

Connecticut Freedom of Information Commission · 18-20 Trinity Street, Suite 100 · Hartford, CT 06106 Toll free (CT only): (866)374-3617 Tel: (860)566-5682 Fax: (860)566-6474 · www.state.ct.us/foi/· email; foi@po.state.ct.us

Cecil Young and Patricia Young, Complainant(s) against

Notice of Meeting

Docket #FIC 2016-0167

Mayor, City of Bridgeport; and City of Bridgeport, Respondent(s)

December 15, 2016

<u>Transmittal of Proposed Final Decision</u>

In accordance with Section 4-179 of the Connecticut General Statutes, the Freedom of Information Commission hereby transmits to you the proposed finding and decision prepared by the hearing officer in the above-captioned matter.

This will notify you that the Commission will consider this matter for disposition at its meeting which will be held in the Freedom of Information Commission Hearing Room, 18-20 Trinity Street, lst floor, Hartford, Connecticut, at **2 p.m. on Wednesday, January 11, 2017.** At that time and place you will be allowed to offer oral argument concerning this proposed finding and order. Oral argument shall be limited to ten (10) minutes. For good cause shown, however, the Commission may increase the period of time for argument. A request for additional time must be made in writing and should be filed with the Commission *ON OR BEFORE December 29, 2016.* Such request **MUST BE (1) copied to all parties, or if the parties are represented, to such representatives, and (2) include a notation indicating such notice to all parties or their representatives.**

Although a brief or memorandum of law is not required, if you decide to submit such a document, an <u>original and fourteen (14) copies</u> must be filed *ON OR BEFORE December 29*, 2016. PLEASE NOTE: Any correspondence, brief or memorandum directed to the Commissioners by any party or representative of any party MUST BE (1) copied to all parties, or if the parties are represented, to such representatives, (2) include a notation indicating such notice to all parties or their representatives and (3) be limited to argument. NO NEW EVIDENCE MAY BE SUBMITTED.

If you have already filed a brief or memorandum with the hearing officer and wish to have that document distributed to each member of the Commission, it is requested that <u>fifteen (15)</u> <u>copies</u> be filed *ON OR BEFORE December 29, 2016*, and that notice be given to all parties or if the parties are represented, to their representatives, that such previously filed document is being submitted to the Commissioners for review.

By Order of the Freedom of Information Commission

W. Paradis

Acting Clerk of the Commission

Notice to: Cecil and Patricia Young

Attorney Tyisha S. Toms

FIC# 2016-0167/Trans/wrbp/LFS//CAL/2016-12-15

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT

In the Matter of a Complaint by

Report of Hearing Officer

Cecil Young and Patricia Young,

Complainants

against

Docket #FIC 2016-0167

Mayor, City of Bridgeport; and City of Bridgeport,

Respondents

November 22, 2016

The above-captioned matter was heard as a contested case on October 6, 2016, at which time the complainants and the respondents appeared, stipulated to certain facts and presented testimony, exhibits and argument on the complaint.

After consideration of the entire record, the following facts are found and conclusions of law are reached:

- 1. The respondents are public agencies within the meaning of §1-200(1), G.S.
- 2. It is found that by letter dated January 27, 2016, the complainants requested copies of medical records and other documents associated with Mr. Young's employment termination from the City of Bridgeport in 2006.
- 3. By letter filed February 26, 2016, the complainants appealed to this Commission, alleging that the respondents violated the Freedom of Information ("FOI") Act by failing to provide the records they requested.
 - 4. Section 1-200(5), G.S., provides:

Public records or files means any recorded data or information relating to the conduct of the public's business prepared, owned, used, received or retained by a public agency, ... whether such data or information be handwritten, typed, tape-recorded, printed, photostated, photographed or recorded by any other method.

5. Section 1-210(a), G.S., provides, in relevant part:

Except as otherwise provided by any federal law or state statute, all records maintained or kept on file by any public agency, whether or not such records are required by any law or by any rule or

regulation, shall be public records and every person shall have the right to (1) inspect such records promptly during regular office or business hours, ... or (3) receive a copy of such records in accordance with section 1-212.

- 6. Section 1-212(a), G.S., provides in relevant part: "Any person applying in writing shall receive, promptly upon request, a plain, facsimile, electronic or certified copy of any public record.
- 7. It is found that the records requested by the complainant are public records within the meaning of §§1-200(5), 1-210(a), and 1-212(a), G.S.
- 8. At the hearing in this matter, the complainants stated that the only records they still sought were three medical leave of absence forms and a termination letter.
- 9. It is found that at the hearing, the respondents provided one of the three forms, which was attached to a "warning" letter, and the termination letter. The respondents claimed that they had previously provided such records to the complainants; however, the complainants said that they had never received such records.
- 10. It is found that the respondents do not maintain the other two medical leave forms sought by the complainants.
- 11. It is concluded that the respondents did not violate §§1-210(a) and 212(a), G.S., as alleged.

The following order by the Commission is hereby recommended on the basis of the record concerning the above-captioned complaint:

1. The complaint is dismissed.

Lisa Fein Siegel

as Hearing Officer