

CRIMINAL REFERRAL · SUPPLEMENT TO THE REFERRAL OF JUNE 30, 2026 · NEW
EVIDENCE ONLYPRESERVATION DIRECTIVE REQUESTED
IMMEDIATELY

Concealment of a Custodian's Electronic Records During Pending Federal Litigation

Federal Bureau of Investigation — Chicago Field Office

Attn: Public Corruption / Civil Rights Squad
2111 W. Roosevelt Road, Chicago, Illinois 60608 · tips.fbi.gov

United States Attorney's Office, Northern District of Illinois

Attn: Criminal Division — Public Corruption
219 S. Dearborn Street, Suite 500, Chicago, Illinois 60604

CUSTODIAN

fderosa@lakecountyil.gov — Lake County State's Attorney's Office

Live and answering a written preservation demand June 23, 2026, 1:14:55 p.m. CDT · 550 5.1.10 RecipientNotFound July 13, 2026 · 550 5.4.1 Recipient address rejected July 29, 2026 · two actions pending before judges of the United States

To the Special Agent in Charge and the United States Attorney:

This is a criminal referral. It supplements the referral transmitted to this office on June 30, 2026, and rests entirely on records that did not exist when that referral was sent.

The subject matter is the electronic mailbox of a Lake County Assistant State's Attorney who prosecuted the state case underlying two civil actions now pending before judges of the United States. On June 23, 2026 that mailbox received a written preservation demand and answered it. Twenty days later the address no longer resolved in Lake County's directory. It has not resolved since. Lake County has never stated that the address was retired, that the custodian separated, or what became of the mailbox contents.

ACTION REQUESTED

- 1 Direct Lake County to preserve, immediately and without regard to any retention or deletion schedule, the entire Microsoft 365 tenant record for the mailbox and directory object associated with fderosa@lakecountyil.gov, including any soft-deleted, inactive, archived, converted, or Recoverable-Items content.
- 2 Obtain the tenant records identified in Part VI. They are in Lake County's exclusive possession and they answer the only question the transport records leave open: which administrative act was performed, on what date, by which account, on whose instruction, and whether the contents were preserved before it was performed.
- 3 Determine whether the contents of that mailbox as they existed on June 23, 2026 remain available in any form.

I. THE FEDERAL MATTERS

Two actions are pending before judges of the United States, both arising from the same state prosecution in which this custodian appeared for the People:

Case	Court and status
Allababidi v. Shepherd No. 1:26-cv-06738	N.D. Ill. (Kennelly, J.). Civil rights action under 42 U.S.C. § 1983. First Amended Complaint naming Lake County assistants in their individual capacities.



Case	Court and status
Allababidi v. Junkin No. 1:26-cv-01077	N.D. Ill. (Blakey, J.). Petition for writ of habeas corpus. Rule 4 review passed April 13, 2026. Answer due August 10, 2026.

Both are proceedings before a judge or court of the United States. Section 1515(a)(1)(A) of Title 18 provides:

18 U.S.C. § 1515(A)(1)(A)

[“[T]he term ‘official proceeding’ means — (A) a proceeding before a judge or court of the United States ...”]

II. THE CUSTODIAN

Francis P. DeRosa IV, Assistant State’s Attorney, Felony Traffic Division, Lake County State’s Attorney’s Office, 18 N. County Street, Waukegan, Illinois 60085 — direct 847-377-3525, facsimile 847-625-7129, fderosa@lakecountyil.gov.

His role in the underlying matters is documented in Lake County’s own production of July 29, 2026. He prosecuted the case to plea. In correspondence of July 2025 he wrote that the defendant was “difficult and at this time is refusing to accept a straight felony” and “difficult to put it mildly”; that the felony would convert to a misdemeanor only in the absence of violations — “**ANY violations, and it stays a**” felony; and that if the defendant exercised his right to trial, “**I’ll revoke the offer, and should the State prevail ... I will be asking for prison.**” (Exhibit B, production pages 384 through 389.) On December 5, 2025 he circulated an “Ehab Allababidi Update” to county civil counsel. (Exhibit C, production page 186.) He is a subject of a disciplinary complaint filed with the Illinois Attorney Registration and Disciplinary Commission.

His mailbox is therefore a custodian of records material to both federal actions, and he is a person whose own communications are at issue in them.

III. JUNE 23, 2026 — THE MAILBOX RECEIVED A PRESERVATION DEMAND AND ANSWERED IT

At 1:13:14 p.m. Central on June 23, 2026 a written preservation demand was transmitted with fderosa@lakecountyil.gov in the copy line. **One hundred one seconds later**, at 1:14:55 p.m., Lake County’s Microsoft 365 environment returned a reply from that exact address.

Header or control	Observed value
Generated source	Mailbox Rules Agent — Microsoft mailbox-rule processing
Inbox rules loop	fderosa@lakecountyil.gov
In-Reply-To	the RFC Message-ID of the preservation demand, exactly
x-ms-exchange-parent-message-id	the same RFC Message-ID
Auto-Submitted	auto-generated
Originator / tenant	lakecountyil.gov · dd536cf5-92fd-42ff-a754-e98666cb7a96
Cross-tenant fields	AuthAs: Internal · from-entity: Hosted
Domain authentication	DKIM pass · SPF pass · DMARC pass
Reply body	“I am currently out of the office and will return, Thursday, 6/25/2026.”



A Mailbox Rules Agent reply is generated by a provisioned, licensed, enabled mailbox executing an inbox rule, and by nothing else. The June 23 baseline is therefore fixed on Lake County’s own transport headers: **the mailbox existed, it was functioning, and it received the preservation demand.** The message-level linkage is not a subject-line inference; the reply names the triggering message’s RFC Message-ID in two independent header fields.

