



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

207 STATE HOUSE
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS 62706

JB PRITZKER
GOVERNOR

October 18, 2024

VIA EMAIL

foia@aflegal.org

Re: FOIA Request # 2024-390

Dear:

This letter is in response to your Illinois Freedom of Information Act ("FOIA") request received on September 12, 2024, seeking:

Under the Illinois Freedom of Information Act, 5 ILCS 140, AFL respectfully requests the following records:

- A. All records including the terms "Tren de Aragua" OR "TdA."
- B. All records including the terms "Venezuela(n)" AND "gang(s)."
- C. All records referencing the presence of the Tren de Aragua gang in Chicago, Illinois, and in Illinois as a whole.¹
- D. Records sufficient to show the number of Tren de Aragua gang members identified and arrested in Chicago, Illinois and Illinois statewide since January 21, 2021.
- E. All records referencing the arrests of Edwin Camejo,² Adelvis Rodriguez-Carmona,³ and any other known members of Tren de Aragua in Illinois, including but not limited to arrest affidavits and other applicable crime or incident reports.
- F. All communications with the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Enforcement and Removal Operations Field Office in Chicago, Cook County Police Department, and Cicero Police Department referencing gang activity in the state of Illinois.

The time period for this request is January 1, 2023, through the date this request is processed. Custodians for this request include all employees in the Immediate Office of the Governor.

Please see the attached records located as responsive to your request. Please be advised that certain information not pertaining to public business has been redacted pursuant to Section 7(1)(c) of FOIA, which exempts:

[p]ersonal information contained within public records, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy, unless the disclosure is consented to in writing by the individual subjects of the information. 'Unwarranted invasion of personal privacy' means the disclosure of information that is highly personal or objectionable to a reasonable person and in which the subject's right of privacy outweighs any legitimate public interest in obtaining the information. The disclosure of information that bears on the public duties of public employees and officials shall not be considered an invasion of personal privacy.

5 ILCS 140/7(1)(c). The release of this information would constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy, and there is no public interest in its disclosure, and it has therefore been properly redacted.

Draft records, recommendations, and discussions of strategy, indicative of potential future actions, have been redacted pursuant to Section 7(1)(f) of FOIA, which exempts:

Preliminary drafts, notes, recommendations, memoranda and other records in which opinions are expressed, or policies or actions are formulated, except that a specific record or relevant portion of a record shall not be exempt when the record is publicly cited and identified by the head of the public body.

5 ILCS 140/7(1)(f). Because the redacted records meet these criteria, they have been properly redacted.

To the extent you consider this response to be a denial of your FOIA request, you have the right to a denial reviewed by the Office of the Illinois Attorney General, 500 S. 2nd Street, Springfield, Illinois 62706, (877) 299-3642, public.access@ilag.gov.

If you choose to submit a request for review, you must do so within 60 days after the date of this response letter. The request for review must be in writing, signed by you, and include a copy of your FOIA request and this office's response. 5 ILCS 140/9.5(a). In addition, you have the right to seek judicial review of this response. 5 ILCS 140/11(a), (b).

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me.

Sincerely,

Leonardo Rojas-Banda

Leonardo Rojas-Banda, FOIA Officer
Office of Illinois Governor JB Pritzker