



Nathan Vasquez, Multnomah County District Attorney

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January 29, 2026

via email only

Chris Wishnia
cwish66@gmail.com

Re: Petition of Chris Wishnia seeking body camera footage from the City of Portland

Dear Mr. Wishnia,

You submitted a request to this office on January 26, 2026 in which you ask that we order the City of Portland to release certain police body camera footage. The underlying encounter, Portland Police Bureau case 25-246093, occurred on September 6, 2025 and documents Officer Chen's investigation of your report that you had been assaulted. You submitted the following request to the City under the Oregon Public Records Law:

all the video that was taken at time of incident up until suspect was released to Mult Co Justice ... I want all things that were said by suspect police or victim in this incident as it will be attached to a tort claim.

The City denied your request, citing ORS 192.345(40), the public records exemption for police body camera recordings. ORS 192.345(40) conditionally exempts from disclosure under the public records law, "[a]udio or video recordings, whether digital or analog, resulting from a law enforcement officer's operation of a video camera worn upon the officer's person that records the officer's interactions with members of the public while the officer is on duty."

It is not in reasonable dispute that the record you seek fits within this description. As a result, the exemption applies unless a public interest exists that outweighs the legislatively expressed interest in confidentiality for body camera footage. A public interest is present when "the furnishing of the record has utility—indeed, its greatest utility—to the community or society as a whole." *In Defense of Animals v. OHSU*, 199 Or App 160, 189 (2005).

The only interest that you cite in your request is that you are the victim and that you intend to submit a tort claim notice. As this office has previously stated, "[t]hat a requestor seeks records pertaining to themselves, their family, or their business is strong, and usually dispositive, evidence that the interest advanced by release is primarily a private interest." *Petition of Capone*, MCDA PRO 25-53 (2025). See also, *Petition of Shore*, MCDA PRO 17-53 (2017) (request relating to a "discrete incident involving [requestor] and the public agency" was a "quintessential personal interest request"); *Petition of Covington*, MCDA PRO 24-60 (2024) (allegation that police officer violated requestor's First Amendment rights does not establish public interest to overcome ORS 192.345(40)); ATTORNEY GENERAL'S PUBLIC RECORDS AND MEETINGS MANUAL (2024) at 19 ("If a requestor seeks records relating to the requestor, a mere allegation that the public body has treated the individual oppressively, absent a broader public interest, does not satisfy the public interest standard.")

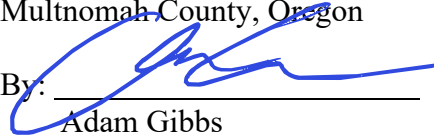
Here you are expressly seeking records of a police investigation involving yourself in furtherance of a private legal claim. The City of Portland did not err in its application of the law to your public records request.

ORDER

Accordingly, the petition is denied.

Regards,

NATHAN VASQUEZ
District Attorney
Multnomah County, Oregon

By: 
Adam Gibbs
General Counsel

26-04

Cc: Trevor Byrd, City of Portland