IV. JULY 13 AND JULY 29, 2026 — THE ADDRESS CEASED TO RESOLVE

On July 13, 2026 at 8:09:19 p.m. Central a further demand was transmitted with the same address in the copy line. Nineteen seconds later No-Reply@lakecountyil.gov returned a Microsoft 365 non-delivery report whose In-Reply-To names that outgoing message:

MICROSOFT 365 NON-DELIVERY REPORT, JULY 13, 2026

[“Your message to fderosa@lakecountyil.gov couldn’t be delivered. ... **fderosa wasn’t found at lakecountyil.gov.** ... 550 5.1.10 RESOLVER.ADR.RecipientNotFound; Recipient fderosa@lakecountyil.gov not found by SMTP address lookup.”]

A 5.1.10 RecipientNotFound is the result of a **directory lookup**. It is not a spam block, a mailbox-full condition, a policy rejection, or any sender-side state. No act of the sender can produce it. It reports that the recipient object was not in Lake County’s directory.

On July 29, 2026 at 7:13:50 p.m. a third message was transmitted. Fifteen seconds later Gmail returned a delivery-status notification quoting the remote response of lakecountyil-gov.mail.protection.outlook.com: **550 5.4.1 Recipient address rejected: Access denied.** The condition was not transient. It persisted across sixteen days and two distinct Microsoft status codes.

THE WINDOW IS TWENTY DAYS AND IT IS DOCUMENTED AT THE MESSAGE LEVEL

The recipient object for a custodian under an express written preservation demand was removed from or disabled in Lake County’s directory between June 23 and July 13, 2026, while two actions were pending before judges of the United States. Each of the six messages is identified below by Gmail record identifier, RFC 822 byte length, and SHA-256 digest of the decoded raw message.

V. THE FEDERAL OFFENCE

18 U.S.C. § 1512(C)(1)

[“Whoever corruptly — (1) alters, destroys, mutilates, or conceals a record, document, or other object, or attempts to do so, **with the intent to impair the object’s integrity or availability for use in an official proceeding** ... shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than 20 years, or both.”]

The elements map to the record. A **record** — the mailbox and its contents. **Concealment** — an address that resolved and answered on June 23 does not resolve on July 13, and the contents have not been accounted for. An **official proceeding** — two, both pending, both before judges of the United States, and § 1512(f)(1) provides that a proceeding need not even be pending. What remains is **corrupt intent**, and intent is what the tenant logs, the separation records, and the identity of the instructing account will show.



Section 1519 is cited in the alternative only. It reaches records offences touching “any matter within the jurisdiction of any department or agency of the United States,” and civil litigation before an Article III judge is not such a matter. Section 1512(c)(1) is the provision that fits, and it carries the same twenty-year maximum. Section 1512(b)(3) may also be implicated to the extent the removal was intended to hinder communication of information to a federal law enforcement officer or judge.

Appellant does not assert that any named individual personally executed the removal. The transport records establish that the object was live on June 23 and absent by July 13; they do not identify the account that changed it. That is the question this referral asks the government to answer, and the records that answer it are listed next.

VI. RECORDS IN LAKE COUNTY’S EXCLUSIVE POSSESSION

- 1 Microsoft Entra ID and Active Directory user-object creation, disablement, deletion, restoration, and change history for the object associated with fderosa@lakecountyil.gov.
- 2 Exchange Online recipient-object and mailbox lifecycle history, including soft-deleted, inactive, shared, and converted mailbox states, alias and proxy-address history, and licence assignment history.
- 3 Exchange message trace for the three transmissions of June 23, July 13, and July 29, 2026; the Microsoft 365 Unified Audit Log; Exchange administrator and mailbox audit logs; and directory-synchronisation logs.
- 4 Retention policy, litigation-hold and eDiscovery-hold status and history, inactive-mailbox status, Recoverable Items contents, deleted-item retention, journaling, backup, archive, and restoration records.
- 5 The identity of every administrator account and automated process that created, changed, disabled, removed, converted, or reassigned the object, with dates and times, together with any human-resources separation, transfer, or reassignment record that triggered it.
- 6 All communications within Lake County concerning the disposition of that mailbox, including any communication referencing the preservation demand of June 23, 2026.

Every item is held by Lake County. Where one party controls both the record and the logs that would show what became of it, the absence of an explanation is not neutral. Appellant is separately moving for preservation relief in the civil actions; a federal preservation directive would reach the same records faster and without awaiting a civil motion schedule.

VII. A PRESERVING AGENCY IN THE SAME MATTER, FOR COMPARISON

The contrast is not rhetorical. On July 20, 2026 the Village Manager of Lincolnshire — a municipality whose police department appears in Lake County’s own warrant record as the issuing agency for the arrest warrant in this cause — wrote to Appellant 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.**”]

That is Exhibit G. It took one page and three sentences over the signature of a village manager. As to the mailbox that is the subject of this referral, Lake County has acknowledged no hold, confirmed no retention, stated no position, and has never disclosed that the address was retired or what became of its contents. It is the difference between an agency that answered and an agency that did not, in the same matter, on the same records question, three weeks apart.



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

18 U.S.C. § 1512(c)(1) · § 1512(b)(3) · § 1515(a)(1)(A) · § 1512(f)(1)

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

July 30, 2026

ENCLOSURE REGISTER

EXHIBIT INDEX

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

EX.	RECORD	BATES / SOURCE
A	Email transport metadata and recipient-status record Six messages with Gmail record identifiers, RFC 822 byte lengths, SHA-256 digests, and full header linkage. Certified under 735 ILCS 5/1-109.	DMTR-000001 – DMTR-000007
B	The custodian's pre-plea correspondence July 2025. "ANY violations, and it stays a" felony; "I'll revoke the offer ... I will be asking for prison."	PROD-000384, 000386, 000388
C	The custodian circulating an update to county civil counsel December 5, 2025, cc ASA Benjamin Dillon.	PROD-000186
D	The custodian's role in the plea and victim consultation, as produced August through October 2025. Establishes the custodian's direct and continuing role in the prosecution whose records are now at issue. Several pages carry the production's black masking.	PROD-000381 – PROD-000391
E	The preservation and FOIA threads the same office masked in part July 15, 2026. Includes the routing of a draft records response to the Chief Deputy of the Civil Trial Division and the warrant-notification forward of the same afternoon.	PROD-000217, 000218, 000225
F	Notice of the thirty-nine-page facsimile, June 18, 2026, 8:44 a.m. The transmission carrying the verified motion for substitution of judge for cause. Documented actual notice to the State on the morning of service.	PROD-000465
G	Village of Lincolnshire — what a preserving agency's answer looks like July 20, 2026. In one page the Village Manager acknowledged a litigation hold in force since June 6, 2026, confirmed all records would be retained as required by law, and offered to comply with any direction of the Public Access Counselor. No Lake County office has issued a comparable writing as to the mailbox at issue here.	LINC-000001



