

From: Schimsa, Rebecca <RebeccaSchimsa@gov.sc.gov>

To: Godfrey, Rob <RobGodfrey@gov.sc.gov>

Adams, Chaney <ChaneyAdams@gov.sc.gov>

CC: Taylor, Richele <RicheleTaylor@gov.sc.gov>

Date: 9/30/2016 1:45:07 PM

Subject: FW:

Attachments: Mr. Dell Cameron.pdf

The attached fax came in to the Ombudsman's office earlier this week. My understanding is that Mr. Cameron rescinded his FOIA request after speaking with Rob several weeks ago.

Please clarify.

From: Schimsa, Rebecca

Sent: Friday, September 02, 2016 4:35 PM

To: 'Dell Cameron'

Cc: Andrew Coutts; Patrick Howell O'Neill; Taylor, Richele

Subject: RE:

Mr. Cameron,

It was nice speaking with you today. Your Freedom of Information Act request has been received, and a response will be mailed when due. In addition, we will review your concerns about your previous requests and touch base with you next week. I have copied our office's Chief Legal Counsel, Richele Taylor.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Schimsa

Rebecca S. Schimsa

Deputy Legal Counsel

Office of Governor Nikki R. Haley

O: 803-734-6068 | C: 803-429-4561

From: Dell Cameron [<mailto:dell@dailydot.com>]

Sent: Friday, September 02, 2016 2:03 PM

To: Schimsa, Rebecca

Cc: Andrew Coutts; Patrick Howell O'Neill

Subject:

Ms. Schimsa,

We submitted a request regarding records pertaining to the Confederate flag on June 19, 2015. Our letter was signed by Patrick Howell O'Neill. We received your acknowledgement letter sixteen days later. You assessed the fees required to fill this request at \$1,724.59. We will not be paying you this fee so you may officially consider this request withdrawn.

It has come to our attention that the Office of the Governor has never filled a request submitted through the Muckrock system, and that your office has repeatedly told reporters, essentially, that no correspondence exists related to the Charleston shooting or the Confederate flag debate of last year. (See: https://d3gn0r3afghep.cloudfront.net/foia_files/2015/07/27/7-16-15_MR19042_NRD.pdf)

Additionally, your office rejected a request last year for access to FOIA logs, which are acquired by reporters from other South Carolina agencies on a routine basis, citing Section 30-4-40(a)(7). (Here is a request for FOIA records filled by the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control last year: https://d3gn0r3afghep.cloudfront.net/foia_files/3-21-14_MR10428_RES.pdf)

These responses seem peculiar and in response we are interested in learning more about how FOIA requests are handled by your office. Please process the request which is attached to this email in PDF form. The request is brief and itemized; if you intend to reject it, please itemize your list of exemptions so our legal team can address them one by one.

Thank you,

--

Dell J. Cameron

Reporter | [The Daily Dot](#)

p 469.387.1810 t [@dellcam](#)