



Press Release

Connecticut DESPP is 'Chasing Their Tails'

Are State Freedom of Information Laws Optional?

Middletown CT, September 3, 2013: For most of 2013, Connecticut Carry has been working hard to try and get basic information released from the Connecticut Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, only to have those efforts illegally denied by DESPP's 'Legal Affairs' unit through determined procrastination and obfuscation. Numerous requests for information regarding firearms, potential litigation activities and other related files are being withheld without statutory authority, defying the mandates set forth in [CGS §1-206](#):

*Any denial of the right to inspect or copy records provided for under section 1-210 shall be made to the person requesting such right by the public agency official who has custody or control of the public record, in writing, **within four business days of such request**. . . **Failure to comply with a request to so inspect or copy such public record within the applicable number of business days shall be deemed to be a denial.***

And [CGS §1-210](#):

*... 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, (2) copy such records in accordance with subsection (g) of section 1-212, or (3) receive a copy of such records in accordance with section 1-212. Any agency rule or regulation, or part thereof, that conflicts with the provisions of this subsection or diminishes or curtails in any way the rights granted by this subsection shall be void.***

As a [Connecticut nonprofit](#) dedicated to protecting and advancing the right to bear arms in Connecticut, and in the process of investigating, researching and funding legal cases in Connecticut, we have a strong need to be able to check our information against these public records so that our reports and releases are factual and accurate. Many of these cases are brought because of actions by DESPP or other police departments and Connecticut Carry has uncovered a startling amount of [illegal](#) and [abusive](#) practices originating from DESPP policies.

In direct defiance of these laws, Christine Plourde, Esq. on behalf of DESPP 'Legal Affairs' sent a [fiery letter](#) to Connecticut Carry Director Ed Peruta seeking to assert her department's policies over the law, despite the law voiding her policies for being against the law in the first place. We have made Ed's detailed response [available online](#).

While the information coming out about DESPP's recent illegal behavior might have a negative impact on the image of DESPP, they must follow the law. We will see to it that they do follow the law, just like Connecticut Carry and Connecticut residents are expected to do.

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