A

Email transport metadata and recipient-status record

DMTR-000001 – DMTR-000007

Six messages with Gmail record identifiers, RFC 822 byte lengths, SHA-256 digests, and full header linkage. Certified under 735 ILCS 5/1-109.

**IN THE APPELLATE COURT OF ILLINOIS
SECOND DISTRICT**

PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS,
Plaintiff-Appellee,

v.

EHAB ALLABABIDI,
Defendant-Appellant, Pro Se.

APPELLATE COURT OF ILLINOIS
SECOND DISTRICT

Appeal No. **2-26-0352**

Appeal from the Circuit Court of
Lake County, No. **23 CF 1146**

The Honorable Christopher R. Stride,
Judge Presiding

**FRANCIS DEROSA EMAIL ADDRESS — TRANSPORT METADATA AND
RECIPIENT-STATUS RECORD**

Gmail record identifiers, RFC 822 hashes, and Microsoft 365 transport-header linkage

Purpose. This record joins three outbound messages, the June 23 Microsoft automatic reply, the July 14 Microsoft non-delivery report, and the July 29 Gmail delivery-status notification quoting Microsoft Exchange Online Protection's rejection. It connects each response to its triggering message and records the raw-message integrity identifiers.

Address tested	fderosa@lakecountyil.gov
Acquisition	Connected Gmail account; raw RFC 822 MIME requested and reviewed July 29, 2026.
Integrity method	SHA-256 over the decoded Gmail raw base64url RFC 822 bytes; byte lengths and Gmail record IDs listed below.
Native-record limit	The native RFC 822 messages remain in Gmail and are not embedded as .eml files. The hashes identify the raw records retrieved during this review.

Finding. On June 23, 2026 the mailbox at fderosa@lakecountyil.gov existed, was licensed, was enabled, and was running an inbox rule: 101 seconds after receiving a written preservation demand it answered, from its own address, through Lake County's Microsoft **Mailbox Rules Agent**, in a reply whose In-Reply-To and Exchange parent-message identifiers name the preservation email itself. Twenty days later the address did not resolve in Lake County's directory: on July 13 Lake County's own Microsoft 365 returned **550 5.1.10 RESOLVER.ADR.RecipientNotFound** — “fderosa wasn't found at lakecountyil.gov” — and on July 29 Lake County's Microsoft edge rejected it again with **550 5.4.1 Recipient address rejected. The recipient object for a custodian under an express litigation hold was removed from or disabled in Lake County's directory between June 23 and July 13, 2026.** Lake County has never disclosed that the address was retired, that the custodian separated, or what became of the mailbox contents.

Six-event chronology

Event	Chicago / UTC	Record and result
1	Jun. 23, 2026 1:13:14 PM CDT 18:13:14 UTC	Outgoing preservation email; exact address in CC.
2	Jun. 23, 2026 1:14:55 PM CDT 18:14:55 UTC	Lake County Microsoft auto-reply from exact address, 101 seconds later .
3	Jul. 13, 2026 8:09:19 PM CDT Jul. 14 01:09:19 UTC	Outgoing demand; exact address again in CC.
4	Jul. 13, 2026 8:09:38 PM CDT Jul. 14 01:09:38 UTC	Lake County Microsoft NDR, 19 seconds later : 550 5.1.10 RecipientNotFound.
5	Jul. 29, 2026 7:13:50 PM CDT Jul. 30 00:13:50 UTC	Outgoing warrant/FOIA notice; CC displays the address as FDeRosa@lakecountyil.gov.
6	Jul. 29, 2026 7:14:05 PM CDT Jul. 30 00:14:05 UTC	Gmail DSN quotes Lake County's Microsoft edge, 15 seconds later : 550 5.4.1 Recipient address rejected.

The two rejection codes are distinct but substantively aligned

Date / code	Where the rejection appears	Recorded meaning
Jul. 14 550 5.1.10	Lake County/Microsoft NDR from No-Reply@lakecountyil.gov; RESOLVER.ADR.RecipientNotFound.	Recipient not found by SMTP address lookup.
Jul. 29 550 5.4.1	Gmail DSN quoting the response of lakecountyil-gov.mail.protection.outlook.com; Recipient address rejected: Access denied.	Microsoft's Exchange Online NDR table states that this exact variant means the recipient address does not exist.

Microsoft source: Email nondelivery reports and SMTP errors in Exchange Online (entry for 5.4.1, "Recipient address rejected: Access denied").

I. June 23: exact message-level linkage to an operational mailbox rule

The outgoing message placed the exact address in CC. The reply arrived 101 seconds later from that address. Its **In-Reply-To**, **References**, and **x-ms-exchange-parent-message-id** identify the outgoing RFC Message-ID—not merely a similar subject line.

