

In the
Supreme Court of Ohio

STATE ex rel. Jocelyn Rosnick,

Relator,

v.

Seneca County Sheriff's Office and Seneca
County Sheriff Fredrick W. Stevens,

Respondents.

Original Action in Mandamus

COMPLAINT FOR ALTERNATIVE AND PEREMPTORY WRITS OF MANDAMUS

Jocelyn Rosnick
ACLU OF OHIO FOUNDATION, INC.
4506 Chester Avenue
Cleveland, Ohio 44103

Relator

Amy Gilbert (100887)
Counsel of Record
Freda J. Levenson (45916)
ACLU OF OHIO FOUNDATION, INC.
4506 Chester Avenue
Cleveland, Ohio 44103
(614) 586-1972
agilbert@acluohio.org
flevenson@acluohio.org

Counsel for Relator

Seneca County Sheriff's Office
3040 S. State Route 100
Tiffin, Ohio 44883

Sheriff Fredrick W. Stevens
3040 S. State Route 100
Tiffin, Ohio 44883

Respondents

INTRODUCTION

1. Relator Jocelyn Rosnick brings this action to compel Respondents the Seneca County Sheriff's Office and Seneca County Sheriff Frederick W. Stevens to comply with Ohio law and provide the public records she requested.

2. Ohio's public records law grants individuals the right to request public records and requires government agencies to transmit copies of those records "within a reasonable period of time," unless the records are covered by an exception to disclosure. R.C. 149.43(B)(7). Pursuant to this law, on March 12, 2025, Relator submitted a request for public records in the possession of the Respondents. Respondents have not denied that they possess these records, but rather, have asserted that the requested records are not public under the Ohio Public Records Act (PRA), R.C. 149.43(A)(1)(v), because, they claim, the records are federal records and thus not subject to disclosure. None of the federal statutes Respondents have cited, however, prohibit the disclosure of the requested records. Because Respondents have refused to perform their clearly defined duty to provide the requested records, Relator respectfully submits this complaint for alternative and peremptory writs of mandamus to require Respondents to provide her with the records she seeks.

JURISDICTION

3. This Court has jurisdiction to hear this case pursuant to Article IV, Section 2(B)(1)(b) of the Ohio Constitution. "Mandamus is an appropriate action by which to compel compliance with the Public Records Act." *State ex rel. Summers v. Fox*, No. 2018-0959, 2020 WL 7250544, *4 (Ohio Dec. 10, 2020); *see also* R.C. 149.43(C)(1) (providing for the commencement of a mandamus action to obtain wrongly withheld public records).

PARTIES

4. Relator Jocelyn Rosnick is a resident of Cuyahoga County, Ohio, and is employed as the Chief Policy and Advocacy Officer for the ACLU of Ohio.

5. Respondent Seneca County Sheriff's Office is a public entity that is charged with maintaining its records and making copies of them available within a reasonable period of time after they have been requested. R.C. 149.43.

6. Respondent Sheriff Frederick W. Stevens is the Sheriff of Seneca County and an employee of the Seneca County Sheriff's Office.

FACTS

7. As part of her professional interest in ensuring accountability for local law enforcement agencies that enter into a contractual relationship with Immigration Customs and Enforcement (ICE) to carry out federal immigration functions, Relator seeks public records pertaining to these contractual arrangements.

8. On March 12, 2025, Relator transmitted a letter to Respondents via email. Exhibit 1, p. 8-9. Her letter contained three requests for public records (Exhibit 2). For purposes of this Action, the relevant requests are:

1. Communications between individuals listed above and representatives or agents of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS), Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), and the U.S. Marshals Service (USMS) regarding partnerships with SCJ, including but not limited to pending or executed contracts from June 1, 2024 to March 3, 2025.

2. Contracts, drafts of contracts, and related memorandums, agreed to and executed by DHS, ICE, and / or USMS Service with SCJ from June 1, 2024 to March 3, 2025.

9. On March 24, 2025, Respondents responded: “Since your request asks for information about the Federal Govt. we checked with ICE” and ICE directed “The requester (ACLU) . . . to file their request with ICE FOIA.” Exhibit 1, p. 6.

10. Relator responded on March 28, 2025, explaining: “Records created or received by a public office, including those related to interactions with federal agencies, are subject to the Ohio Public Records Act, unless specifically exempt. . . . [J]ust because some other party *may also* have the records doesn’t mean that the state agency is excused from producing the requested records.” Exhibit 1, p. 6 (emphasis in original).

11. On March 31, 2025, Respondents emailed Relator noting that the jail was “working on getting the requested information” but it may take some time “due to ICE internal processes[.]” Exhibit 1, p. 5.

12. On April 4, 2025, Respondents emailed Relator, stating that the two requested items “are federal records subject to the Federal Records Act (FRA) and thus not subject to disclosure under state law.” Exhibit 1, p. 4. Specifically, Respondents cited the Federal Records Act (FRA), 44 U.S.C. § 3301(A), defining “federal records”, and 26 C.F.R. § 1222.10(b)(4),¹ defining “received” under the National Archives and Record Administration Act (NARA) as it pertains to federal records. *Id.* Respondents indicated they did not possess records responsive to the third request.

13. On April 16, 2025, Relator emailed to schedule a call with Respondents. Exhibit 1, p. 3.

¹ Respondent erroneously cited 26 C.F.R. § 1222.10(b)(4), a provision that does not exist. We assume Respondent intended 36 C.F.R. § 1222.10(b)(4), which pertains to National Archives and Records Administration Act (NARA) regulations regarding the Federal Records Act.

14. On April 23, 2025, Relator again emailed to provide additional clarification around the requests, noting that the requests do not seek personally identifiable information, and to the extent any such information is contained within the requested records, Ohio Revised Code Section 149.43(a)(13) allows for the redaction of that information. *Id.*

15. On April 30, 2025, Relator emailed Respondents to clarify her understanding that Respondents will not be producing records responsive to Requests 1 and 2. Exhibit 1, p. 2.

16. Later that day, Respondents emailed to inform Relator that they had forwarded her email to ICE and a response would be forwarded once it was received. *Id.*

17. Receiving no additional response, Relator sent a final email on July 15, 2025, seeking confirmation of Respondents' position that they will not produce records responsive to the March 12, 2025, Public Records Request. Exhibit 1, p. 1-2.

18. On July 18, 2025, Respondents emailed to reaffirm their position that the requested records are federal records subject to the FRA, 44 U.S.C. § 3301(A), defining "Federal records" and the NARA regulations, 26 C.F.R. § 1222.10(b)(4),² defining "received" as it pertains to federal records, and instructed Relator to request the disclosure of such records through ICE FOIA. Exhibit 1, p. 1. Respondents also asserted that 8 C.F.R. § 236.6 "prohibits the disclosure of *names, or other information*, relating to ICE detainees[.]" *Id.*

19. On July 22, 2025, Relator served an O.R.C. Section 149 Complaint to Respondents, pursuant to R.C. 149.43(C)(1), for Respondents' failure to promptly make the requested records available to Relator for inspection. Exhibit 3. The Section 149 Complaint was delivered on July 31, which began the statutory three-day period for Respondents to cure or address the failure

² SCSO erroneously cited 26 C.F.R. § 1222.10(b)(4), a provision that does not exist. We assume Respondent intended 36 C.F.R. § 1222.10(b)(4), which pertains to National Archives and Records Administration Act (NARA) regulations regarding the Federal Records Act.

alleged in that complaint. Rosnick Affidavit ¶ 4. The three-day period expired on August 5. As of the date of filing this Action, Relator has not received any response from Respondents. Rosnick Affidavit ¶ 5.

ARGUMENT

20. This Court should issue a writ of mandamus because Relator has a clear legal right to the records requested, and Respondents have a clear legal duty to provide them. No exception to Ohio Public Records law applies to the requested records. A public “record” in Ohio’s Public Records law is defined as “any document, device, or item, regardless of physical form or characteristic, including an electronic record as defined in section 1306.01 of the Revised Code, created *or received by* or coming under the jurisdiction of any public office of the state or its political subdivisions, which serves to document the organization, functions, policies, decisions, procedures, operations, or other activities of the office.” R.C. 149.011(G) (emphasis added). This definition of “records” is “broad enough to encompass anything a governmental unit utilizes to carry out its duties and responsibilities.” *State ex rel. Mazzaro v. Ferguson*, 49 Ohio St. 3d 37, 39 (1990) (internal citations omitted).

