



LAKE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE · REQUEST FOIA 8745

REQUEST FOR REVIEW UNDER 5 ILCS 140/9.5(a)

Request for Review — Request FOIA 8745

Public Access Counselor

Office of the Attorney General · 500 South Second Street, Springfield, Illinois 62701
public.access@ilag.gov

Public body: Lake County Sheriff's Office · sheriff@lakecountyil.gov · fax (847) 984-5974

REQUEST

FOIA 8745 — Lake County Sheriff's Office

Two grounds: the response was routed to counsel adverse to the requester before release; and fifty pages carry masking without the written statement section 9(a) requires

Public Access Counselor:

This is a Request for Review under section 9.5(a) of the Freedom of Information Act, 5 ILCS 140/9.5(a), of the response of the Lake County Sheriff's Office to request **FOIA 8745**. The requester is the undersigned. A copy of the request and of the Office's response accompany this letter.

I. FIRST GROUND: REVIEW OF THE RESPONSE BY ADVERSE COUNSEL

The Sheriff's Office produced, in a separate production released July 29, 2026, the following page of its own electronic mail:

PRODUCTION PAGE 217

["FOIA Guidance" — Raul Casas, Records Supervisor, Lake County Sheriff's Office, to **Melanie Nelson, Chief Deputy, Civil Trial Division, State's Attorney's Office, Wednesday, July 15, 2026 at 2:28 p.m.** Attachments, as listed on the face of the page: "Ehab FOIA.pdf," "**FOIA 8745 Draft Response.pdf**," "Warrant Details.pdf," "Fw Warrant WT filed for 23CF00001146.pdf."]

Melanie Nelson is Chief Deputy of the Civil Trial Division of the Lake County State's Attorney's Office. That division represents Lake County and its officers in litigation in which the undersigned is the adverse party, including *Allababidi v. Shepherd*, No. 1:26-cv-06738 (N.D. Ill.) and *Allababidi v. Junkin*, No. 1:26-cv-01077 (N.D. Ill.).

Section 9(a) commits the denial to the public body's Freedom of Information officer and requires a written response specifying the exemption claimed and the reasons for it. 5 ILCS 140/9(a). The page above records the draft response being transmitted for review to counsel adverse to the requester before it issued. The undersigned asks the Public Access Counselor to determine whether the response was issued in accordance with section 9(a), and to require the Office to identify each person who reviewed, revised, or approved it.

II. SECOND GROUND: REDACTION WITHOUT THE STATEMENT SECTION 9(A) REQUIRES

The same production carries visible solid-black masking on **fifty pages**, of which twenty-nine are email or thread pages. No written statement identifying the specific exemption claimed for each masked passage, and the reasons for it, accompanied the production. Section 9(a) requires that statement. Section 9(b) requires that a denial of a request for records be made in writing and inform the requester of the right to review by the Public Access Counselor.



The masked pages are identified by number in a certified record on file with the Appellate Court of Illinois, Second District, in No. 2-26-0352. They are: 21, 22, 25, 36, 37, 38, 59, 60, 61, 99, 100, 103, 104, 105, 107, 109, 115, 116, 117, 119, 121, 126, 186, 217, 241, 381 through 398, 449, 461, 462, 465, 506, 640, and 653.

III. THE POSITION OF THE VILLAGE OF LINCOLNSHIRE

On July 20, 2026 the Village Manager of Lincolnshire wrote to the undersigned, on Village letterhead, copying the Mayor, the Board of Trustees, and the Chief of Police:

BRADLY J. BUI, VILLAGE MANAGER, VILLAGE OF LINCOLNSHIRE — JULY 20, 2026

[“The Village of Lincolnshire **acknowledges receipt of a litigation hold in force since June 6, 2026 and confirms all records related to this matter will be retained** by the corporate authorities of the Village of Lincolnshire as required by law. ... The Village of Lincolnshire is **prepared to comply with any direction or request from the PAC to comply with your requested review.**”]

Lincolnshire is the agency the Lake County Sheriff’s own warrant database identifies as the issuing agency for the warrant to which request FOIA 8745 relates. It has acknowledged a litigation hold, confirmed retention, and stated that it is prepared to comply with any direction of the Public Access Counselor. The Lake County Sheriff’s Office has issued no comparable writing, and the response it did issue was routed to counsel adverse to the requester before release.

IV. RELIEF REQUESTED

- 1 That the Public Access Counselor review the Office’s response to request FOIA 8745.
- 2 That the Office be required to produce, or to justify in writing under section 9(a), each masked passage in the pages identified above.
- 3 That the Office be required to identify each person who reviewed, revised, or approved the response before its release, and to state the role of the Civil Trial Division of the State’s Attorney’s Office in it.
- 4 That the Office be required to preserve the complete file for request FOIA 8745, including drafts, review comments, redaction logs, and transmittal records.

V. STATEMENT REQUIRED BY SECTION 9.5(A)

- 1 The public body is the **Lake County Sheriff’s Office**, 25 S. Martin Luther King Jr. Ave., Waukegan, Illinois 60085.
- 2 The request at issue is **FOIA 8745**, identified by that number on the face of the Office’s own internal correspondence at production page 217.
- 3 The date of the request and the date of the Office’s final response are stated on the copies accompanying this letter. This Request for Review is submitted within sixty days of that response.
- 4 This Request for Review is in writing and is signed below. 5 ILCS 140/9.5(a).

