

From: Albert, Victoria
To: [AGO - Info](#)
Subject: Public Record Request, Marijuana Complaints
Date: Tuesday, October 30, 2018 2:17:26 PM

Hello,

Under the Vermont Public Records Law, §315 et seq., I am requesting an opportunity to obtain copies of public records that concern verified or unverified consumer complaints of illness resulting from use or consumption of a legal cannabis product, either medical or recreational. I'd like to get the full complaints, if possible, and as much information about the complainants as you can give me, including contact information.

For an example of what I'm seeking, see this paragraph from this article: <https://apnews.com/2cb04323f9074c1ca28001693f6e2a8a>

"In a statement, the California Department of Public Health said it had not received any verified reports of illness resulting from consumption of a cannabis product attributed to mold or bacteria, although three complaints were submitted anonymously and were unverifiable."

I am also requesting an opportunity to receive copies of public records that concern inspections of any of the state's marijuana dispensaries, and the results of those inspections, as well as any testing done of the dispensaries' products that showed signs of contaminants such as, but not limited to, pesticides, molds, and bacteria. I'd also like a total number of inspections and tests conducted for dispensaries in the state, although I don't need the records if they were not flagged for containing contaminants.

For an example, see this paragraph from the same article:

"In much smaller numbers, testing companies licensed by the state are finding unacceptable levels of pesticides, solvents and bacteria, including E. coli and salmonella, according to data provided to The Associated Press by the state Bureau of Cannabis Control."

I would like both sets of records to begin on the date that the state began selling marijuana (medical or recreational), up to today. Please send these documents via e-mail, if possible, to victoria.albert@thedailybeast.com.

If there are any fees for searching or copying these records, please inform me if the cost will exceed \$10. However, I would also like to request a waiver of all fees in that the disclosure of the requested information is in the public interest and will contribute significantly to the public's understanding of the risks of consuming legal marijuana products. I am a student journalist at NYU, and will pitch the piece that results from this data. Therefore, the results are related to newsgathering purposes.

The law requires a response to this request within 2 days, or within 10 days for extraordinary circumstances. If you expect a significant delay in fulfilling this request, please contact me with information about when I might expect copies or the ability to inspect the requested records.

If you deny any or all of this request, please cite each specific exemption you feel justifies the refusal to release the information and notify me of the appeal procedures available to me under the law.

Thank you for considering my request. Please feel free to contact me at 617-633-5692, or at victoria.albert@thedailybeast.com with any additional questions.

Best,

Victoria Albert