



----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Elizabeth I Woodley** <ewoodley@gmu.edu>

Date: Fri, Nov 6, 2020 at 11:48 AM

Subject: RE: FOIA Request

To: [george.platt62](mailto:george.platt62@gmail.com) <george.platt62@gmail.com>, chris.buck@frostdtaxlaw.com <chris.buck@frostdtaxlaw.com>

Cc: Chris Buck <chris.buck@frostdtaxlaw.com>

Good morning George,

The Virginia Freedom of Information Act governs requests for public records and is available to the public online. Here is one link to its provisions. <http://foiacouncil.dls.virginia.gov/2020law.pdf> "Public Records" is as defined therein.

Virginia Code § 2.2-3704.B. states that a request for public records shall identify the requested records with reasonable specificity. Your questions which I described as "requests for information" do not identify requested record(s) with reasonable specificity.

Attached is one record which the Virginia SBDC provided to me. This concludes Mason's response to your request of 10/22/2020.

In responding to your request I contacted University Counsel and Jody Keenan.

Regards,

Elizabeth

Elizabeth Woodley, J.D.

FOIA Compliance Officer

George Mason University

ewoodley@gmu.edu

From: george.platt62 <george.platt62@gmail.com>

Sent: Thursday, November 5, 2020 11:43 PM

To: Elizabeth I Woodley <ewoodley@gmu.edu>; george.platt62@gmail.com; chris.buck@frostdtaxlaw.com

Cc: Chris Buck <chris.buck@frostdtaxlaw.com>

Subject: RE: FOIA Request

Hi Elizabeth,

I apologize for any confusion in the manner I've made my request. After reading the plain language of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act as well as the Public Records Act I was under the impression that the compliance officer must take a liberal view of the language and scope of my request and would be required to comply and act as the point of contact should you be unable to locate the information and or records.

As my request is for information and/or records and you insist upon parsing definitions between those two words could you please provide me with the record of the definitions of those 2 words (information/records) you follow for the purposes of FOIA and the Public Records Act? In most of society information committed to either a transitory or non transitory medium is considered a record. Once I receive the definitions of record that you operate under I will amend my request.

Also, you stated in your reply "we" are working on my request and that you had also contacted Mason staff. Could you please let me know the record of who in your staff is working on it and more importantly the communication record on with whom your office been in contact with at Mason regarding my request? At this point I am not seeking the actual record of communications (although please preserve) just the record of personnel and job titles.

I understand that you are busy so I will continue to be patient.

Thank you for all your help!

Sent from my Galaxy Tab A

----- Original message -----

From: Elizabeth I Woodley <ewoodley@gmu.edu>

Date: 11/5/20 10:23 AM (GMT-05:00)

To: George Platt <george.platt62@gmail.com>

Cc: Chris Buck <chris.buck@frostdtaxlaw.com>

Subject: RE: FOIA Request

Good morning,

Please accept my apologies for our delayed response, we are working on your request but needed to take additional time to respond, pursuant to § 2.2-3704(B)(4) of the Virginia Code. This is due to the large volume of FOIA requests Mason is responding to at the moment. Below are responses to each of your requests.

1. **Writings, guidelines, financial arrangements and any other materials regarding VASBDC, MEC-GMU, GMU staff entering into financial and contractual agreements with MEC clients.** I have contacted Mason staff to determine whether we are in possession of any records in response to this request. I will send you a response on this as soon as we are able.
2. **Under what conditions are MEC -GMU professors permitted to operate personal LLC'S And conduct that business on GMU campuses during business hours?** This is not a records request but an information request. Therefore, I am not the correct person to respond to this query; you may direct requests for information rather than records to the MEC or to Mason offices directly.
3. **How much taxpayer money is devoted to furthering GMU staff personal commercial pursuits on campus as opposed to the stated mission statement of the VASBDC GMU-MEC?** This is not a records request but an information request.
4. **How many GMU staff are running personnel LLC'S out of GMU Campuses?** This is not a records request but an information request.
5. **Please include all regulations pertaining to the same.** Related Mason Policies would include Mason's Conflict of Interest Policy, Faculty Handbook, Outside Employment Policy, and Responsible Use of Computing Policy, all available online.
6. **Additionally, Dr. Scott Martin as a state employee is required to provide written disclosure of his paid work carried out on GMU property and using GMU resources(notwithstanding under personal LLC'S), I request copies of those records as well.** Outside Employment disclosures and related records in Mason's possession are personnel records which are exempt from FOIA under Virginia Code § 2.2-3705.1 (1). Therefore, Mason will not respond to this portion of your request.