Outgoing Gmail ID	19ef5afba9d66ff2
Outgoing RFC Message-ID	<CABSQYDgN__N0kCdeAVgvgZEHnxsBVSZk4dyq7Zx69rX9jp1Ueg@mail.gmail.com>
Auto-reply Gmail ID	19ef5b14bc6788e6
Auto-reply RFC Message-ID	<4b3e6b3a368242ba9a30e920f69662ba@PH0PR09MB10589.namprd09.prod.outlook.com>
In-Reply-To	<CABSQYDgN__N0kCdeAVgvgZEHnxsBVSZk4dyq7Zx69rX9jp1Ueg@mail.gmail.com>
Exchange parent ID	<CABSQYDgN__N0kCdeAVgvgZEHnxsBVSZk4dyq7Zx69rX9jp1Ueg@mail.gmail.com>

Header / control	Observed value	Significance
Auto-Submitted	auto-generated	System-generated response.
Generated source	Mailbox Rules Agent	Microsoft mailbox-rule processing.
Inbox rules loop	fderosa@lakecountyil.gov	Exact address named by Exchange.
Originator / tenant	lakecountyil.gov dd536cf5-92fd-42ff-a754-e98666cb7a96	Lake County Microsoft 365 organization and tenant identifier.
Cross-tenant fields	AuthAs: Internal from-entity: Hosted	Microsoft marked the response as internal/hosted at origin.
Domain authentication	DKIM pass; SPF pass; DMARC pass	Cryptographically authenticates Lake County's domain as the origin of the reply.

Complete reply body: “I am currently out of the office and will return, Thursday, 6/25/2026. If you need immediate assistance, please call 847-377-7850.”

Gmail record 19ef5b14bc6788e6.

II. July 14: exact message-level linkage to RecipientNotFound

The later outgoing message again placed the exact address in CC. Nineteen seconds later, No-Reply@lakecountyl.gov returned a Microsoft 365 NDR. Its **In-Reply-To** identifies the later outgoing RFC Message-ID, and the diagnostic names the exact recipient and rejecting Microsoft host.

Outgoing Gmail ID	19f5e2bdb0c02ce44
Outgoing RFC Message-ID	<CABSQYDitEmfK7ut87rUFnjD8fJdPko-wR4pyOD0JvPvOvZDsOA@mail.gmail.com>
NDR Gmail ID	19f5e2c37358a2ae
NDR RFC Message-ID	<e26bbe6c-4acf-44c6-8c6c-0d337237b626@SJ0PR09MB6366.namprd09.prod.outlook.com>
NDR In-Reply-To	<CABSQYDitEmfK7ut87rUFnjD8fJdPko-wR4pyOD0JvPvOvZDsOA@mail.gmail.com>
Rejecting host	SJ0PR09MB6366.namprd09.prod.outlook.com

Operative Microsoft diagnostic:

“Your message to fderosa@lakecountyl.gov couldn't be delivered.”

“fderosa wasn't found at lakecountyl.gov.”

“550 5.1.10 RESOLVER.ADR.RecipientNotFound; Recipient fderosa@lakecountyl.gov not found by SMTP address lookup”

Microsoft 365 NDR, Gmail record 19f5e2c37358a2ae.

Header / control	Observed value	Significance
Auto-Submitted	auto-replied	Automated non-delivery report.
Return-Path	<>	Null reverse path customary for delivery-status messages.
X-OriginatorOrg	lakecountyl.gov	Lake County organization identified in message headers.
Authentication	DKIM pass; DMARC pass; ARC pass	Supports Lake County/Microsoft origin. SPF was none because the reverse path was null, not an SPF failure.
Transport	Google SMTP to Microsoft protection by TLS; Microsoft outbound to Gmail by TLS	The record reflects cross-system SMTP handling, not a Gmail client-side warning.

III. July 29: persistent rejection, different Microsoft status code

The third outbound message displayed the address as FDeRosa@lakecountyil.gov in CC. Fifteen seconds later, Gmail generated a delivery-status notification that quoted the remote response from Lake County's Microsoft Exchange Online Protection endpoint. The DSN's **References**, **In-Reply-To**, and delivery-status **X-Original-Message-ID** all match the third outgoing RFC Message-ID.

Outgoing Gmail ID	19fb05ece7f5a42d
Outgoing RFC Message-ID	<CABSQYDjWtJH6vL2Yk=d54zs=cY+XyPNc6DmSuwSgn_atgLqUPQ@mail.gmail.com>
DSN Gmail ID	19fb05f0765d5a9b
DSN RFC Message-ID	<6a6a974d.837427a8.df086.0b4a.GMR@mx.google.com>
References / In-Reply-To	<CABSQYDjWtJH6vL2Yk=d54zs=cY+XyPNc6DmSuwSgn_atgLqUPQ@mail.gmail.com>
Final-Recipient	rfc822; FDeRosa@lakecountyil.gov
Remote-MTA	lakecountyil-gov.mail.protection.outlook.com

Operative remote-server diagnostic preserved in the Gmail DSN:

“Your message wasn't delivered to FDeRosa@lakecountyil.gov because the address couldn't be found, or is unable to receive mail.”

“550 5.4.1 Recipient address rejected: Access denied. For more information see <https://aka.ms/EXOSmtpErrors> [BL02EPF0001B419.namprd09.prod.outlook.com 2026-07-30T00:14:05.229Z 08DEEDC046F778E5]”

Gmail delivery-status record 19fb05f0765d5a9b.

Delivery-status field	Exact value	Significance
Reporting-MTA	googlemail.com	Gmail generated the DSN after the remote rejection.
Action / Status	failed / 5.4.1	Permanent SMTP failure recorded for the exact final recipient.
Remote-MTA	lakecountyil-gov.mail.protection.outlook.com	Lake County's Microsoft 365 MX endpoint supplied the rejection.
Rejecting host	BL02EPF0001B419.namprd09.prod.outlook.com	Microsoft Exchange Online Protection host named in the diagnostic.
Elapsed time	15 seconds	Near-immediate edge rejection after the outgoing timestamp.

Comparison. This is not the same enhanced status code as the July 14 NDR. It is, however, the same underlying result for this record: Microsoft did not accept the address as a valid recipient. Microsoft's current Exchange Online NDR table describes 5.4.1 “Recipient address rejected: Access denied” as meaning that the recipient address does not exist.