21. Ohio’s Public Records law contains an exception for “Records the release of which is prohibited by state or federal law[.]” R.C. 149.43(A)(1)(v). However, “[e]xceptions to disclosure under the Public Records Act, R.C. 149.43, are strictly construed against the public-records custodian, and the custodian has the burden to establish the applicability of an exception. . . . A custodian does not meet this burden if it has not proven that the requested records fall squarely within the exception.” *State ex rel. Cincinnati Enquirer v. Jones-Kelley*, 886 N.E.2d 206, 210 (Ohio 2008).

22. Respondents cite the Federal Records Act (FRA), 44 U.S.C. § 3301(A), which includes a definition of a federal “record,” and the definition of “received” as used in the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) Act, 36 C.F.R. § 1222.10(b)(4), which is intended to provide guidance to agencies on how they “should . . . apply the statutory definition of Federal records[.]” But neither the FRA nor the NARA prohibit the disclosure of the requested records merely because they are federal records. Respondents thus have not, and cannot, identify any basis for the exception he claims under R.C. 149.43(A)(1)(v).

23. To the extent Respondents also rely on 5 U.S.C. § 552a, “Records Maintained on Individuals”, or 8 C.F.R. § 236.6, “Information regarding detainees”, neither statute prohibits the release of the requested records, which include contracts, drafts of contracts, and related documents of Respondents, as the requested records do not seek information on specific detainees. Additionally, to the extent that any of the requested records contain such information, personally identifiable information can be redacted pursuant to R.C. 149.43(a)(13).

24. Moreover, regardless of whether the requested records happen also to be in the possession of ICE, if Respondents have them, Ohio law requires their disclosure. *See State v. Sanchez*, 79 Ohio App. 3d 133, 136 (6th Dist. 1992) (“Since particular records can be so utilized simultaneously by different governmental units, the same records can be simultaneously ‘kept’ by more than one governmental unit, all of which are required to make such records available for inspection.”). There is simply no requirement that the public go through “third parties in order to gain access to public records.” *State ex rel. Recodat Co. v. Buchanan*, 46 Ohio St. 3d 163, 165 (1989).

25. Respondents have failed to fulfill their clear legal duty by failing to provide requested public records that are not subject to an exception. Relator is an aggrieved person under

the law. Therefore, this Court should issue a writ of mandamus compelling Respondents to provide Relator copies of the public records she requested.

CLAIMS FOR RELIEF

26. WHEREFORE, Relator prays for a peremptory writ and/or an alternative writ of mandamus compelling Respondents Seneca County Sheriff's Office and Sheriff Frederick W. Stevens to provide the records that Relator sought on March 12, 2025, in conjunction with statutory damages, attorney fees, costs and all other relief permitted by law.

Dated: August 12, 2025

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Amy Gilbert

Amy Gilbert (100887)

Counsel of Record

Freda J. Levenson (45916)

ACLU OF OHIO FOUNDATION, INC.

4506 Chester Avenue

Cleveland, Ohio 44103

(614) 586-1972

agilbert@acluohio.org

flevenson@acluohio.org

Counsel for Relator

In the
Supreme Court of Ohio

STATE ex rel. Jocelyn Rosnick,

Relator,

v.

Seneca County Sheriff's Office and Seneca
County Sheriff Frederick W. Stevens,

Respondents.

Original Action in Mandamus

Affidavit of Relator Jocelyn Rosnick

State of Ohio

County of Franklin, ss:

Now comes affiant, Jocelyn Rosnick, being duly sworn and states as follows:

1. My name is Jocelyn Rosnick. I am over 18 years of age, suffer no legal disabilities, and am of sound mind and capable of making this sworn statement.
The facts contained in this affidavit are within my personal knowledge and are true and correct.
2. On March 12, 2025, I submitted via email a public records request to the Seneca County Sheriff's Office seeking three categories of records. I continued to email with Sheriff Stevens until it became clear that they would not be providing records responsive to two of my requests.

3. On Tuesday, July 22, 2025, I caused the Ohio Court of Claims Public Records Access Formal Complaint and exhibits to be sent by certified mail to the Seneca County Sheriff's Office.
4. On Tuesday, August 5, 2025, I received a confirmation of receipt that showed the Complaint was delivered on Thursday, July 31, 2025 (Exhibit A).
5. As of the date of executing this Affidavit, I have not received any response from the Seneca County Sheriff's Office.

Signed by Black Knight EXP-DocVerify: 2025-08-05 16:37:26 EDT
Jocelyn Rosnick
5989493.35166046.39845801

Jocelyn Rosnick

Sworn to or affirmed before me and subscribed in my presence in Franklin County, Ohio on this 5th day of August, 2025.

Signed by Black Knight EXP-DocVerify: 2025-08-05 16:37:51 EDT
Theresa M Sabo
5989493.35166046.320677

Signature of Notary Public



Notarial Act Performed by Audio visual communication

Rosnick Affidavit

Exhibit A

SENDER: COMPLETE THIS SECTION

- Complete items 1, 2, and 3.
- Print your name and address on the reverse so that we can return the card to you.
- Attach this card to the back of the mailpiece, or on the front if space permits.

1. Article Addressed to:
Seneca County Sheriff's Office
3040 S. R 100
Tiffin OH 44883



9590 9402 1949 6123 8323 70

2. Article Number (Transfer from service label)

7016 1370 0000 7859 3797

COMPLETE THIS SECTION ON DELIVERY

A. Signature

X *Bonnie Blevins*

☐ Agent

☒ Addressee

B. Received by (Printed Name)

Bonnie Blevins

C. Date of Delivery

7/31/25

D. Is delivery address different from item 1?

If YES, enter delivery address below:

☐ Yes

☒ No

3. Service Type

- ☐ Adult Signature
- ☐ Adult Signature Restricted Delivery
- ☒ Certified Mail®
- ☐ Certified Mail Restricted Delivery
- ☐ Collect on Delivery
- ☐ Collect on Delivery Restricted Delivery
- ☐ Insured Mail

- ☐ Priority Mail Express®
- ☐ Registered Mail™
- ☐ Registered Mail Restricted Delivery
- ☐ Return Receipt for Merchandise
- ☐ Signature Confirmation™
- ☐ Signature Confirmation Restricted Delivery

Mail Restricted Delivery
(00)

Domestic Return Receipt

Exhibit 1

Fw: Seneca Email Response

From: Sheriff Fredrick W. Stevens <sheriff@senecacountyohio.gov>

Date: Friday, July 18, 2025 at 11:07 AM

To: Jocelyn Rosnick <jrosnick@acluohio.org>

Cc: Chief Deputy Charles W. Boyer <cwboyer@senecacountyohio.gov>, William J. Cunningham <wjcunningham@senecacountyohio.gov>, Barb Patterson <barb.patterson@senecacountyohio.gov> **Subject:** RE: Records Request on Jail Population - Seneca

Dear Jocelyn,

No worries, it happens ALL the time with my name, so I am used to it from the military and now law enforcement field.

I resent the below email to the ICE attorneys, and they stated that ICE's position has not changed, specifically, the ACLU's response does not change the fact that these documents are federal records under the Federal Records Act. Consequently, the proper means to request disclosure is through FOIA ([Freedom of Information Act \(FOIA\) | ICE](#))

ICE's position remains the same as before, any requests for information regarding ICE detainees specifically should be addressed to ICE FOIA. Per 8 C.F.R. sec. 236.6 prohibits the disclosure of *names, or other information*, relating to ICE detainees, as such information "shall be under the control of the Service". The authority under the Federal Records Act (below) would also still apply.

The Federal Records Act (FRA) defines Federal records as all recorded information, regardless of form or characteristics, made *or received* by a Federal Agency under Federal law or in connection with the transaction of public business and appropriate for preservation by the agency as evidence of its operations. See 44 U.S.C. § 3301(A). NARA regulations regarding the FRA indicate that "received" means the acceptance or collection of documentary materials by or on behalf of the agency in the course of their official duties regardless of their origin (for example, other units of the agency, private citizens, public officials, other agencies, and contractors.) See 26 C.F.R. § 1222.10(b)(4).

Please reach out to them through that above provided link.

-Sheriff Stevens
Sheriff Fredrick W. Stevens
Seneca County Sheriff's Office
3040 S. State Route 100
Tiffin, Ohio 44883
(419)447-3456
FBI NA #249
NSI - LDC #117
DHSLA #15
NSI - JA #1



CONFIDENTIAL COMMUNICATION:

The information contained in or attached to this message is confidential. It is intended only to be read by the individual or entity named above or their designee. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient, you are on notice that any distribution of this message, in any form, is strictly prohibited. If you have received this message in error, please immediately notify the sender and delete or destroy any copy of this message.