Regards,

Elizabeth

Elizabeth Woodley, J.D.

FOIA Compliance Officer

George Mason University

ewoodley@gmu.edu

From: George Platt <george.platt62@gmail.com>

Sent: Thursday, October 22, 2020 11:04 AM

To: Elizabeth I Woodley <ewoodley@gmu.edu>
Cc: Chris Buck <chris.buck@frostdtaxlaw.com>
Subject: Re: FOIA Request

Thank you for your prompt reply.

George Platt

[12107 Polo Drive apt #132](#)

[Fairfax, Va 22033](#)

On Thu, Oct 22, 2020, 11:03 AM Elizabeth I Woodley <ewoodley@gmu.edu> wrote:

Good morning,

George Mason University has received your FOIA request of 10/22/2020. Pursuant to Virginia's FOIA statute, Virginia Code §2.2-3704 (A), George Mason University requires requesters to provide their full name and legal address. Please send me your legal address so that I may continue to process your request.

Regards,

Elizabeth Woodley, J.D.

FOIA Compliance Officer

George Mason University

ewoodley@gmu.edu

From: George Platt <george.platt62@gmail.com>

Sent: Thursday, October 22, 2020 10:53 AM

To: Elizabeth I Woodley <ewoodley@gmu.edu>

Subject: Fwd: FOIA Request

FOIA Request

Please acknowledge receipt of this email replying to
george.platt62@gmail.com and chris.buck@frostdtaxlaw.com.

Please let me know if you have any questions regarding the requested materials.

Thank you.

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **George Platt** <george.platt62@gmail.com>

Date: Wed, Oct 21, 2020 at 5:13 PM

Subject: FOIA Request

To: <FOIA@governor.virgini.gov>, Chris Buck <chris.buck@frostdtaxlaw.com>

Cc: <lva.virginia.gov/foia.htm@gmail.com>

Dear Sir,

I request documents relating to the VASBDC, MEC-GMU partnership. I am currently an MEC client and have questions regarding the propriety of the situation I'm in. I have already sought assistance directly from Dr. Keenan (Executive Director VASBDC). Additionally, my attorney sought what I thought to be public information through those entities and was denied as well, we are contemplating litigation.

Upon becoming an MEC client I was directed by the VASBDC and MEC to Dr. Scott Martin (GMU) and entered into a paid contract with him for assistance. That work and meetings with Governmental workers were held on GMU campuses. Subsequent work is in dispute due to misrepresentations made to me by Dr. Martin.

The documents I seek are the writings, guidelines, financial arrangements and any other materials regarding VASBDC, MEC-GMU, GMU staff entering into financial and contractual agreements with MEC clients. Under what conditions are MEC -GMU professors permitted to operate personal LLC'S And conduct that business on GMU campuses during business hours? How much taxpayer money is devoted to furthering GMU staff personal commercial pursuits on campus as opposed to the stated mission statement of the VASBDC GMU-MEC? How many GMU staff are running personnel LLC'S out of GMU Campuses? Please include all regulations pertaining to the same. Additionally, Dr. Scott Martin as a state employee is required to provide written disclosure of his paid work carried out on GMU property and using GMU resources(notwithstanding under personal LLC'S), I request copies of those records as well.

Please email to

george.platt62@gmail.com

Chris.buck@frostdtaxlaw.com

Thank you

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George Platt

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George Platt



Conflict of Interest - Virginia SBDC employees.pdf

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