IV. Integrity inventory and evidentiary boundary

Event / Gmail ID	RFC 822 bytes	SHA-256 of decoded Gmail raw bytes
1. 19ef5afba9d66ff2 June 23 outgoing preservation email	1,409,798	d66683cbb8323e5f58bdbfa7c2e65fdb6aba81f4b1b4f1cc8f9048e8d65fc8c4
2. 19ef5b14bc6788e6 June 23 Microsoft automatic reply	11,454	9a2af4d93a46a3516bd7c066e3e16bd575ebaf2d68042c520e1602fc4a890995
3. 19f5e2bdbc02ce44 July 13/14 outgoing demand	1,664,354	83ddf0092398723a00de581659bd9f625ba7c452c1ebe00aca55cef367e22989
4. 19f5e2c37358a2ae July 14 Microsoft non-delivery report	1,735,496	962a1ef0f9f7583c61c940a50ac3c33a76e7e7127ef85818968a32b895aa4649
5. 19fb05ece7f5a42d July 29 outgoing warrant / FOIA notice	2,208,435	bba5c8475d046ddbf4a13327c3ab7d265f183cd1246e57891241dc4a17e39f77
6. 19fb05f0765d5a9b July 29/30 Gmail DSN quoting Microsoft edge rejection	16,996	09927f2486ef1db80d493a417fee3fd66e3ec94e958791268e5deb032fcc5289

Established on the face of these records	Why it is not answerable by explanation
On June 23, 2026 the mailbox was provisioned, licensed, enabled, and executing an inbox rule. A Microsoft Mailbox Rules Agent auto-reply is generated by a functioning mailbox and by nothing else.	No configuration accident produces an inbox-rule reply from a mailbox that does not exist. The June 23 baseline is fixed.
The reply was triggered by a written preservation demand. Its In-Reply-To and x-ms-exchange-parent-message-id name that message's RFC Message-ID exactly, not a similar subject line.	Lake County's own transport headers establish that the custodian's mailbox received the hold. Notice is documented at the message level.
On July 13, 2026 the address failed directory resolution: 550 5.1.10 RESOLVER.ADR.RecipientNotFound, "fderosa wasn't found at lakecountyil.gov."	A RecipientNotFound is the result of a directory lookup. It is not a spam block, a quota, a policy rejection, or a sender-side condition; no action by the sender can produce it.
On July 29, 2026 Lake County's Microsoft edge rejected the address again: 550 5.4.1 Recipient address rejected, at lakecountyil-gov.mail.protection.outlook.com.	The condition was not transient. It persisted across sixteen days and two distinct Microsoft status codes.
Deprovisioning, license removal, alias deletion, conversion to a shared or inactive mailbox, and directory-synchronisation change are the mechanisms by which this occurs.	Each of those is an administrative act by Lake County on a mailbox under hold. Identifying which one was used does not excuse it; it only names the manner. Every one of them requires the same disclosure: what became of the contents, on what date, and on whose instruction.

Records Lake County Must Produce to Account for the Change

- A. Microsoft Entra ID / Active Directory user-object creation, disablement, deletion, restoration, and change history.
- B. Exchange Online recipient-object, mailbox lifecycle, soft-deleted/inactive/shared/converted-mailbox, alias/proxy-address, and license history.
- C. Exchange message trace for all three transmissions; Unified Audit Log; Exchange admin and mailbox audit logs; directory-synchronization logs.
- D. Retention, litigation-hold, eDiscovery-hold, inactive-mailbox, Recoverable Items, deleted-item, journaling, backup, archive, and restoration records.

E. The identity of every administrator or automated process that changed, disabled, removed, converted, or reassigned the recipient object, together with any HR separation, transfer, or reassignment trigger.

Every record in that list is in Lake County's exclusive possession. The transport evidence fixes the window — June 23 to July 13, 2026 — and fixes the fact that the custodian's mailbox was under a documented hold when the window opened. What remains unknown is only what Lake County alone can answer: which administrative act was performed, on what date, by which account, on whose instruction, and whether the mailbox contents were preserved before it was performed. A party on notice of litigation bears the duty to preserve. Where the party controls both the mailbox and the logs that would show what happened to it, the absence of an explanation is not neutral.

Verification

Under penalties as provided by law pursuant to section 1-109 of the Code of Civil Procedure (735 ILCS 5/1-109), I certify that the statements set forth in this instrument are true and correct, except as to matters stated on information and belief, and as to those matters I certify that I verily believe them to be true. Every description of a court record in this instrument is drawn from the document identified for it in the supporting record filed herewith.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Ehab Allababidi

EHAB ALLABABIDI

Defendant-Appellant, Pro Se

8516 W. Winona St., Chicago, Illinois 60656

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

Dated: July 29, 2026



B

The custodian's pre-plea correspondence

PROD-000384, 000386, 000388

July 2025. "ANY violations, and it stays a" felony; "I'll revoke the offer ... I will be asking for prison."

[REDACTED]

I greatly appreciate you getting back to me so fast on this issue. Just to clarify, he will plea to a felony and if he runs a violation-free (AKA "clean") probation, THEN the charge converts to a misdemeanor. ANY violations, and it stays a felony.

I will ask for one more date for plea and I really do think that you should be present in person to provide a victim impact statement, because this defendant ABSOLUTELY needs to hear it. Please let me know what dates in the next 1-2 months do NOT work out for you.

I will keep you posted and hopefully, you can have SOME closure to this awful ordeal that you have had to endure. You are an absolute gentleman and it has been a pleasure to work with you through this.

Sincerely,
Frank

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, August 25, 2025 6:20 PM
To: Francis De Rosa <FDeRosa@lakecounttyil.gov>
Cc: Oscar Posterli <oscar@posterliilaw.com>; Jacklyn Mullin <JMullin@lakecounttyil.gov>; Nicholas Shepherd <NShepherd@lakecounttyil.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.

Dear Mr. DeRosa,

It's good to hear from you. After careful consideration, I have decided to accept the plea agreement. While I am not entirely pleased with the outcome, I believe this is the most practical solution, as it avoids a prolonged and costly legal process.

I sincerely hope the defendant will use this opportunity to learn from their mistake and become a productive member of society. The 2.5-year probation term is a significant commitment, and I understand that any violation will result in the reinstatement of the felony charge.

