,

JJ Balonek

JJ Balonek
General Chairman