



**pennsylvania**  
OFFICE OF OPEN RECORDS

**STANDARD RIGHT-TO-KNOW REQUEST FORM**

DATE REQUESTED: 6/22/2018

REQUEST SUBMITTED BY:  **E-MAIL**       U.S. MAIL       FAX       IN-PERSON

REQUEST SUBMITTED TO (Agency name & address): LUZERNE COUNTY RTK

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NAME OF REQUESTER : DAVID KNELLER

STREET ADDRESS: P.O. BOX 485

CITY/STATE/COUNTY/ZIP(Required): SCHAEFFERTOWN, PA 17088

TELEPHONE (Optional): 717-808-8788      EMAIL (optional): PA.CONSTABLE@LIVE.COM

**RECORDS REQUESTED:** *\*Provide as much specific detail as possible so the agency can identify the information. Please use additional sheets if necessary*

**History:** *A news article appeared in Times leader newspaper dated March 8, 2017 see attached.*

***Assistant Luzerne County District Attorney, Justin Richards contacted a woman on Facebook at 2:51 AM on Feb 26, 2017 after he somehow located her identity from a car parked on a public street near his house. Richards writes..“I happen to be quite upset that your car is parked in front of my fucking house in BOTH of the parking spots in front my house while you’re on some fun fucking vacation to AC...let me know why I shouldn’t have your Mercedes towed and/or impounded while it’s occupying both spots in front of my house that we typically use every fucking day. So yeah, let me know. Like ASAP.”***

***1. Any correspondence sent from council woman Dobash to any person or entity or received by Dobash or any other council person as it related to Luzerne County Assistant District Attorney Justin Richards, this story, or his alleged harassment or sexual harassment of women.***

***2. Any written allegations where Luzerne County Assistant District Attorney Justin Richards has used the word “fuck” or any other sexually explicit or offensive words to women.***

***3. Any written allegations where Luzerne County Assistant District Attorney Justin Richards has harassed and or threatened women.***

***4. Any written allegations where Luzerne County Assistant District Attorney Justin Richards has used a vehicle under his control to block in a vehicle owed by a woman or to keep a woman from leaving.***

***5. Any written allegations where Luzerne County Assistant District Attorney Justin Richards has used JNET or similar, or asked others to use on his behalf, to located a woman or indentify vehicle(s) owed by a woman or women.***

DO YOU WANT COPIES?  YES  NO

DO YOU WANT TO INSPECT THE RECORDS?  YES  NO

DO YOU WANT CERTIFIED COPIES OF RECORDS?  YES  NO

DO YOU WANT TO BE NOTIFIED IN ADVANCE IF THE COST EXCEEDS \$100?  YES  NO

**\*\* PLEASE NOTE: RETAIN A COPY OF THIS REQUEST FOR YOUR FILES \*\***  
**\*\* IT IS A REQUIRED DOCUMENT IF YOU WOULD NEED TO FILE AN APPEAL \*\***

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**FOR AGENCY USE ONLY**

**OPEN-RECORDS OFFICER:**

I have provided notice to appropriate third parties and given them an opportunity to object to this request

**DATE RECEIVED BY THE AGENCY:**

**AGENCY FIVE (5) BUSINESS DAY RESPONSE DUE:**

*\*\*Public bodies may fill anonymous verbal or written requests. If the requestor wishes to pursue the relief and remedies provided for in this Act, the request must be in writing. (Section 702.) Written requests need not include an explanation why information is sought or the intended use of the information unless otherwise required by law. (Section 703.)*