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

with pleading at the moment. We hope the next court date will be a plea, but the defendant's attorney informed me that he may want a trial, which is his right. Should it go that route, I'll revoke the offer, and should the State prevail (we certainly have a strong case), I will be asking for prison (however, the judge makes the final call on that one).

I will keep you informed on where this case is going, but hopefully we can resolve this short of trial and you will not have to endure this ordeal any longer than is necessary. Once I find out more information on where things are going, I will give you a call.

Take care in the meantime and reach out anytime.

Sincerely,
Frank

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, June 9, 2025 11:21 AM
To: Francis De Rosa <FDeRosa@lakecountytill.gov>
Cc: Oscar Posterli <oscar@posterliilaw.com>; Jacklyn Mullin <JMullin@lakecountytill.gov>; Nicholas Shepherd <NShepherd@lakecountytill.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. DeRosa,

Sorry to hear about the delays. So far there isn't any day that won't work out. Just let me know and I can inform my employers. They have been accommodating toward this subject.

Thanks again,

[REDACTED]

On Mon, Jun 9, 2025, 11:13 AM Francis De Rosa
<FDeRosa@lakecountytill.gov> wrote:

Good Morning [REDACTED]



C

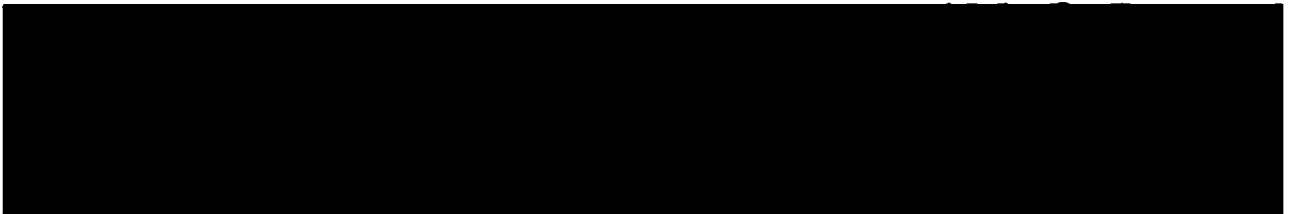
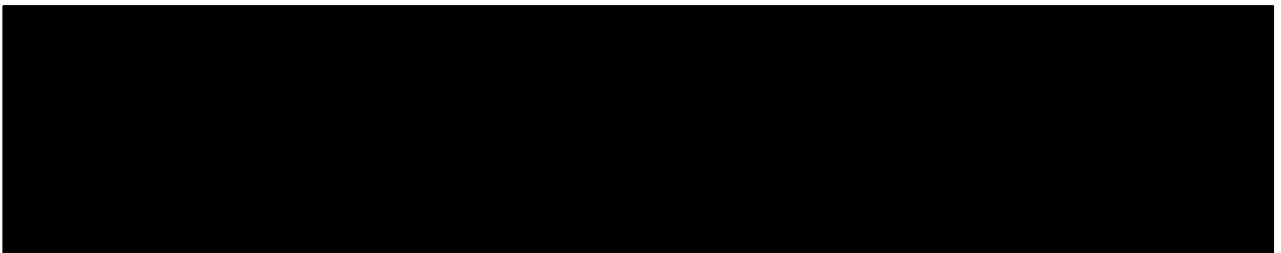
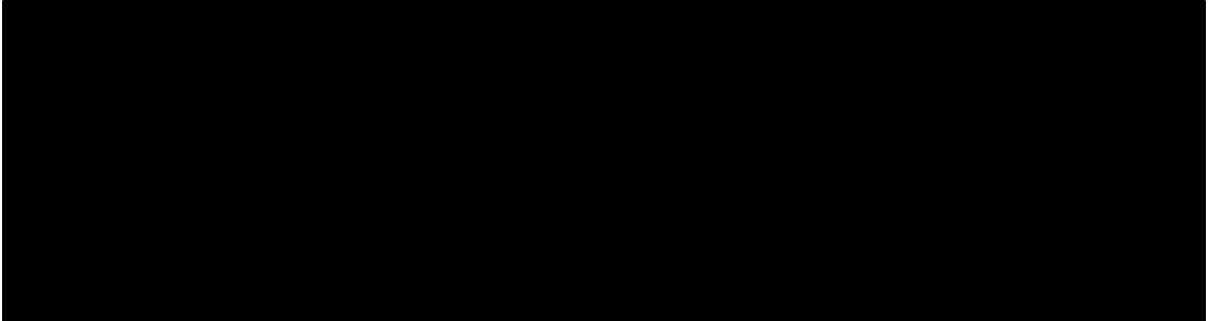
The custodian circulating an update to county civil counsel

PROD-000186

December 5, 2025, cc ASA Benjamin Dillon.

From: Francis De Rosa
To: Melanie Nelson
Cc: Benjamin Dillon
Subject: Ehab Allababidi Update, 25CF1146
Date: Friday, December 5, 2025 5:33:02 PM
Attachments: Binder1.pdf
image001.png
AllababidiE 2-25-0440 Lake order dismissing appeal and mandate.pdf

Hi Melanie,



Please let me know what else you need from me.

Sincerely,
Frank

Francis P. DeRosa IV
Assistant State's Attorney, Felony Traffic Division
Lake County State's Attorney's Office
18 N. County St.
Waukegan, IL 60085
Phone (direct): 847-377-3525
Fax: (847) 625-7129



D

The custodian's role in the plea and victim consultation, as produced

PROD-000381 – PROD-000391

August through October 2025. Establishes the custodian's direct and continuing role in the prosecution whose records are now at issue. Several pages carry the production's black masking.

From: Francis De Rosa
To: Jacklyn Mullin
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] Thank You: People v. Allababidi, 23CF1146- Availability reply
Date: Thursday, October 16, 2025 8:42:27 AM

Jackie,

This is what [REDACTED] sent. You definitely need to see it because I personally cannot thank you enough for what you do and [REDACTED] was enormously grateful to our office and you, in particular. You helped make that plea and [REDACTED] victim impact statement far more bearable than it could have been for him.