From: Jocelyn Rosnick <jrosnick@acluohio.org>

Sent: Tuesday, July 15, 2025 11:41 AM

To: Sheriff Fredrick W. Stevens <sheriff@senecacountyohio.gov>

Cc: Chief Deputy Charles W. Boyer <cwboyer@senecacountyohio.gov>; William J. Cunningham <wjcunningham@senecacountyohio.gov>
Subject: Re: Records Request on Jail Population - Seneca

Dear Sheriff Stevens,

My apologies for misspelling your name in my last email.

It has been ten weeks since you wrote to inform me that you were awaiting a response from ICE. I trust you have not changed your position regarding supplying the documents requested in my March 12 Public Records Request, based on the objections you stated on April 4.

If you have changed your position, please produce the records forthwith. If you do not produce them by Friday, July 18, I will pursue a formal administrative complaint and, if necessary, litigation.

Thank you in advance.

Sincerely,

Jocelyn

Jocelyn Rosnick, Esq.

Chief Policy & Advocacy Officer || ACLU of Ohio

4506 Chester Ave. || Cleveland, OH 44103

216.329.0141 || jrosnick@acluohio.org

Pronouns: she, her, hers

Become a card-carrying member of the ACLU.

[Stand with us. We've got your back.](#)



From: Sheriff Fredrick W. Stevens <sheriff@senecacountyohio.gov>

Date: Wednesday, April 30, 2025 at 3:42 PM

To: Jocelyn Rosnick <jrosnick@acluohio.org>

Cc: Chief Deputy Charles W. Boyer <cwboyer@senecacountyohio.gov>, William J. Cunningham <wjcunningham@senecacountyohio.gov>

Subject: Re: Records Request on Jail Population - Seneca

I forwarded your response to ICE legal department that answered your initial request and I am awaiting their response.

I did answer your initial request of March 12th and you asked for further clarification as you were not happy with their response. As soon as I hear something from ICE legal department I will forward it on.

My last name is Stevens with a V not a ph.

-Sheriff Stevens

Get [Outlook for Android](#)

From: Jocelyn Rosnick <jrosnick@acluohio.org>

Sent: Wednesday, April 30, 2025 3:25:40 PM

To: Sheriff Fredrick W. Stevens <sheriff@senecacountyohio.gov>

Cc: Chief Deputy Charles W. Boyer <cwboyer@senecacountyohio.gov>; William J. Cunningham <wjcunningham@senecacountyohio.gov>

Subject: Re: Records Request on Jail Population - Seneca

Dear Sheriff Stephens,

Having not received any response from you to either of my last emails (sent on April 16 and April 23), I wish to clarify my understanding that your office will not produce documents in response to Request #1 or Request #2 of my March 12, 2025 Public Records Request. If I do not hear otherwise from you by close of business on Friday, May 2, I will assume that such is the case.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and assistance.

Best,

Jocelyn

Jocelyn Rosnick, Esq.

Chief Policy & Advocacy Officer || ACLU of Ohio

4506 Chester Ave. || Cleveland, OH 44103

216.329.0141 || jrosnick@acluohio.org

Pronouns: she, her, hers

Become a card-carrying member of the ACLU.

[Stand with us. We've got your back.](#)



From: Jocelyn Rosnick <jrosnick@acluohio.org>

Date: Wednesday, April 23, 2025 at 11:25 AM

To: Sheriff Fredrick W. Stevens <sheriff@senecacountyohio.gov>

Cc: Chief Deputy Charles W. Boyer <cwboyer@senecacountyohio.gov>, William J. Cunningham <wjcunningham@senecacountyohio.gov>

Subject: Re: Records Request on Jail Population - Seneca

Hello Sheriff Stevens,

I wanted to follow up in writing since a call was not scheduled

I wanted to provide some clarification around requests 1 and 2. We are not seeking personally identifiable information—simply contracts/ drafts of contracts and documents directly related to those contracts.

USC 552a – “Records Maintained on Individuals” – prohibits the release of records that pertain to individuals – which is not what we are asking for. Nothing within 5 U.S.C. 552a or 8 C.F.R. 236.6 prohibits the disclosure of records previously requested. Of course, if any personally identifying information that is protected by 5 U.S.C. 552a or 8 C.F.R. 236.6 is contained within those records, Ohio Revised Code Section 149.43(a)(13) allows for the redaction of that information. We therefore request your office promptly comply with our Public Records Request, initially dated March 12, 2025.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and assistance.

Jocelyn Rosnick, Esq.

Chief Policy & Advocacy Officer || ACLU of Ohio

4506 Chester Ave. || Cleveland, OH 44103

216.329.0141 || jrosnick@acluohio.org

Pronouns: she, her, hers

Become a card-carrying member of the ACLU.

[Stand with us. We've got your back.](#)



From: Jocelyn Rosnick <jrosnick@acluohio.org>

Date: Wednesday, April 16, 2025 at 3:43 PM

To: Sheriff Fredrick W. Stevens <sheriff@senecacountyohio.gov>

Cc: Chief Deputy Charles W. Boyer <cwboyer@senecacountyohio.gov>, William J. Cunningham <wjcunningham@senecacountyohio.gov>

Subject: Re: Records Request on Jail Population - Seneca

Hello Sheriff Stevens,

I appreciate your understanding for my delay in response as I was out of office.

Would you be available in the next few days - possibly Friday afternoon - to hop on a quick call to discuss the response to requests 1 and 2?

Thank you in advance,

Jocelyn

Jocelyn Rosnick, Esq.

Chief Policy & Advocacy Officer || ACLU of Ohio

4506 Chester Ave. || Cleveland, OH 44103

216.329.0141 || jrosnick@acluohio.org

Pronouns: she, her, hers

Become a card-carrying member of the ACLU.

[Stand with us. We've got your back.](#)



From: Sheriff Fredrick W. Stevens <sheriff@senecacountyohio.gov>

Date: Friday, April 4, 2025 at 8:08 AM

To: Jocelyn Rosnick <jrosnick@acluohio.org>

Cc: Chief Deputy Charles W. Boyer <cwboyer@senecacountyohio.gov>, William J. Cunningham <wjcunningham@senecacountyohio.gov>

Subject: RE: Records Request on Jail Population - Seneca

Ms. Rosnick,

As mentioned, ICE's Office of the Principal Legal Advisor (OPLA) has reviewed the ACLU request/response and has provided the following.

OPLA's position remains that the first two requested items below are federal records subject to the Federal Records Act (FRA) and thus not subject to disclosure under state law. The Ohio Public Records Act at ORC Section 149.43(A)(1)(v) states that a "public record" is not "records the release of which is prohibited by state or federal law." The FRA defines federal records as all recorded information, regardless of form or characteristics, made or received by a Federal Agency under Federal law or in connection with the transaction of public business and appropriate for preservation by the agency as evidence of its operations. See 44 U.S.C. § 3301(A). NARA regulations regarding the FRA indicate that "received" means the acceptance or collection of documentary materials by or on behalf of the agency in the course of their official duties regardless of their origin (for example, other units of the agency, private citizens, public officials, other agencies, and contractors.) See 26 C.F.R. § 1222.10(b)(4).

1. Any communications between the Seneca County sheriff, chief deputy and jail admin and any person from DHS, ICE and USMS regarding partnerships with the Seneca County Jail or any pending or executed contracts from June 1st 2024 – March 3rd, 2025.

2. Any contracts, drafts of contracts, and related memorandums, agreed to and executed by DHS, ICE, and / or USMS with the Seneca County Jail from June 1st 2024 – March 3rd, 2025.

3. Lastly, any communications between commissioners, county auditor and county prosecutor and the sheriff, chief deputy and jail administrator pertaining to partnerships with the Seneca County Jail and pending or executed contracts between CCNO and DHS, ICE and USMS between June 1st, 2024 to March 3rd, 2025.

As to the third requested item, these do not encompass federal records. The Seneca County Sheriff's office must ultimately determine whether Ohio state law requires disclosure of these records. If it determines that it does, despite ICE's position these records are not disclosable, then the Sheriff's Office should protect ICE information, including personally identifiable information such as the names of officers/agents, phone numbers, email addresses, and business/financial information, by redacting the information to the extent possible.

With that being said, in reference to #3, I have been Sheriff since 2021, and we have not entered into or have any pending contracts or discussions with CCNO in that entire time, and we do not intend to while I am sheriff. Nor have we discussed it with the county commissioners, county auditor or county prosecutor so there are no communications during the requested time period nor any going back to my time in office.

-Sheriff Stevens

Sheriff Fredrick W. Stevens
Seneca County Sheriff's Office
3040 S. State Route 100
Tiffin, Ohio 44883
(419)447-3456
FBI NA #249
NSI – LDC #117
DHSLA #15
NSI – JA #1



CONFIDENTIAL COMMUNICATION:

The information contained in or attached to this message is confidential. It is intended only to be read by the individual or entity named above or their designee. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient, you are on notice that any distribution

of this message, in any form, is strictly prohibited. If you have received this message in error, please immediately notify the sender and delete or destroy any copy of this message.

