



November 7, 2019

Attorney General T.J. Donovan
Office of the Attorney General
109 State Street
Montpelier, VT 05609-1001

Dear General Donovan,

I am submitting this request under your Vermont data practices or freedom of information law, Vermont Public Records Law, §315 et seq.

Waiver of Costs Requested

The information I seek will be used in a study of how state attorneys' general throughout the United States enforce consumer protection laws. As an academic engaged in a research study, the result of the study will be made readily available to the public through a scholarly publication and will provide insight into the enforcement of state consumer protection law. My request is dependent on the granting of a waiver of costs. If you deny my request for a waiver of costs, please provide your justification for the refusal to release the information without cost, an estimate of the cost, and notify me of the appeal procedures available.

Information Requested

I am seeking information related to consumer protection enforcement actions brought by your office, and specifically defined as follows:

- (a) Any action by you as Attorney General of Vermont or your office to enforce a violation or alleged violation of Vt. Stat. Ann. tit. 9, §§ 2451 through 2480g Consumer Fraud Act, or any similar law of Vermont that authorizes you or your office to bring actions under statutes commonly known as consumer fraud or UDAP (unfair or deceptive acts and practices) laws, but not actions under these laws limited solely to antitrust or unfair competition claims;
- (b) for which a Final Order or other similar document was issued, or an Assurance, Consent Judgment or other form of final settlement was issued or obtained; and
- (c) that Final Order, Consent Judgment, Assurance or other similar document was obtained or issued during calendar year 2018 (January 1, 2018 through December 31, 2018).

For each consumer protection enforcement action, as defined above, I seek a copy of the following two types of documents: (1) a document publicly initiating the consumer protection enforcement action

which identifies the parties to the enforcement action and the legal claims at issue in the action, such as a Complaint in a matter before the courts; and (2) a document that identifies and describes the outcome and any relief obtained in the consumer protection enforcement action, whether by court/agency order or settlement, such as a Final Order or Consent Judgment. I am seeking all consumer protection enforcement actions by your office, whether or not the action was in a judicial forum. Accordingly, I seek any Assurance of Voluntary Compliance or Assurance of Discontinuance, or similar document.

Delivery of Information

I can receive this information electronically (by email or by letter with disk) or in hard copy, whichever method or format is easier for your office. Please provide the information to me at the address or email listed below.

Thank you for your time and effort in responding to this request under your state data practices or freedom of information law. If you have any questions or concerns about the scope of this request or other matters, or if you need an extension of time to respond beyond the period established in your state data practices law, feel free to contact me at the address, email or phone listed below.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Amy Widman', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Professor Amy Widman
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