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, September 9, 2025 10:25 AM
To: Francis De Rosa <FDeRosa@lakecountyiil.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Thank You: People v. Allababidi, 23CF1146- Availability reply

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

Dear Mr. DeRosa,

I am writing to express my sincere thanks for your work on the recent case Mr Allababidi. While the outcome wasn't exactly what we had hoped for, the opportunity to share my victim impact statement and have the judge affirm my perspective was deeply gratifying. I truly appreciate you making that possible.

I also wanted to extend my gratitude to Jackie. It was a pleasant surprise to see a familiar face from high school, and her support was invaluable in helping me stay focused and calm. She is a true asset to your office, and her professionalism and kindness were a great comfort to me during this difficult process. On behalf of my family and me, thank you again for all you did to help us find a sense of justice after my accident.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

On Mon, Sep 8, 2025, 6:43 AM Chris King [REDACTED] > wrote:

Mr. DeRosa,

Thank you the information and i will be there as requested.

[REDACTED]

On Mon, Sep 8, 2025, 6:32 AM Francis De Rosa <FDeRosa@lakecountyil.gov> wrote:

[REDACTED]

If you can meet me at my office at 8:30am, that would be perfect. If you're running a little behind, no worries. My personal cell i [REDACTED]

My Office is on the third floor of the building at 18 N. County St. in Waukegan.

If by chance that doesn't work, I'll be headed to courtroom T-611 at about 8:45 a.m.

Sincerely,

Frank

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 4, 2025 8:25 AM
To: Francis De Rosa <FDeRosa@lakecountyil.gov>
Cc: Oscar Posterli <oscar@posterlilaw.com>; Jacklyn Mullin <JMullin@lakecountyil.gov>; Nicholas Shepherd <NShepherd@lakecountyil.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. DeRosa,

I appreciate the notice. I will adjust accordingly, and also look forward to meeting you, and helping any way I'm able to.

If i may ask for the court room so I'm not wondering around.

Otherwise I will see you on Monday, Sir.

Thanks again,

[REDACTED]

On Thu, Sep 4, 2025, 6:23 AM Francis De Rosa <FDeRosa@lakecountyil.gov> wrote:

[REDACTED]

I apologize for not immediately getting you the next date. The case is up this coming Monday, 9/8/2025, for plea.

And, yes, I ABSOLUTELY would like to have you present to give your statement.

I'm available anytime I am not in court before that date to chat. I really look forward to seeing you there.

Sincerely,
Frank

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, August 26, 2025 11:15 AM
To: Francis De Rosa <FDeRosa@lakecountyil.gov>
Cc: Oscar Posterli <oscar@posterilaw.com>; Jacklyn Mullin <JMullin@lakecountyil.gov>; Nicholas Shepherd <NShepherd@lakecountyil.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. DeRosa,

I Thank you for this update, and the kind words. I also appreciate you explaining the plea deal so clearly. I've been thinking about the victim impact statement, and I believe it's important that I am there in person to deliver it. This has been an incredibly difficult experience, and I believe my presence is necessary. Regarding dates, I don't have any major conflicts in the next month or two. I am generally available as long as I have enough time to arrange for others to cover my responsibilities.

Just let me know what dates are being considered, and I will be able to make it work.

[REDACTED]

On Tue, Aug 26, 2025, 8:32 AM Francis De Rosa <FDeRosa@lakecountyil.gov> wrote:

Cc: Oscar Posterli <oscar@posterlilaw.com>; Jacklyn Mullin
<JMullin@lakecountytill.gov>; Nicholas Shepherd <NShepherd@lakecountytill.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. DeRosa,

Good morning, thanks for informing me of this news. I am looking forward to helping in anyway I can.

If this statement works to the effect, i would like for you to recite it in court on my behalf. If you think it best serves in the intrest of being more impactful i can read it aloud, or even off the cuff. But in a nutshell this is what i would like to say.

Because of the defendants choices. Showing and demonstrating a clear lack of understanding of the importance that driving a car is not a god given right, but a privilege, one that can and should be taken away should it be proven a person is unable to conduct themselves in a safe and responsible manner. Allowing thought and compassion for those that share the road with them at all times. Something I had done for 20+ years as a professional driver in the Chicago Metropolitan area with over a million miles accredited.

My hope is that the defendant is able to acknowledge his soul actions were to blame, that they, with time and effort will be able to conduct themselves in a responsible manner that fitting of a productive member of society. While growing an understanding that they are not alone in this world, and their actions can have an effect on much more than themselves, or their possessions.

A true come to life butterfly effect. Never to be repeated. God willingly.

Thank you.

Let me know if this works.

I don't think I would have issues in saying this in court. But it is possible to become overly emotional. Which being the guy I am, is hard for me to allow to show. Something I have also had to cope with since 5-23-22.

Thanks again, and look forward too your response.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

On Mon, May 12, 2025, 12:57 PM Francis De Rosa
<FDeRosa@lakecountyil.gov> wrote:

Good Afternoon [REDACTED]

This case will be up for plea on 6/12/2025 at 9:00 AM in Courtroom T-611. We would very much like to welcome you and have you provide the victim impact statement that we discussed.

This can be done one of three ways:

1. You make the statement orally without anything prewritten, OR
2. You can provide us a written copy for the Judge and us (the State/prosecution) and defense to read ahead of time and then you read it into the record at the plea/sentencing, OR
3. I can read in any pre-written statement on your behalf, but I think you should do it because I think you have a lot of important things to say and conviction in doing so.

However you would like to do this is entirely up to you, but we look forward to you being there. Please reach out with any questions.