From: Jocelyn Rosnick <jrosnick@acluohio.org>
Sent: Monday, March 31, 2025 5:04 PM
To: Sheriff Fredrick W. Stevens <sheriff@senecacountyohio.gov>
Cc: Chief Deputy Charles W. Boyer <cwboyer@senecacountyohio.gov>; William J. Cunningham <wjcunningham@senecacountyohio.gov>
Subject: Re: Records Request on Jail Population - Seneca

Thank you so much for your expedient response. I look forward to hearing from you as you receive more information.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Jocelyn Rosnick, Esq.

Policy Director || **ACLU of Ohio**
4506 Chester Ave. || Cleveland, OH 44103
216.329.0141 || jrosnick@acluohio.org
Pronouns: she, her, hers

Become a card-carrying member of the ACLU.
[Stand with us. We've got your back.](#)



From: Sheriff Fredrick W. Stevens <sheriff@senecacountyohio.gov>
Date: Monday, March 31, 2025 at 1:37 PM
To: Jocelyn Rosnick <jrosnick@acluohio.org>
Cc: Chief Deputy Charles W. Boyer <cwboyer@senecacountyohio.gov>, William J. Cunningham <wjcunningham@senecacountyohio.gov>
Subject: RE: Records Request on Jail Population - Seneca

You don't often get email from sheriff@senecacountyohio.gov. [Learn why this is important](#)

Ms. Rosnick,

We are seeking guidance and working on getting the requested information, however, due to ICE internal processes it will take additional time.

-Sheriff Stevens

Sheriff Fredrick W. Stevens
Seneca County Sheriff's Office
3040 S. State Route 100
Tiffin, Ohio 44883
(419)447-3456
FBI NA #249
NSI – LDC #117
DHSLA #15
NSI – JA #1



CONFIDENTIAL COMMUNICATION:

The information contained in or attached to this message is confidential. It is intended only to be read by the individual or entity named above or their designee. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient, you are on notice that any distribution of this message, in any form, is strictly prohibited. If you have received this message in error, please immediately notify the sender and delete or destroy any copy of this message.

From: Jocelyn Rosnick <jrosnick@acluohio.org>
Sent: Friday, March 28, 2025 11:19 AM
To: Sheriff Fredrick W. Stevens <sheriff@senecacountyohio.gov>
Cc: Chief Deputy Charles W. Boyer <cwboyer@senecacountyohio.gov>; William J. Cunningham <wjcunningham@senecacountyohio.gov>
Subject: Re: Records Request on Jail Population - Seneca

Hello Sheriff Stevens,

Thank you for your response. As the contracts and other agreements you enter into, and the communications related to them, are part of your office activities/ operations, they are public records under [Ohio law](#). Records created or received by a public office, including those related to interactions with federal agencies, are subject to the Ohio Public Records Act, unless specifically exempt. Thus, those records may be requested by either party – either through Ohio’s Sunshine Laws or FOIA. Put simply, just because some other party *may also* have the records doesn’t mean that the state agency is excused from producing the requested records.

I’d be happy to discuss this request with you or your legal counsel at your convenience.

Thank you for your attention to this request.

Warm regards,

Jocelyn

Jocelyn Rosnick, Esq.

Policy Director || **ACLU of Ohio**
4506 Chester Ave. || Cleveland, OH 44103
216.329.0141 || jrosnick@acluohio.org
Pronouns: she, her, hers

Become a card-carrying member of the ACLU.
[Stand with us.](#) *We've got your back.*



From: Sheriff Fredrick W. Stevens <sheriff@senecacountyohio.gov>
Date: Monday, March 24, 2025 at 10:55 AM
To: Jocelyn Rosnick <jrosnick@acluohio.org>
Cc: Chief Deputy Charles W. Boyer <cwboyer@senecacountyohio.gov>, William J. Cunningham <wjcunningham@senecacountyohio.gov>
Subject: FW: Records Request on Jail Population - Seneca

You don't often get email from sheriff@senecacountyohio.gov. [Learn why this is important](#)

Ms. Rosnick,

Since your request asks for information about the Federal Govt. we checked with ICE about the request you submitted and this is the response we received from them.

The requester (ACLU) should be directed to file their request with ICE FOIA.

The requestor can submit the request at <https://www.ice.gov/foia>.

-Sheriff Stevens
Sheriff Fredrick W. Stevens
Seneca County Sheriff’s Office
3040 S. State Route 100
Tiffin, Ohio 44883
(419)447-3456
FBI NA #249
NSI – LDC #117
DHSLA #15
NSI – JA #1



CONFIDENTIAL COMMUNICATION:

The information contained in or attached to this message is confidential. It is intended only to be read by the individual or entity named above or their designee. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient, you are on notice that any distribution of this message, in any form, is strictly prohibited. If you have received this message in error, please immediately notify the sender and delete or destroy any copy of this message.

From: Chief Deputy Charles W. Boyer <cwboyer@senecacountyohio.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, March 18, 2025 4:33 PM
To: Sheriff Fredrick W. Stevens <sheriff@senecacountyohio.gov>
Subject: FW: Records Request on Jail Population - Seneca

Chief Deputy Charles W. Boyer
Seneca County Sheriff's Office
Tiffin, Ohio 44883
(419) 447-3456 (office)
(419) 937-4099 (cell)



CONFIDENTIAL COMMUNICATION:

The information contained in or attached to this message is confidential. It is intended only to be read by the individual or entity named above or their designee. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient, you are on notice that any distribution of this message, in any form, is strictly prohibited. If you have received this message in error, please immediately notify the sender and delete or destroy any copy of this message.

Seneca County, Ohio

From: Jocelyn Rosnick <jrosnick@acluohio.org>
Sent: Tuesday, March 18, 2025 1:25 PM
To: Chief Deputy Charles W. Boyer <cwboyer@senecacountyohio.gov>
Cc: William J. Cunningham <wjcunningham@senecacountyohio.gov>
Subject: Re: Records Request on Jail Population - Seneca

Thank you very much for the expedient response.

Sincerely,

Jocelyn Rosnick, Esq.
Policy Director || ACLU of Ohio
4506 Chester Ave. || Cleveland, OH 44103
216.329.0141 || jrosnick@acluohio.org
Pronouns: she, her, hers

Become a card-carrying member of the ACLU.
[Stand with us. We've got your back.](#)



From: Chief Deputy Charles W. Boyer <cwboyer@senecacountyohio.gov>
Date: Tuesday, March 18, 2025 at 1:14 PM
To: Jocelyn Rosnick <jrosnick@acluohio.org>
Cc: William J. Cunningham <wjcunningham@senecacountyohio.gov>
Subject: RE: Records Request on Jail Population - Seneca

Yes, Our Jail Administrator is working on it...Thanks,

Chief Deputy Charles W. Boyer
Seneca County Sheriff's Office
Tiffin, Ohio 44883
(419) 447-3456 (office)
(419) 937-4099 (cell)



CONFIDENTIAL COMMUNICATION:

The information contained in or attached to this message is confidential. It is intended only to be read by the individual or entity named above or their designee. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient, you are on notice that any distribution of this message, in any form, is strictly prohibited. If you have received this message in error, please immediately notify the sender and delete or destroy any copy of this message.

Seneca County, Ohio

From: Jocelyn Rosnick <jrosnick@acluohio.org>
Sent: Tuesday, March 18, 2025 1:06 PM
To: Chief Deputy Charles W. Boyer <cwboyer@senecacountyohio.gov>
Subject: Re: Records Request on Jail Population - Seneca

Hello,

I am writing to confirm receipt of the public records request sent on March 12.

Thank you in advance,

Jocelyn Rosnick, Esq.
Policy Director || ACLU of Ohio
4506 Chester Ave. || Cleveland, OH 44103
216.329.0141 || jrosnick@acluohio.org
Pronouns: she, her, hers

Become a card-carrying member of the ACLU.
[Stand with us. We've got your back.](#)



From: Jocelyn Rosnick <jrosnick@acluohio.org>
Date: Wednesday, March 12, 2025 at 3:15 PM
To: cwboyer@senecacountyohio.gov <cwboyer@senecacountyohio.gov>
Subject: Records Request on Jail Population - Seneca

Good afternoon,

Please see the attached request for public records in possession of the Seneca County Jail (SCJ).

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Jocelyn

Jocelyn Rosnick, Esq.

Policy Director || ACLU of Ohio

4506 Chester Ave. || Cleveland, OH 44103

216.329.0141 || jrosnick@acluohio.org

Pronouns: she, her, hers

Become a card-carrying member of the ACLU.

