

May 10, 2023

## **VIA EMAIL**

Emma Williams Jensen
Records Director
P.O. Box 1475
Richmond, VA 23218
Emma.jensen@governor.virginia.gov

Re: Virginia Freedom of Information Act Request

Dear FOIA Officer:

Pursuant to the Virginia Freedom of Information Act, Va. Code Ann. § 2.2-3700, I, Anisha Hindocha, a resident of Virginia, make the following request for records.

## **Requested Records**

I request that your office produce the following records within five working days:

1. All calendars or calendar entries for Secretary of the Commonwealth Kay Cole James including any calendars maintained on behalf of Secretary James.

I request that the calendars be produced in a format that includes all invitees, any notes, and all attachments. Please do not limit your search to Outlook calendars; we request the production of any calendar—paper or electronic, whether on government-issued or personal devices—used to track or coordinate how Secretary James allocates her time on agency business.

2. Records reflecting all reimbursable and non-reimbursable expenses and costs incurred by Secretary Kay Cole James related to all in-state or out-of-state trips taken by Secretary James.

To the extent your office has aggregated records sufficient to show all relevant expenses and costs, such as spreadsheets, I would accept production of such records as sufficient. To the extent your office does not have an aggregated record of these costs, I request records reflecting those costs, such as receipts, invoices, charge card or credit card statements, and reimbursement requests.

Relevant expenses may include, but are not limited to, hotel or other lodging costs; costs for air travel, rental car, or other transportation companies; costs incurred for government transportation; the cost of meals or refreshments; and per diem payments.

Relevant expenses include costs associated with the travel of Secretary James as well as any staff members, family members, or other individuals travelling with her.

For both parts of this request, please provide all responsive records from January 15, 2022, through the date the search is conducted.

Please notify me of any anticipated fees or costs in excess of \$100 prior to incurring such costs or fee.

## Guidance Regarding the Search & Processing of Requested Records

In connection with its request for records, I provide the following guidance regarding the scope of the records sought and the search and processing of records:

- In conducting your search, please understand the terms "record," "document," and "information" in their broadest sense, to include any written, typed, recorded, graphic, printed, or audio material of any kind. I seek records of any kind, including electronic records, audiotapes, videotapes, and photographs, as well as letters, emails, facsimiles, telephone messages, voice mail messages and transcripts, notes, or minutes of any meetings, telephone conversations or discussions.
- My request for records includes any attachments to those records or other
  materials enclosed with those records when they were previously transmitted.
  To the extent that an email is responsive to this request, this request includes all
  prior messages sent or received in that email chain, as well as any attachments to
  the email.
- Please search all relevant records or systems containing records regarding agency business. Do not exclude records regarding agency business contained in files, email accounts, or devices in the personal custody of your officials, such as personal email accounts or text messages.
- In the event some portions of the requested records are properly exempt from disclosure, please disclose any reasonably segregable non-exempt portions of the requested records. If a request is denied in whole, please state specifically why it is not reasonable to segregate portions of the record for release.
- Please take appropriate steps to ensure that records responsive to this request are not deleted by the agency before the completion of processing for this request. If records potentially responsive to this request are likely to be located on systems where they are subject to potential deletion, including on a scheduled basis, please take steps to prevent that deletion, including, as appropriate, by instituting a litigation hold on those records.

If you have any questions regarding how to construe this request for records or believe that further discussions regarding search and processing would facilitate a more efficient production of records of interest to me, please do not hesitate to reach out to my representative at the contact information listed below to discuss this request. We welcome an opportunity to discuss this request with you before you undertake your search or incur search or duplication costs. By working together at the outset, we can decrease the likelihood of costly and time-consuming litigation in the future.

Where possible, please provide responsive material in an electronic format by email to the address listed below. Alternatively, please provide responsive material in native format or in PDF format on a USB drive. If it will accelerate release of responsive records, please also provide responsive material on a rolling basis.

## **Conclusion**

We share a common mission to promote transparency in government. I look forward to working with your agency on this request. If you do not understand any part of this request, please contact Rachel Baron at <a href="mailto:records@americanoversight.org">records@americanoversight.org</a> or (202) 897-2465.

Sincerely,

<u>/s/ Anisha Hindocha</u> Anisha Hindocha