

From: Murphy, Laura <Laura.Murphy@vermont.gov>
Sent: Thursday, June 13, 2024 12:02 PM
To: andrew.boyer@alston.com
Cc: Mishaan, Jessica <Jessica.Mishaan@vermont.gov>
Subject: RE: May 30 Public Records Request-VT AGO

Dear Andrew Boyer:

Please find attached the response to your public records request.

Regards,

Laura B. Murphy

Assistant Attorney General
Director, Environmental Protection Unit
Vermont Attorney General's Office
109 State Street
Montpelier, VT 05609
(802) 828-1059
laura.murphy@vermont.gov
Pronouns: she/her/hers



STATE OF VERMONT
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
109 STATE STREET
MONTPELIER, VT
05609-1001

June 13, 2024

VIA EMAIL

Dear Andrew Boyer:

I write in response to your public records request of May 30, 2024, in which you requested:

[W]ith the relevant dates for the following request being 01/01/1978 through 05/24/2024:

Any and all documents related to Dr. Richard DeGrandchamp's ("Dr. DeGrandchamp") toxicological, risk assessment, and/or technical expertise for his work for/with the AGO. For added context, Dr. DeGrandchamp may have worked with the AGO as an expert witness and/or as a toxicological and/or risk consultant via Scientia Veritas, LLP, a consulting company specializing in Expert Witness Support, Toxicology, Risk Assessment, and Environmental Studies/Regulation related to public health.

On June 4, 2024, I notified you the Attorney General's Office (AGO) would need to invoke a 10-day extension to respond to your request, consistent with 1 V.S.A. § 318(b)(5).

We have completed our search for potentially responsive records and have not identified any records that would be subject to disclosure. To the extent the AGO maintains any current records regarding Dr. Richard DeGrandchamp or Scientia Veritas, those records would be exempt from disclosure under one or more exemptions to Vermont's Public Records Act. *See* 1 V.S.A. 317(c)(3), (4), (14) (confidentiality, privilege, relevant to litigation).

Regarding historical records, please be advised the AGO follows records schedules that generally call for the destruction of documents six years after a matter is closed. *See State of Vermont General Record Schedule/Enforcement Records*, https://sos.vermont.gov/media/hthal1dzh/grs-10001033_enforcing.pdf; *State of Vermont Specific Record Schedule/Attorney General*, https://sos.vermont.gov/media/154nwzup/ago_specificrecordschedule_current.pdf.

To conduct a reasonable search for historical records, we searched potentially relevant portions of the office's internal record storage platform and case management system, and potentially

relevant email accounts and records retention lists for “DeGrandchamp” and “Scientia Veritas” and did not identify any historical records responsive to your request.

To the extent you seek archival records that may be maintained by Vermont State Archives & Records Administration, you may submit a public records request for copies of state archival records in the Vermont State Archives at the following link:

<https://sos.vermont.gov/vsara/request/archival-records/>.

Finally, to the extent you feel any records have been withheld in error, you may appeal to the Deputy Attorney General, Robert McDougall, at: Attorney General’s Office, 109 State Street, Montpelier, VT 05609 or AGO.PublicRecordsRequests@vermont.gov.

Sincerely,

/s/ Laura B. Murphy

Laura B. Murphy

Assistant Attorney General

Director, Environmental Protection Unit