[Stand with us.](#) We've got your back.



Exhibit 2

March 12, 2025

Seneca County Jail
3040 OH State Route 100
Tiffin, OH 44883

Sent via email to cwboyer@senecacountyohio.gov

Re: Public Records Request related to the Seneca County Jail contract and communications with U.S Immigration and Customs Enforcement, the U.S Department of Homeland Security, and the U.S. Marshals Service



4506 Chester Avenue
Cleveland, OH 44103
P: (614) 586-1959
F: (216) 472-2210

1108 City Park Avenue
Suite 203
Columbus, OH 43206
P: (614) 586-1959
F: (614) 586-1974

acluohio.org
contact@acluohio.org

Dr. Ebony Speakes-Hall, LISW-S
President

J. Bennett Guess
Executive Director

Dear Administrative Commander, Chief Deputy Charles Boyer:

Pursuant to Ohio's open record laws, Revised Code 149.43, the following is a formal request for public records in possession of the Seneca County Jail (SCJ), and specifically, Sheriff Fredrick Stevens, Chief Deputy Charles Boyer, and Lieutenant William Cunnigham.

I hereby request copies of the following records:

1. Communications between individuals listed above and representatives or agents of the U.S Department of Homeland Security (DHS), Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), and the U.S Marshals Service (USMS) regarding partnerships with SCJ, including but not limited to pending or executed contracts, from June 1, 2024 to March 3, 2025.
2. Contracts, drafts of contracts, and related memorandums, agreed to and executed by DHS, ICE, and/ or USMS Service with SCJ, from June 1, 2024 to March 3, 2025.
3. Communications between the individuals listed above and leadership of Seneca County including, but not limited to, County Commissioners Anthony Paradiso, Bill Frankart, and Brent Busdeker, County Auditor Julie Adkins, and County Prosecutor Derek DeVine pertaining to partnerships with SCJ, including but not limited to pending or executed contracts, between CCNO and DHS, ICE, and USMS between June 1, 2024 to March 3, 2025.

For purposes of this request, “communications” means any and all e-mails, text messages, correspondence, papers, text files, notes, and/or minutes.

Please send the requested records to me via email at jrosnick@acluohio.org within fourteen (14) days of receipt of this request. If more time is needed, please contact me via email to discuss your anticipated response timeline. I remain open to receiving the records on a rolling basis. If there is any cost related to the production of these documents, please notify me before incurring that cost.

If you have any questions related to this request, please contact me via email. Thank you in advance for your assistance.

Respectfully submitted,

Jocelyn Rosnick, Esq.
Policy Director
ACLU of Ohio

Exhibit 3

**OHIO COURT OF CLAIMS
PUBLIC RECORDS ACCESS
FORMAL COMPLAINT**

OCC Form Rev. (4/2025a)

Ohio Court of Claims
65 South Front Street, 3rd Floor
Columbus, Ohio 43215
(614) 387-9800
www.ohiocourtclaims.gov

All information provided may be disclosed pursuant to the Ohio Public Records Act, O.R.C. 149.43.

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT

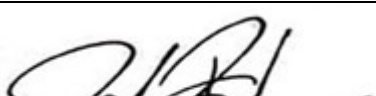
CLAIMANT CONTACT INFORMATION			
Name of person or organization that made public records request (last, first, middle initial or organization name) Jocelyn Rosnick, ACLU of Ohio			
c/o (contact person if claimant is an organization) Jocelyn Rosnick			
Address 4506 Chester Ave.	City Cleveland	State OH	Zip Code 44103
Telephone number 216-329-0141	E-mail address jrosnick@acluohio.org		
PUBLIC OFFICE CONTACT INFORMATION			
Name of public office Seneca County Sheriff's Office			
Address (number and street) 3040 S. State Route 100	City Tiffin	State OH	Zip Code 44883
County Seneca	Telephone number 419-447-3456	E-mail address sheriff@senecacountyohio.gov	
Name of public official who responded to records request (if no response made, state "None") Sheriff Fredrick W. Stevens			
COMPLAINT			
Please describe how access to public records was denied in violation of R.C. 149.43(B) (see codes.ohio.gov/orc/149.43). Attach additional sheets if necessary. Give the date of each request and be specific as to what records have not been provided.			
See attached Complaint (Exhibit A), Public Records Request (Exhibit B), Timeline (Exhibit C), and all of the			
correspondence between the parties (Exhibit D).			
REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS OR INFORMATION			
Attach <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> copy of original public records request, and <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> copy of any and all written responses or other communications relating to the request from the public office. If the request and/or denial was verbal, provide a detailed description below of the verbal communication with the public office. Attach additional sheets if necessary.			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I affirm that a copy of this complaint was properly transmitted to the public office or person responsible for public records, that they were provided three business days to cure or otherwise address the failure alleged in this complaint, and that the failure alleged in the complaint has not been cured or otherwise resolved.			
Signature 		Date (mm/dd/year) July 22, 2025	

Exhibit A

COMPLAINT

1. On March 12, 2025: Jocelyn Rosnick (“Rosnick”) sent a Public Records Request (PRR) via email to Seneca County Sheriff’s Office (“SCSO”) making three requests. *See Exhibit B.*
2. Rosnick sought the following records: Communications between specified individuals and representatives or agents of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS), Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), and the U.S. Marshals Service (USMS) regarding partnerships with SCSO, including but not limited to pending or executed contracts, from June 1, 2024 to March 3, 2025 (Request 1); Contracts, drafts of contracts, and related memorandums, agreed to and executed by DHS, ICE, and/or USMS Service with SCSO from June 1, 2024 (Request 2); and a third request (Request 3) that is not presently in dispute. *See Exhibit B.*
3. On March 18, 2025, Rosnick followed up with SCSO to confirm receipt of the PRR. *See Exhibit D* at p. 8.
4. Later that day, SCSO responded via email confirming that their Jail Administrator was working on the request. *See Exhibit D* at p. 8.
5. On March 24, 2025, SCSO responded via email that because the PRR asks for “Information about the Federal Govt”, SCSO checked with ICE and ICE requested that the PRR be submitted directly to ICE FOIA. *See Exhibit D* at p. 6.
6. On March 28, 2025, Rosnick responded via email, explaining that the records requested are public records pursuant to Ohio law, and just because some other party also has those records does not excuse the state agency from producing the requested records. *See Exhibit D* at p. 6.
7. On March 31, 2025, SCSO responded that they were seeking guidance and working on getting the requested information through ICE. *See Exhibit D* at p. 5.
8. On April 4, 2025, SCSO responded via email explaining that documents sought pursuant to Requests 1 and 2 “are federal records subject to the Federal Records Act (FRA) and thus not subject to disclosure under state law.” SCSO cited 44 U.S.C. § 3301(A) defining federal “records” under the FRA and 26 C.F.R. § 1222.10(b)(4)¹ defining “received” in the National Archives and Record Administration Act (NARA). SCSO asserts that it does not contain records responsive to Request 3. *See Exhibit D* at p. 4.

¹ SCSO erroneously cited 26 C.F.R. § 1222.10(b)(4), a provision that does not exist. We assume Respondent intended 36 C.F.R. § 1222.10(b)(4), which pertains to National Archives and Records Administration Act (NARA) regulations regarding the Federal Records Act.

9. On April 16, 2025, Rosnick responded, seeking to schedule a call with SCSO to discuss their responses to the requests. *See Exhibit D* at p. 3.
10. On April 23, 2025, Rosnick again followed up via email to provide additional clarification around the requests, noting that the request does not seek personally identifiable information, and to the extent any such information is contained within those records, Ohio Revised Code Section 149.43(a)(13) allows for the redaction of that information. *See Exhibit D* at p. 3.
11. On April 30, 2025, Rosnick emailed SCSO to clarify her understanding that SCSO will not be producing documents responsive to Requests 1 and 2. *See Exhibit D* at p. 2.
12. Later that day, SCSO responded via email noting that it had forwarded Rosnick's email to ICE and that it would forward their response when received. *See Exhibit D* at p. 2.
13. Receiving no response from SCSO, Rosnick sent a final email on July 15, 2025, seeking confirmation of SCSO's position that it will not produce records responsive to the March 12 Public Records Request. *See Exhibit D* at p. 1.
14. On July 18, 2025, SCSO responded that Rosnick should request disclosure of "federal records under the Federal Records Act" through ICE FOIA. SCSO asserted that 8 C.F.R. § 236.6 "prohibits the disclosure of *names, or other information*, relating to ICE detainees", and again asserted objections based on the FRA, 44 U.S.C. § 3301(A), defining "Federal records" and the NARA regulations, 26 C.F.R. § 1222.10(b)(4),² defining "received" as it pertains to federal records. *See Exhibit D* at p. 1.
15. Neither the FRA nor the NARA prohibit the disclosure of federal records, and such documents are therefore not exempt under Ohio's public records law. Additionally, Rosnick's request does not seek information regarding specific detainees, and to the extent such information might be contained within the records requested, that information may be redacted pursuant to Ohio Revised Code § 149.43(a)(13). Merely because another agency also possesses the records requested does not relieve SCSO of the duty to release the records in their possession.
16. For a timeline of these events, see **Exhibit C**. For the complete correspondence between the parties, see **Exhibit D**.

