

Constituent Feedback: Unique Sample Emails (Oppose)

FROM: Jason Bollhorst <bollhorstjt@nnva.gov>
SUBJECT: VETO Request for SB 1102

I speak on behalf of Newport News Police Chief Richard Myers. Chief Myers respectfully requests you to veto SB 1102. This bill, if passed, would require law enforcement to release unattended death investigation files to the family of a suicide victim. Many times, Investigators and Chiefs will review the file with a family member. The release of the entire file is contrary to the Newport News Police Department's position protecting the confidentiality of investigative files.

The Newport News Police Department serves our community. We operate in partnership and engage in open dialog with our community members. Full disclosure of investigative files may seem like a good idea when discussing transparency of government action. However, releasing confidential investigative material could bring more unintended turmoil to the suffering families of the victims of suicide.

Please veto this bill -

Best Regards,

Captain Jason T. Bollhorst

FROM: Kelvin Wright <klwright@cityofchesapeake.net>
SUBJECT: SB 1102

The Chesapeake Police Department strongly urges Governor McAuliffe to veto SB 1102. This is a very broad, very vague proposal. Police records may include case notes, interview notes, etc. Our department has ample experience with unattended death investigations that we ruled suicide or accidental but that the family was adamant their loved one was murdered. Providing "records" may only serve to exacerbate criticism and conspiracy theories and could possibly hamper future investigative efforts into the case. The proposed bill itself talks about immediate family being ruled out as suspects, so it leaves open the possibility that the unattended death was a homicide. Additionally, exempt from FOIA disclosure is information that would reveal police methods and procedures that may hinder future investigations.

Kind regards,

K. L. Wright
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