Respectfully and without waiver of any right or remedy,

/s/ Ehab Allababidi

EHAB ALLABABIDI | *Pro Se*

8516 W. Winona St., Chicago, IL 60656

(773) 920-0030 | defcon5ready@gmail.com



EHAB ALLABABIDI

LEGAL CORRESPONDENCE

Request for Review under 5 ILCS 140/9.5(a)

8516 W. Winona St., Chicago, IL 60656
(773) 920-0030 | defcon5ready@gmail.com

July 29, 2026

ENCLOSURE REGISTER

EXHIBIT INDEX

The following authenticated records are transmitted with and incorporated into this letter.

EX.	RECORD	BATES / SOURCE
A	"FOIA Guidance" — the draft response routed to litigation counsel July 15, 2026, 2:28 p.m.	PROD-000217
B	A masked page as produced One of fifty pages carrying visible solid-black masking.	PROD-000386
C	Village of Lincolnshire — offer to comply with any PAC direction July 20, 2026. The agency the Sheriff's database names as issuing the warrant.	LINC-000001



A

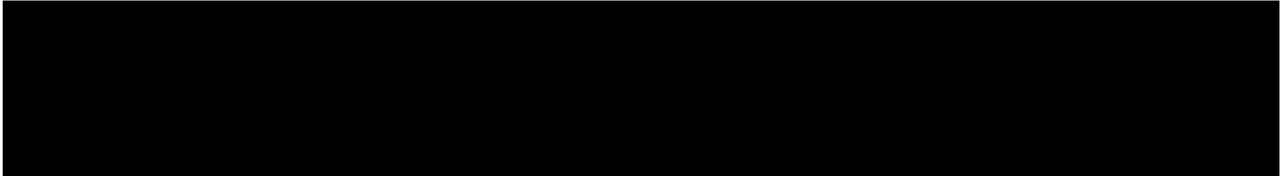
**"FOIA Guidance" — the draft response routed to litigation
counsel**

PROD-000217

July 15, 2026, 2:28 p.m.

From: Raul Casas
To: Melanie Nelson
Subject: FOIA Guidance
Date: Wednesday, July 15, 2026 2:28:29 PM
Attachments: [Ehab FOIA.pdf](#)
[FOIA 8746 Draft Response.pdf](#)
[Warrant Details.pdf](#)
[Fw: Warrant WT filed for 23CF00001146.pdf](#)
[EHABALLABABID23CF00001146VIOL.pdf](#)
[image002.png](#)

Hi Melanie,



Thank you,



Raul Casas | Records Supervisor
Lake County Sheriff's Office
25 S. Martin Luther King Jr. Ave.
Waukegan, IL 60085
Direct: 847.377.4956
www.lakecountyil.gov/sheriff

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION: This electronic message and any attachments are confidential and intended solely for the use of the person to whom it was addressed. Any other interception, copying, accessing, screenshotting, or disclosure of this message without the express authorization of the Sheriff is prohibited. If you have received this message in error, please immediately notify the sender and purge the message you received.



B

A masked page as produced

PROD-000386

One of fifty pages carrying visible solid-black masking.

From [REDACTED]

Sent: Wednesday, July 23, 2025 9:29 AM

To: Francis De Rosa <FDeRosa@lakecountvil.gov>

Cc: Oscar Posterli <oscar@posterilaw.com>; Jacklyn Mullin <JMullin@lakecountvil.gov>; Nicholas Shepherd <NShepherd@lakecountvil.gov>

Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Re: People v. Allababidi, 23CF1146- Availability reply

CAUTION: Do not click links, open attachments, or reply to unknown or unexpected senders.

Mr. De Rosa,

Good morning to you. It is always a pleasure to hear from you. I, like you, also wish the news were more favorable. However, what can one do when someone is willing to involve the courts and others, all for their own opportunity to exploit loopholes? I had hoped to present my statement to the judge and the defendant, but unfortunately, the situation has been beyond my control and continues to be so. I am, regrettably, becoming accustomed to this.

[REDACTED]

Thankfully, I continue to be blessed in this life. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

I look forward to further communication regarding my case and its progress. Mr. De Rosa, I understand the complexity of your position and how it pertains to cases such as these. I have faith in you and your willingness to help the court, the judge, and, most importantly, the defendant understand the necessity for the defendant to be held accountable for their obvious and blatant disregard for public safety, their own safety, and, my primary concern, my safety. I will continue to pray for all aspects to unfold as the good Lord wills.

I am confident that karma is something not to be trifled with, and the



C

**Village of Lincolnshire — offer to comply with any PAC
direction**

LINC-000001

July 20, 2026. The agency the Sheriff's database names as issuing the warrant.



VILLAGE OF
LINCOLNSHIRE

July 20, 2026

Mr. Ehab Allababidi, Pro Se
8516 W. Winona Street
Chicago, IL 60656

SUBJECT: Acknowledgement of Litigation Hold and FOIA Status Update

Dear Mr. Allababidi,

The Village of Lincolnshire is in receipt of your various electronic communications dated July 17, 2026. The Village of Lincolnshire acknowledges receipt of a litigation hold in force since June 6, 2026 and confirms all records related to this matter will be retained by the corporate authorities of the Village of Lincolnshire as required by law.

In response to your communication regarding records requests under the Freedom of Information Act submitted to the Village of Lincolnshire, the Village is aware you have filed a request for review to the Public Access Counselor (PAC) in the Office of the Illinois Attorney General. The Village of Lincolnshire is prepared to comply with any direction or request from the PAC to comply with your requested review.

Sincerely,

Bradly J. Burke
Village Manager

cc: Lincolnshire Mayor and Board of Trustees
Police Chief Leonas