² SCSO erroneously cited 26 C.F.R. § 1222.10(b)(4), a provision that does not exist. We assume Respondent intended 36 C.F.R. § 1222.10(b)(4), which pertains to National Archives and Records Administration Act (NARA) regulations regarding the Federal Records Act.

Exhibit B

March 12, 2025

Seneca County Jail
3040 OH State Route 100
Tiffin, OH 44883

Sent via email to cwboyer@senecacountyohio.gov

Re: Public Records Request related to the Seneca County Jail contract and communications with U.S Immigration and Customs Enforcement, the U.S Department of Homeland Security, and the U.S. Marshals Service



4506 Chester Avenue
Cleveland, OH 44103
P: (614) 586-1959
F: (216) 472-2210

1108 City Park Avenue
Suite 203
Columbus, OH 43206
P: (614) 586-1959
F: (614) 586-1974

acluohio.org
contact@acluohio.org

Dr. Ebony Speakes-Hall, LISW-S
President

J. Bennett Guess
Executive Director

Dear Administrative Commander, Chief Deputy Charles Boyer:

Pursuant to Ohio's open record laws, Revised Code 149.43, the following is a formal request for public records in possession of the Seneca County Jail (SCJ), and specifically, Sheriff Fredrick Stevens, Chief Deputy Charles Boyer, and Lieutenant William Cunnigham.

I hereby request copies of the following records:

1. Communications between individuals listed above and representatives or agents of the U.S Department of Homeland Security (DHS), Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), and the U.S Marshals Service (USMS) regarding partnerships with SCJ, including but not limited to pending or executed contracts, from June 1, 2024 to March 3, 2025.
2. Contracts, drafts of contracts, and related memorandums, agreed to and executed by DHS, ICE, and/ or USMS Service with SCJ, from June 1, 2024 to March 3, 2025.
3. Communications between the individuals listed above and leadership of Seneca County including, but not limited to, County Commissioners Anthony Paradiso, Bill Frankart, and Brent Busdeker, County Auditor Julie Adkins, and County Prosecutor Derek DeVine pertaining to partnerships with SCJ, including but not limited to pending or executed contracts, between CCNO and DHS, ICE, and USMS between June 1, 2024 to March 3, 2025.

For purposes of this request, “communications” means any and all e-mails, text messages, correspondence, papers, text files, notes, and/or minutes.

Please send the requested records to me via email at jrosnick@acluohio.org within fourteen (14) days of receipt of this request. If more time is needed, please contact me via email to discuss your anticipated response timeline. I remain open to receiving the records on a rolling basis. If there is any cost related to the production of these documents, please notify me before incurring that cost.

If you have any questions related to this request, please contact me via email. Thank you in advance for your assistance.

Respectfully submitted,

Jocelyn Rosnick, Esq.
Policy Director
ACLU of Ohio

Exhibit C

Timeline

<u>Date</u>	<u>Description</u>
March 12, 2025	Rosnick emailed a Public Records Request (PRR) to the Seneca County Sheriff's Office (SCSO) and made 3 requests for public records.
March 18, 2025	Rosnick emailed to confirm receipt of the PRR.
March 18, 2025	SCSO emailed to confirm that their Jail Administrator was working on the request.
March 24, 2025	SCSO emailed to request the PRR be submitted directly to ICE FOIA because the PRR asked for information about the federal government.
March 28, 2025	Rosnick responded that SCSO is still obligated to disclose the records, which are public records, regardless of whether another party also possesses those records.
March 31, 2025	SCSO responded that they are seeking guidance and working on getting the requested information through ICE.
April 4, 2025	SCSO responded that the documents sought pursuant to Requests 1 and 2 "are federal records subject to the Federal Records Act (FRA) and not subject to disclosure under state law" and cited the FRA, 44 U.S.C. § 3301(A), and the NARA, 26 C.F.R. § 1222.10(b)(4). ¹ SCSO noted that they did not contain documents responsive to Request 3.
April 16, 2025	Rosnick responded, seeking to schedule a call with SCSO to discuss their responses to the requests.
April 23, 2025	Rosnick emailed SCSO to provide additional clarification around the requests, noting that the requests do not seek personally identifiable information, and the Ohio Revised Code allows for the redaction of such information. O.R.C. § 149.43(a)(13).
April 30, 2025	Rosnick emailed SCSO to clarify her understanding that SCSO will not be producing documents responsive to Requests 1 and 2
April 30, 2025	SCSO responded via email noting that it forwarded Rosnick's email to ICE and will forward their response once it is received.
July 15, 2025	Rosnick sent a final email to SCSO seeking confirmation that it will not produce responsive records.
July 18, 2025	SCSO responded, noting that any request for information regarding ICE detainees should be sent to ICE FOIA, citing 8 C.F.R. § 236.6, and again

¹ SCSO erroneously cited 26 C.F.R. § 1222.10(b)(4), a provision that does not exist. We assume Respondent intended 36 C.F.R. § 1222.10(b)(4), which pertains to National Archives and Records Administration Act (NARA) regulations regarding the Federal Records Act.

	cited the FRA, 44 U.S.C. § 3301(A), and the NARA, 26 C.F.R. § 1222.10(b)(4). ²
--	---

² SCSO erroneously cited 26 C.F.R. § 1222.10(b)(4), a provision that does not exist. We assume Respondent intended 36 C.F.R. § 1222.10(b)(4), which pertains to National Archives and Records Administration Act (NARA) regulations regarding the Federal Records Act.

Exhibit D

Fw: Seneca Email Response

From: Sheriff Fredrick W. Stevens <sheriff@senecacountyohio.gov>

Date: Friday, July 18, 2025 at 11:07 AM

To: Jocelyn Rosnick <jrosnick@acluohio.org>

Cc: Chief Deputy Charles W. Boyer <cwboyer@senecacountyohio.gov>, William J. Cunningham <wjcunningham@senecacountyohio.gov>, Barb Patterson <barb.patterson@senecacountyohio.gov> **Subject:** RE: Records Request on Jail Population - Seneca

Dear Jocelyn,

No worries, it happens ALL the time with my name, so I am used to it from the military and now law enforcement field.

I resent the below email to the ICE attorneys, and they stated that ICE's position has not changed, specifically, the ACLU's response does not change the fact that these documents are federal records under the Federal Records Act. Consequently, the proper means to request disclosure is through FOIA ([Freedom of Information Act \(FOIA\) | ICE](#))

ICE's position remains the same as before, any requests for information regarding ICE detainees specifically should be addressed to ICE FOIA. Per 8 C.F.R. sec. 236.6 prohibits the disclosure of *names, or other information*, relating to ICE detainees, as such information "shall be under the control of the Service". The authority under the Federal Records Act (below) would also still apply.

The Federal Records Act (FRA) defines Federal records as all recorded information, regardless of form or characteristics, made *or received* by a Federal Agency under Federal law or in connection with the transaction of public business and appropriate for preservation by the agency as evidence of its operations. See 44 U.S.C. § 3301(A). NARA regulations regarding the FRA indicate that "received" means the acceptance or collection of documentary materials by or on behalf of the agency in the course of their official duties regardless of their origin (for example, other units of the agency, private citizens, public officials, other agencies, and contractors.) See 26 C.F.R. § 1222.10(b)(4).

Please reach out to them through that above provided link.

-Sheriff Stevens
Sheriff Fredrick W. Stevens
Seneca County Sheriff's Office
3040 S. State Route 100
Tiffin, Ohio 44883
(419)447-3456
FBI NA #249
NSI - LDC #117
DHSLA #15
NSI - JA #1



CONFIDENTIAL COMMUNICATION:

The information contained in or attached to this message is confidential. It is intended only to be read by the individual or entity named above or their designee. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient, you are on notice that any distribution of this message, in any form, is strictly prohibited. If you have received this message in error, please immediately notify the sender and delete or destroy any copy of this message.

From: Jocelyn Rosnick <jrosnick@acluohio.org>

Sent: Tuesday, July 15, 2025 11:41 AM

To: Sheriff Fredrick W. Stevens <sheriff@senecacountyohio.gov>

Cc: Chief Deputy Charles W. Boyer <cwboyer@senecacountyohio.gov>; William J. Cunningham <wjcunningham@senecacountyohio.gov>
Subject: Re: Records Request on Jail Population - Seneca

Dear Sheriff Stevens,

My apologies for misspelling your name in my last email.

