



CONTRA COSTA COUNTY OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF  
DAVID O. LIVINGSTON  
SHERIFF - CORONER

VIA EMAIL

June 23, 2020

Mr. Matt Kiefer  
c/o MuckRock News  
[94971-72955160@requests.muckrock.com](mailto:94971-72955160@requests.muckrock.com)  
[95538-13321046@requests.muckrock.com](mailto:95538-13321046@requests.muckrock.com)

Re: Your Public Records Act Request

Dear Mr. Kiefer:

I am writing in response to your two nearly identical emails, both received on June 12, 2020, in which you made requests for records pursuant to the California Public Records Act (Gov't. Code § 6250 *et seq.*).

Specifically, you requested, “...all death records dating back to Jan. 1, 2020, with the following information for each case: case number; decedent name; date of death; location of death; race; ethnicity; age; gender; occupation/industry; whether injury/infection occurred at work; incident location (street address, city, state, ZIP where injury/infection occurred); incident date; decedent residence (street address, city, state, ZIP); cause(s) of death (indicating if COVID related); contributing factors; [and] any other non-exempt information contained in case records.”

We interpret your request for “all death records” to refer to all deaths in Contra Costa County for the dates requested. We have no such record. The Sheriff’s Office does not receive or compile data on all deaths. We have data only on those deaths which have been processed by our Coroner’s Office.

However, in an attempt to accommodate your request, we have attached a document with such data as we have that may be responsive to your request. Our attached document shows compiled data for deaths handled by our Coroner’s Office, and for those deaths that our Coroner’s Office was informed of by other authorities, which are listed under the classification “Briefs,” and for which we have no further information. The data provided herewith includes the Coroner’s Case Number, the name of the decedent, the date of death, the (partially redacted) date of birth, and the “class” or classification of death. Many cases have a “Pending” status in the Classification column. This is due to investigations that have not been completed.

As stated above, the Coroner’s statistics we are providing herewith represent only those deaths which have been handled by our Coroner’s Office. Deaths in hospitals, hospices, and

Mr. Matt Kiefer  
June 23, 2020  
Page 2

otherwise under a doctor's care do not require the Coroner's services and are not included in the provided listing, and thus this data is not statistically representative of the public at large. Please note, as stated, that redactions have been made to this list to remove the day and month of birth for each decedent for privacy reasons (Gov't. Code § 6254(c)).

Further, some of the information you have requested is not included in our database but may be in the individual Coroner's Report for each decedent. You may request a copy of the Coroner's Report for any case processed by our Coroner's Office by contacting our Coroner's Office directly and paying the appropriate fees.

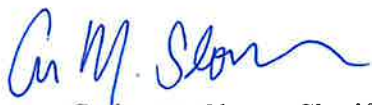
Coroner's Office  
1960 Muir Road, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
Martinez, CA 94553  
(925) 313-2850

We recommend also contacting Contra Costa Public Health to make your inquiry, though we are unable to advise whether Public Health has available public records that are responsive to your request.

Contra Costa Public Health  
597 Center Avenue, Suite 200  
Martinez, CA 94553  
(925) 313-6712

Sincerely,

**DAVID O. LIVINGSTON, Sheriff – Coroner**



By: Carlye M. Slover, Sheriff's Specialist  
Professional Standards Division

(Encl. "Death List 1-1-20 through 6-15-20\_Redacted")