Sincerely,
Frank

From: Francis De Rosa

Sent: Tuesday, April 29, 2025 10:52 AM

To [REDACTED]

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



E

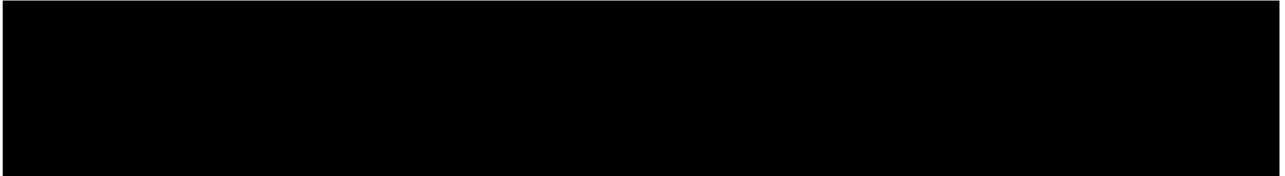
The preservation and FOIA threads the same office masked in part

PROD-000217, 000218, 000225

July 15, 2026. Includes the routing of a draft records response to the Chief Deputy of the Civil Trial Division and the warrant-notification forward of the same afternoon.

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

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Raul Casas

From: Ehab Hilfiger <defcon5ready@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, July 10, 2026 5:35 PM
To: LAKECOUNTYILSHERIFF Support
Cc: SD Records; Raul Casas
Subject: Re: [Records Center] RECORDS REQUEST :: P008643-070626

WARNING - EXTERNAL EMAIL

If unknown sender, do not click links/attachments. Never give out your user ID or password.

Dear Mr. Casas and Freedom of Information Officer:

In response to the Sheriff's Office's July 10, 2026 notification, please accept this email as the **complete resubmission of my Illinois Freedom of Information Act request in the body of the electronic submission.**

Please associate this request with **Sheriff's Office Reference No. P008643-070626**. Although the same request was previously transmitted as an attachment, the complete operative text appears below so that the request may now be processed in accordance with your instructions.

REQUEST UNDER THE ILLINOIS FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT — 5 ILCS 140

Pursuant to the Illinois Freedom of Information Act, 5 ILCS 140/1 *et seq.*, I request copies of the following records concerning the **Warrant of Arrest issued May 28, 2026 for Ehab Allababidi, DOB September 24, 1996, in People v. Allababidi, Lake County Case No. 23 CF 1146.**

I am the person who is the subject of the warrant. A copy of my identification is available upon request.

Unless a different period is specifically stated below, the requested date range is **May 1, 2026 through the date of the Sheriff's Office's response.**

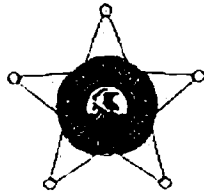
RECORDS REQUESTED

1. Warrant receipt and processing records

All records reflecting the Lake County Sheriff's Office's receipt, intake, review, entry, processing, confirmation, modification, or maintenance of the May 28, 2026 warrant, including:

- warrant-intake logs;
- warrant-desk records;
- routing records;
- entry or confirmation records generated or maintained by the Sheriff's Office;
- timestamps;
- transaction records;
- internal status records; and
- records identifying the dates, times, units, or personnel involved in processing the warrant.

From: Katie Gordon
To: Raul Casas
Subject: Fw: Warrant WT filed for 23CF00001146
Date: Wednesday, July 15, 2026 1:36:17 PM
Attachments: s3Temp124578152552273305273ab0d7b-6fe1-4238-80ce-3d7be60db0574.pdf
Outlook-glvc3cey.png



Sheriff's Office

Katie Gordon | Sergeant
Lake County Sheriff's Office
Civil Process & Warrants Divisions
25 S. Martin Luther King Jr. Ave.
Waukegan, IL 60085
Direct: 847-377-4361
www.lakecountyil.gov/sheriff

From: noreply+lakecountycourt@ecourt.com <noreply+lakecountycourt@ecourt.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 28, 2026 10:56 AM
To: SDWARRANT CLERKS <sdwarrantclerks@lakecountyil.gov>
Subject: Warrant WT filed for 23CF00001146

Warrant WT filed for 23CF00001146 PEOPLE VS ALLABABIDI

Document Attached.

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.



F

**Notice of the thirty-nine-page facsimile, June 18, 2026, 8:44
a.m.**

PROD-000465

*The transmission carrying the verified motion for substitution of judge for cause. Documented actual
notice to the State on the morning of service.*

Taniell Starks

From: Nicholas Shepherd
Sent: Thursday, June 18, 2026 8:44 AM
To: Dan E. Brown
Cc: Benjamin Dillon
Subject: Fw: NEW FAX: A fax of 39 pages has been received on your fax number: +18473600993 from +17739200030 on 2026/06/18 04:22:59.
Attachments: ct18473600993-20260618022259001-136-1.pdf

Best,
Nick

Get Outlook for iOS

From: LCSAOfloor3Fax <LCSAOfloor3Fax@lakecountyil.gov>
Sent: Thursday, 18 June 2026 08:35:18
To: Nicholas Shepherd <NShepherd@lakecountyil.gov>
Subject: FW: NEW FAX: A fax of 39 pages has been received on your fax number: +18473600993 from +17739200030 on 2026/06/18 04:22:59.

This came into the fax number

From: Concord Fax <messaging@concordfax.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 18, 2026 5:09 AM
To: LCSAOfloor3Fax <LCSAOfloor3Fax@lakecountyil.gov>
Subject: NEW FAX: A fax of 39 pages has been received on your fax number: +18473600993 from +17739200030 on 2026/06/18 04:22:59.



New Fax

A fax of 39 pages has been received on 2026/06/18 04:22:59 at your Concord Fax Online fax number (+18473600993) and has been attached to this email.

Tracking Number: ct18473600993-20260618022259001-136-1
Received from (CSID): +17739200030



G

Village of Lincolnshire — what a preserving agency's answer looks like

LINC-000001

July 20, 2026. In one page the Village Manager acknowledged a litigation hold in force since June 6, 2026, confirmed all records would be retained as required by law, and offered to comply with any direction of the Public Access Counselor. No Lake County office has issued a comparable writing as to the mailbox at issue here.



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