It has been ten weeks since you wrote to inform me that you were awaiting a response from ICE. I trust you have not changed your position regarding supplying the documents requested in my March 12 Public Records Request, based on the objections you stated on April 4.

If you have changed your position, please produce the records forthwith. If you do not produce them by Friday, July 18, I will pursue a formal administrative complaint and, if necessary, litigation.

Thank you in advance.

Sincerely,

Jocelyn

Jocelyn Rosnick, Esq.

Chief Policy & Advocacy Officer || ACLU of Ohio

4506 Chester Ave. || Cleveland, OH 44103

216.329.0141 || jrosnick@acluohio.org

Pronouns: she, her, hers

Become a card-carrying member of the ACLU.

[Stand with us. We've got your back.](#)



From: Sheriff Fredrick W. Stevens <sheriff@senecacountyohio.gov>

Date: Wednesday, April 30, 2025 at 3:42 PM

To: Jocelyn Rosnick <jrosnick@acluohio.org>

Cc: Chief Deputy Charles W. Boyer <cwboyer@senecacountyohio.gov>, William J. Cunningham <wjcunningham@senecacountyohio.gov>

Subject: Re: Records Request on Jail Population - Seneca

I forwarded your response to ICE legal department that answered your initial request and I am awaiting their response.

I did answer your initial request of March 12th and you asked for further clarification as you were not happy with their response. As soon as I hear something from ICE legal department I will forward it on.

My last name is Stevens with a V not a ph.

-Sheriff Stevens

Get [Outlook for Android](#)

From: Jocelyn Rosnick <jrosnick@acluohio.org>

Sent: Wednesday, April 30, 2025 3:25:40 PM

To: Sheriff Fredrick W. Stevens <sheriff@senecacountyohio.gov>

Cc: Chief Deputy Charles W. Boyer <cwboyer@senecacountyohio.gov>; William J. Cunningham <wjcunningham@senecacountyohio.gov>

Subject: Re: Records Request on Jail Population - Seneca

Dear Sheriff Stephens,

Having not received any response from you to either of my last emails (sent on April 16 and April 23), I wish to clarify my understanding that your office will not produce documents in response to Request #1 or Request #2 of my March 12, 2025 Public Records Request. If I do not hear otherwise from you by close of business on Friday, May 2, I will assume that such is the case.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and assistance.

Best,

Jocelyn

Jocelyn Rosnick, Esq.

Chief Policy & Advocacy Officer || ACLU of Ohio

4506 Chester Ave. || Cleveland, OH 44103

216.329.0141 || jrosnick@acluohio.org

Pronouns: she, her, hers

Become a card-carrying member of the ACLU.

[Stand with us. We've got your back.](#)



From: Jocelyn Rosnick <jrosnick@acluohio.org>

Date: Wednesday, April 23, 2025 at 11:25 AM

To: Sheriff Fredrick W. Stevens <sheriff@senecacountyohio.gov>

Cc: Chief Deputy Charles W. Boyer <cwboyer@senecacountyohio.gov>, William J. Cunningham <wjcunningham@senecacountyohio.gov>

Subject: Re: Records Request on Jail Population - Seneca

Hello Sheriff Stevens,

I wanted to follow up in writing since a call was not scheduled

I wanted to provide some clarification around requests 1 and 2. We are not seeking personally identifiable information—simply contracts/ drafts of contracts and documents directly related to those contracts.

USC 552a – “Records Maintained on Individuals” – prohibits the release of records that pertain to individuals – which is not what we are asking for. Nothing within 5 U.S.C. 552a or 8 C.F.R. 236.6 prohibits the disclosure of records previously requested. Of course, if any personally identifying information that is protected by 5 U.S.C. 552a or 8 C.F.R. 236.6 is contained within those records, Ohio Revised Code Section 149.43(a)(13) allows for the redaction of that information. We therefore request your office promptly comply with our Public Records Request, initially dated March 12, 2025.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and assistance.

Jocelyn Rosnick, Esq.

Chief Policy & Advocacy Officer || ACLU of Ohio

4506 Chester Ave. || Cleveland, OH 44103

216.329.0141 || jrosnick@acluohio.org

Pronouns: she, her, hers

Become a card-carrying member of the ACLU.

[Stand with us. We've got your back.](#)



From: Jocelyn Rosnick <jrosnick@acluohio.org>

Date: Wednesday, April 16, 2025 at 3:43 PM

To: Sheriff Fredrick W. Stevens <sheriff@senecacountyohio.gov>

Cc: Chief Deputy Charles W. Boyer <cwboyer@senecacountyohio.gov>, William J. Cunningham <wjcunningham@senecacountyohio.gov>

Subject: Re: Records Request on Jail Population - Seneca

Hello Sheriff Stevens,

I appreciate your understanding for my delay in response as I was out of office.

Would you be available in the next few days - possibly Friday afternoon - to hop on a quick call to discuss the response to requests 1 and 2?

Thank you in advance,

Jocelyn

Jocelyn Rosnick, Esq.

Chief Policy & Advocacy Officer || ACLU of Ohio

4506 Chester Ave. || Cleveland, OH 44103

216.329.0141 || jrosnick@acluohio.org

Pronouns: she, her, hers

Become a card-carrying member of the ACLU.

[Stand with us. We've got your back.](#)



From: Sheriff Fredrick W. Stevens <sheriff@senecacountyohio.gov>

Date: Friday, April 4, 2025 at 8:08 AM

To: Jocelyn Rosnick <jrosnick@acluohio.org>

Cc: Chief Deputy Charles W. Boyer <cwboyer@senecacountyohio.gov>, William J. Cunningham <wjcunningham@senecacountyohio.gov>

Subject: RE: Records Request on Jail Population - Seneca

Ms. Rosnick,

As mentioned, ICE's Office of the Principal Legal Advisor (OPLA) has reviewed the ACLU request/response and has provided the following.

OPLA's position remains that the first two requested items below are federal records subject to the Federal Records Act (FRA) and thus not subject to disclosure under state law. The Ohio Public Records Act at ORC Section 149.43(A)(1)(v) states that a "public record" is not "records the release of which is prohibited by state or federal law." The FRA defines federal records as all recorded information, regardless of form or characteristics, made or received by a Federal Agency under Federal law or in connection with the transaction of public business and appropriate for preservation by the agency as evidence of its operations. See 44 U.S.C. § 3301(A). NARA regulations regarding the FRA indicate that "received" means the acceptance or collection of documentary materials by or on behalf of the agency in the course of their official duties regardless of their origin (for example, other units of the agency, private citizens, public officials, other agencies, and contractors.) See 26 C.F.R. § 1222.10(b)(4).

1. Any communications between the Seneca County sheriff, chief deputy and jail admin and any person from DHS, ICE and USMS regarding partnerships with the Seneca County Jail or any pending or executed contracts from June 1st 2024 – March 3rd, 2025.

2. Any contracts, drafts of contracts, and related memorandums, agreed to and executed by DHS, ICE, and / or USMS with the Seneca County Jail from June 1st 2024 – March 3rd, 2025.

3. Lastly, any communications between commissioners, county auditor and county prosecutor and the sheriff, chief deputy and jail administrator pertaining to partnerships with the Seneca County Jail and pending or executed contracts between CCNO and DHS, ICE and USMS between June 1st, 2024 to March 3rd, 2025.

As to the third requested item, these do not encompass federal records. The Seneca County Sheriff's office must ultimately determine whether Ohio state law requires disclosure of these records. If it determines that it does, despite ICE's position these records are not disclosable, then the Sheriff's Office should protect ICE information, including personally identifiable information such as the names of officers/agents, phone numbers, email addresses, and business/financial information, by redacting the information to the extent possible.

With that being said, in reference to #3, I have been Sheriff since 2021, and we have not entered into or have any pending contracts or discussions with CCNO in that entire time, and we do not intend to while I am sheriff. Nor have we discussed it with the county commissioners, county auditor or county prosecutor so there are no communications during the requested time period nor any going back to my time in office.

-Sheriff Stevens

Sheriff Fredrick W. Stevens
Seneca County Sheriff's Office
3040 S. State Route 100
Tiffin, Ohio 44883
(419)447-3456
FBI NA #249
NSI – LDC #117
DHSLA #15
NSI – JA #1



CONFIDENTIAL COMMUNICATION:

The information contained in or attached to this message is confidential. It is intended only to be read by the individual or entity named above or their designee. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient, you are on notice that any distribution

of this message, in any form, is strictly prohibited. If you have received this message in error, please immediately notify the sender and delete or destroy any copy of this message.

