

**From:** [American Accountability Foundation](#)  
**To:** [Daloz, Todd](#)  
**Cc:** [Mishaan, Jessica](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Webform submission from: Public Records Request Form  
**Date:** Wednesday, October 30, 2024 5:07:27 PM

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You don't often get email from records@americanaccountabilityfoundation.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

**EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.**

Understood. Is there an online way I can pay with credit card to avoid the processing time with my accounting department mailing a check?

On Wed, Oct 30, 2024 at 4:21 PM Daloz, Todd <[Todd.Daloz@vermont.gov](mailto:Todd.Daloz@vermont.gov)> wrote:

Hi Tom,

As a general rule, we do not grant waivers for the fees associated with identifying, reviewing and providing public records, regardless of the purpose to which the records may be put. So, while I can appreciate the work your organization performs, we will still need payment of the fee, as described in my email, below. I should add that there is a reasonable chance that the total amount will be lower than what I estimated, but we won't know for certain until we perform the work.

Be well,

Todd

**Todd W. Daloz** ([he/him](#))

Director of Policy and Legislative Affairs

Office of Attorney General Charity Clark

109 State Street, Montpelier, VT 05609

Mobile: 802.585.5964

Email: [Todd.Daloz@Vermont.gov](mailto:Todd.Daloz@Vermont.gov)

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you.

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**From:** American Accountability Foundation <[records@americanaccountabilityfoundation.com](mailto:records@americanaccountabilityfoundation.com)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 30, 2024 9:34 AM  
**To:** Daloz, Todd <[Todd.Daloz@vermont.gov](mailto:Todd.Daloz@vermont.gov)>  
**Cc:** Mishaan, Jessica <[Jessica.Mishaan@vermont.gov](mailto:Jessica.Mishaan@vermont.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: Webform submission from: Public Records Request Form

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Thank you. AAF is a non-profit engaged in the collection and dissemination of news information. Travel to conferences in which there is significant corporate representation is a matter of significant public interest. As you can note from a google search of AAF, our research is often reported in major state and local publications, increasing the public's understanding of the operations of government. For those reasons AAF should qualify for a waiver of the fees associated with this search.

Thank you

Tom

[Redacted]

On Wed, Oct 30, 2024 at 9:18 AM Daloz, Todd <[Todd.Daloz@vermont.gov](mailto:Todd.Daloz@vermont.gov)> wrote:

Good Morning Tom,

Following up on our correspondence from Monday, we anticipate needing a full 10 business days from the date of your request, which (given the Veteran's Day holiday) will

make our response due to you on Tuesday, November 12. I will endeavor to get any available documents to you by that date, subject to payment, see below.

As for request #5: we will search for copies of all reimbursements, travel authorizations, credit card reimbursements, agenda, emails regarding the events, or other travel related documentation associated with:

- a. Travel to events sponsored by or where the invitation came from the Attorney General Alliance or the Conference of Western Attorneys General,
- b. Any travel that occurred during the dates listed in item 1) above; or
- c. The events listed on the screen shot you sent as an attachment to your email at 5:50pm on Monday, October 28.
  - We will search AG Clark's calendar and email, only.
  - The date range for this search will be the same: Jan. 5, 2023 – Oct. 28, 2024.

As to cost: in estimating the amount of time this request will take to complete, we believe identifying and reviewing the requested records, including any appropriate redactions, will take 120 minutes of attorney time and an additional 90 minutes of staff time beyond the first 30 minutes of response time, for which there is no charge. Using the [Uniform Charges Schedule](#), the cost estimate for this request is \$108.90. We ask that you please submit payment totaling this estimated cost to proceed further with processing your request. Upon receipt of your payment, we will provide you with the available records along the timeline noted above (though until payment is received, we will hold off performing the search and review). Also, if the actual time to produce the records is less than our estimate, we will issue a credit. Conversely, if the total time is significantly more than the estimate, we will request additional payment.

If you would like us to proceed with the request, please let me know, and I will send you payment details.

Thanks,

Todd

**Todd W. Daloz** ([he/him](#))

Director of Policy and Legislative Affairs

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Email: [Todd.Daloz@Vermont.gov](mailto:Todd.Daloz@Vermont.gov)

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**From:** American Accountability Foundation <[records@americanaccountabilityfoundation.com](mailto:records@americanaccountabilityfoundation.com)>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 28, 2024 5:50 PM  
**To:** Daloz, Todd <[Todd.Daloz@vermont.gov](mailto:Todd.Daloz@vermont.gov)>  
**Cc:** Mishaan, Jessica <[Jessica.Mishaan@vermont.gov](mailto:Jessica.Mishaan@vermont.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: Webform submission from: Public Records Request Form

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The images are attached. There is a fair likelihood that there is significant overlap between the dates I have provided and the dates that are in the image.

