

[Redacted]



[Redacted]@joyfulheartfoundation.org>

RE: TAP contact

Tue, Jan 5, 2016 at 2:16 PM

To: [Redacted]@joyfulheartfoundation.org>
Cc: [Redacted]

Hi [Redacted],

Happy new year! I just wanted to give you an update on the FOIA request for Albany. The Albany PD contacted me while I was away and gave me the name of the best person to talk to there about my request (Detective Lieutenant Howard Schechter). I have emailed Det. Schechter and he is in the process of compiling the information for me, he said it may take a little while to compile. He did say that "we do send ALL rape kits to the lab that have been identified with a victim's name (which is most) and that have not been found to be unfounded, through investigation/interviews, prior to lab delivery."

I will keep you posted on any updated information I get from him.

Thanks,

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

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[REDACTED]@joyfulheartfoundation.org>

Albany FOIA information

Thu, Jan 21, 2016 at 3:44 PM

To: [REDACTED]@joyfulheartfoundation.org>
Cc: [REDACTED]

Hi [REDACTED],

I received some information from Det. Lt. Schechter at Albany PD today regarding rape kit numbers there that I wanted to pass on. From January 2007 to December 2015, Albany PD took in 283 NYS Sexual Offense Evidence Collection Kits. Of those 283, 255 were sent to the New York State Police Lab for processing, leaving 28 kits that have not been tested. That comes out to around 90% of their kits being tested. Mr. Schechter said that they do not know how many rape kits are actually taken at area hospitals and not turned over to them. He also said the only reason they would not send a kit out for testing is if they determined the allegation to be proven false by investigation, or they were unable to attach any identifying name to the kit.

I asked whether they could go back any further than 2007 for numbers, to which he responded that any prior records would have to be searched hard copy in a "records tomb", and unless "absolutely necessary", he would like to avoid doing so. I also asked if the numbers could be broken down by year, to which he responded that because he understood the purpose to be determining whether they are sending their kits for processing "breaking them down by year accomplishes nothing".

I also reiterated the request for any policies or procedures relating to testing and handling of rape kits, which he said he would follow up on.

While Mr. Schechter has generally been responsive and open to our request, he was much less responsive when I pressed for the further details. Please let me know if you would like me to continue trying to get the information prior to 2007 or the numbers broken down by year. I will follow up with him regarding the policies and procedures and will let him know when I hear anything back.

Thanks,

[REDACTED]