From: Jocelyn Rosnick <jrosnick@acluohio.org>
Sent: Monday, March 31, 2025 5:04 PM
To: Sheriff Fredrick W. Stevens <sheriff@senecacountyohio.gov>
Cc: Chief Deputy Charles W. Boyer <cwboyer@senecacountyohio.gov>; William J. Cunningham <wjcunningham@senecacountyohio.gov>
Subject: Re: Records Request on Jail Population - Seneca

Thank you so much for your expedient response. I look forward to hearing from you as you receive more information.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Jocelyn Rosnick, Esq.

Policy Director || **ACLU of Ohio**
4506 Chester Ave. || Cleveland, OH 44103
216.329.0141 || jrosnick@acluohio.org
Pronouns: she, her, hers

Become a card-carrying member of the ACLU.
[Stand with us. We've got your back.](#)



From: Sheriff Fredrick W. Stevens <sheriff@senecacountyohio.gov>
Date: Monday, March 31, 2025 at 1:37 PM
To: Jocelyn Rosnick <jrosnick@acluohio.org>
Cc: Chief Deputy Charles W. Boyer <cwboyer@senecacountyohio.gov>, William J. Cunningham <wjcunningham@senecacountyohio.gov>
Subject: RE: Records Request on Jail Population - Seneca

You don't often get email from sheriff@senecacountyohio.gov. [Learn why this is important](#)

Ms. Rosnick,

We are seeking guidance and working on getting the requested information, however, due to ICE internal processes it will take additional time.

-Sheriff Stevens

Sheriff Fredrick W. Stevens
Seneca County Sheriff's Office
3040 S. State Route 100
Tiffin, Ohio 44883
(419)447-3456
FBI NA #249
NSI – LDC #117
DHSLA #15
NSI – JA #1



CONFIDENTIAL COMMUNICATION:

The information contained in or attached to this message is confidential. It is intended only to be read by the individual or entity named above or their designee. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient, you are on notice that any distribution of this message, in any form, is strictly prohibited. If you have received this message in error, please immediately notify the sender and delete or destroy any copy of this message.

From: Jocelyn Rosnick <jrosnick@acluohio.org>
Sent: Friday, March 28, 2025 11:19 AM
To: Sheriff Fredrick W. Stevens <sheriff@senecacountyohio.gov>
Cc: Chief Deputy Charles W. Boyer <cwboyer@senecacountyohio.gov>; William J. Cunningham <wjcunningham@senecacountyohio.gov>
Subject: Re: Records Request on Jail Population - Seneca

Hello Sheriff Stevens,

Thank you for your response. As the contracts and other agreements you enter into, and the communications related to them, are part of your office activities/ operations, they are public records under [Ohio law](#). Records created or received by a public office, including those related to interactions with federal agencies, are subject to the Ohio Public Records Act, unless specifically exempt. Thus, those records may be requested by either party – either through Ohio’s Sunshine Laws or FOIA. Put simply, just because some other party *may also* have the records doesn’t mean that the state agency is excused from producing the requested records.

I’d be happy to discuss this request with you or your legal counsel at your convenience.

Thank you for your attention to this request.

Warm regards,

Jocelyn

Jocelyn Rosnick, Esq.

Policy Director || **ACLU of Ohio**
4506 Chester Ave. || Cleveland, OH 44103
216.329.0141 || jrosnick@acluohio.org
Pronouns: she, her, hers

Become a card-carrying member of the ACLU.
[Stand with us.](#) *We've got your back.*



From: Sheriff Fredrick W. Stevens <sheriff@senecacountyohio.gov>
Date: Monday, March 24, 2025 at 10:55 AM
To: Jocelyn Rosnick <jrosnick@acluohio.org>
Cc: Chief Deputy Charles W. Boyer <cwboyer@senecacountyohio.gov>, William J. Cunningham <wjcunningham@senecacountyohio.gov>
Subject: FW: Records Request on Jail Population - Seneca

You don't often get email from sheriff@senecacountyohio.gov. [Learn why this is important](#)

Ms. Rosnick,

Since your request asks for information about the Federal Govt. we checked with ICE about the request you submitted and this is the response we received from them.

The requester (ACLU) should be directed to file their request with ICE FOIA.

The requestor can submit the request at <https://www.ice.gov/foia>.

-Sheriff Stevens
Sheriff Fredrick W. Stevens
Seneca County Sheriff’s Office
3040 S. State Route 100
Tiffin, Ohio 44883
(419)447-3456
FBI NA #249
NSI – LDC #117
DHSLA #15
NSI – JA #1



CONFIDENTIAL COMMUNICATION:

The information contained in or attached to this message is confidential. It is intended only to be read by the individual or entity named above or their designee. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient, you are on notice that any distribution of this message, in any form, is strictly prohibited. If you have received this message in error, please immediately notify the sender and delete or destroy any copy of this message.

From: Chief Deputy Charles W. Boyer <cwboyer@senecacountyohio.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, March 18, 2025 4:33 PM
To: Sheriff Fredrick W. Stevens <sheriff@senecacountyohio.gov>
Subject: FW: Records Request on Jail Population - Seneca

Chief Deputy Charles W. Boyer
Seneca County Sheriff's Office
Tiffin, Ohio 44883
(419) 447-3456 (office)
(419) 937-4099 (cell)



CONFIDENTIAL COMMUNICATION:

The information contained in or attached to this message is confidential. It is intended only to be read by the individual or entity named above or their designee. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient, you are on notice that any distribution of this message, in any form, is strictly prohibited. If you have received this message in error, please immediately notify the sender and delete or destroy any copy of this message.

Seneca County, Ohio

From: Jocelyn Rosnick <jrosnick@acluohio.org>
Sent: Tuesday, March 18, 2025 1:25 PM
To: Chief Deputy Charles W. Boyer <cwboyer@senecacountyohio.gov>
Cc: William J. Cunningham <wjcunningham@senecacountyohio.gov>
Subject: Re: Records Request on Jail Population - Seneca

Thank you very much for the expedient response.

Sincerely,

Jocelyn Rosnick, Esq.
Policy Director || ACLU of Ohio
4506 Chester Ave. || Cleveland, OH 44103
216.329.0141 || jrosnick@acluohio.org
Pronouns: she, her, hers

Become a card-carrying member of the ACLU.
[Stand with us. We've got your back.](#)



From: Chief Deputy Charles W. Boyer <cwboyer@senecacountyohio.gov>
Date: Tuesday, March 18, 2025 at 1:14 PM
To: Jocelyn Rosnick <jrosnick@acluohio.org>
Cc: William J. Cunningham <wjcunningham@senecacountyohio.gov>
Subject: RE: Records Request on Jail Population - Seneca

Yes, Our Jail Administrator is working on it...Thanks,

Chief Deputy Charles W. Boyer
Seneca County Sheriff's Office
Tiffin, Ohio 44883
(419) 447-3456 (office)
(419) 937-4099 (cell)



CONFIDENTIAL COMMUNICATION:

The information contained in or attached to this message is confidential. It is intended only to be read by the individual or entity named above or their designee. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient, you are on notice that any distribution of this message, in any form, is strictly prohibited. If you have received this message in error, please immediately notify the sender and delete or destroy any copy of this message.

Seneca County, Ohio

From: Jocelyn Rosnick <jrosnick@acluohio.org>
Sent: Tuesday, March 18, 2025 1:06 PM
To: Chief Deputy Charles W. Boyer <cwboyer@senecacountyohio.gov>
Subject: Re: Records Request on Jail Population - Seneca

Hello,

I am writing to confirm receipt of the public records request sent on March 12.

Thank you in advance,

Jocelyn Rosnick, Esq.
Policy Director || ACLU of Ohio
4506 Chester Ave. || Cleveland, OH 44103
216.329.0141 || jrosnick@acluohio.org
Pronouns: she, her, hers

Become a card-carrying member of the ACLU.
[Stand with us. We've got your back.](#)



From: Jocelyn Rosnick <jrosnick@acluohio.org>
Date: Wednesday, March 12, 2025 at 3:15 PM
To: cwboyer@senecacountyohio.gov <cwboyer@senecacountyohio.gov>
Subject: Records Request on Jail Population - Seneca

Good afternoon,

Please see the attached request for public records in possession of the Seneca County Jail (SCJ).

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Jocelyn

Jocelyn Rosnick, Esq.

Policy Director || ACLU of Ohio

4506 Chester Ave. || Cleveland, OH 44103

216.329.0141 || jrosnick@acluohio.org

Pronouns: she, her, hers

Become a card-carrying member of the ACLU.

[Stand with us.](#) We've got your back.