Additionally since the dates in some of the images pre-date the current AG, I would expect you would apply the same policy as discussed in your response.

Thank you for your prompt reply.

Tom

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On Mon, Oct 28, 2024 at 5:37 PM Daloz, Todd <[Todd.Daloz@vermont.gov](mailto:Todd.Daloz@vermont.gov)> wrote:

Tom,

Thanks for the quick call this afternoon. As discussed, it is helpful to get further clarity on the records request you've submitted to the Vermont Attorney General's Office, especially where additional information will assist us in responding to your request and, potentially, narrowing an otherwise voluminous number of possibly responsive records. See 1 V.S.A. § 318(d).

Further to our conversation, we'll look at the records for Attorney General Charity Clark. The Attorney General's Office is not the custodian of records for Attorney General Susanne Young (July 2022 – Jan 2023) and previous Attorney General TJ Donovan (2017 – June 2022). To the extent you seek records related to a former attorney general, you may contact the Vermont State Archives & Records Administration with your request. Here is a link to their website: <https://sos.vermont.gov/vsara/research/executive-branch/state-officers/attorneys-general/>

Due to the volume of potentially responsive materials, the Attorney General's Office will need to invoke its right to additional time to formulate an initial response to your request pursuant to 1 V.S.A. § 318(b)(5)(B).

For now, we will determine any responsive and available records for the following requests:

1. Copies of the Attorney General's schedule (either maintained by them, or a staff member responsible for maintaining their schedule) for the following days (all dates are inclusive) :

[I am omitting date ranges that pre-date AG Clark's term of office, per the above]

January 10 – 14, 2023  
February 28 – March 4, 2023  
March 16 – 27, 2023  
April 18 – 22, 2023  
June 18 – 23, 2023  
August 8 – 12, 2023  
September 19 – 25, 2023  
October 3 – 7 2023  
November 24 – December 4 2023

January 29 – February 1, 2024  
February 27 – March 3, 2024  
March 27 – 30, 2024  
June 11 – 16 2024  
July 27 – August 5 2024,

2. Copies of all invoices submitted to or paid by the Attorney General’s Office where the payee is the Attorney General Alliance or the Conference of Western Attorneys General.
  - This search will cover State FY23 (July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023), FY 24 and FY25.
  - Our business office will look for associated correspondence.
  
3. Copies of emails (to, from, cc, bcc) in the possession of the Attorney General or the members of their senior staff in which any of the email correspondents are using either of the email domains [cwagweb.org](http://cwagweb.org) or [agalliance.org](http://agalliance.org)
  - “Senior Staff” will include the Deputy Attorney General, the Chief Assistant Attorney General, and the Chief of Staff.
  - This search will look for emails since Jan. 5, 2023 – Oct. 28, 2024.
  
4. Copies of text messages (For text messages, please search wireless devices which may include, but not be limited to, text messaging applications such as iMessage, Google Messages, SMS, Facebook Messenger, Confide, Signal, WhatsApp, Dust, Threema, Telegraph, or other similar messaging applications) for messages where any of the following individuals are part of the text message thread:
  - a. Karen White
  - b. Tania Maestas
  - c. Frank Collins
  - d. Alejandra Stephens
  - e. Jason Isaak
  - f. Selene Collins
  - g. Joy Orr
  - h. Tegan White

- This will involve searching only Attorney General Clark's records.
  - Again, these will cover the period of Jan. 5, 2023 to Oct. 28, 2024.
5. You will provide further clarity, including direct copies of the images sent via link in the initial request, on this specific request. Searching for all documentation for any travel associated with the date ranges listed in request #1 (above) will likely be quite time-consuming. It may make sense to wait for any records responsive to request #1, and then submit a more detailed request, thereafter.

We did not touch upon this subject, but pursuant to Vermont's Public Records Act, 1 V.S.A. § 316(c)(1), a public agency may charge requesters of public records for the cost of complying with the request. The first 30 minutes of time involved with complying with the request is free. With further clarity, we can develop an estimate for the total time for the Attorney General's Office to comply with your request. For reference, the Attorney General's Office uses the [Uniform Charges Schedule](#). I can provide you with that estimate in the next few days for your consideration.

Please feel free to reach out if you have further questions or concerns. And please let me know how you would like us to proceed with the above requests, particularly #5.

Be well,

Todd

p.s. I've copied Jessica Mishaan, who keeps track of public records requests and responses for the Attorney General's Office, on this email.

**Todd W. Daloz** ([he/him](#))

Director of Policy and Legislative Affairs

Office of Attorney General Charity Clark

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