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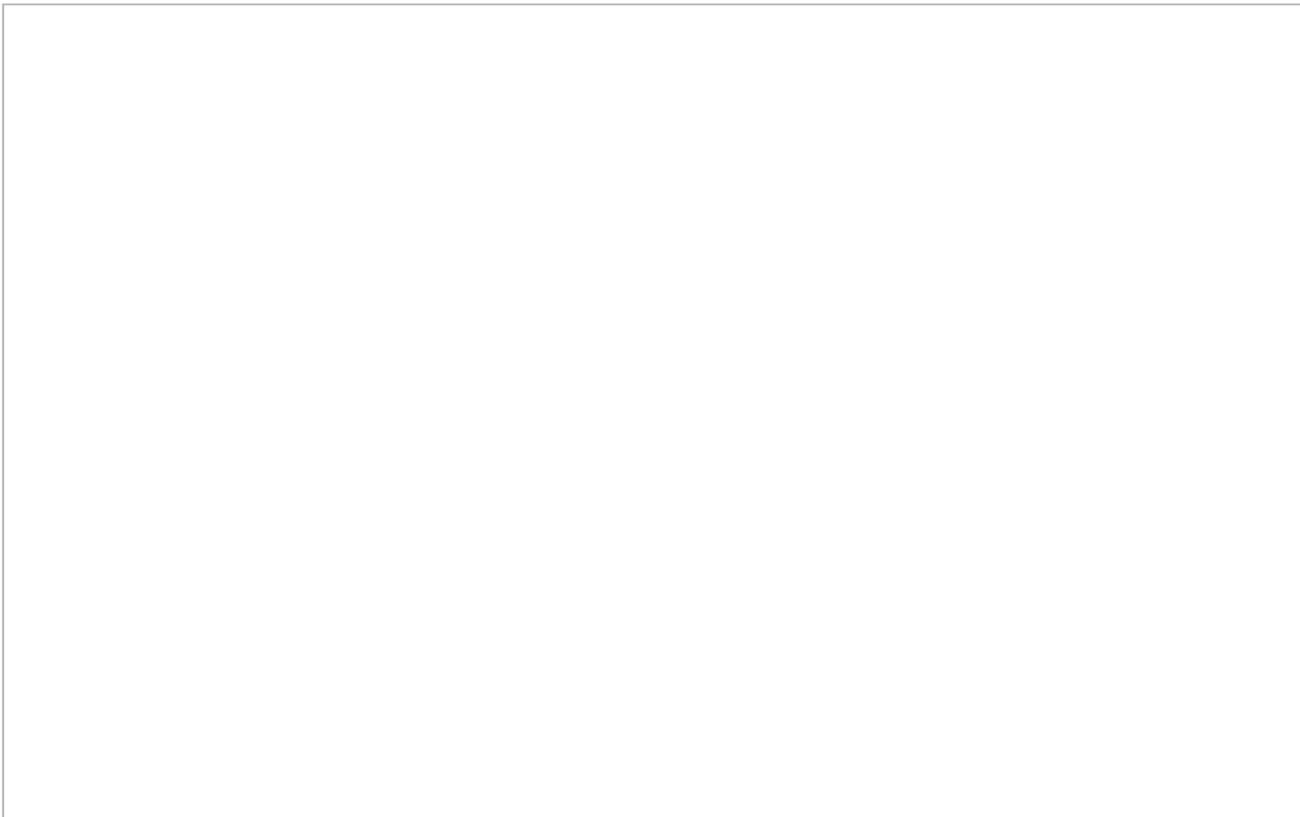
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# Dobash asks for investigation into incident over parked car involving ADA

By Jennifer Learn-Andes - jandes@timesleader.com | March 8th, 2017 5:41 pm





Luzerne County Councilwoman Kathy Dobash said she's pushing for an investigation of a county assistant district attorney's recent alleged reaction over a vehicle parked in front of his residence.

Dobash said she learned about the matter from a citizen and reached out to the Carbon County District Attorney's Office because the assistant district attorney, Justin Richards, resides in that county in Banks Township.

The Carbon County District Attorney's Office, which did not provide a comment, informed Dobash it would review the matter if it is requested to do so by state police, Dobash said. The vehicle owner, Banks Township resident Joelle Sando, said Wednesday she is in the process of filing a complaint with state police.

Sando, a psychotherapist, also publicly disclosed the matter through an online Facebook post, but she said the social media site later removed the posting.

According to Sando:

She was in Atlantic City when her 68-year-old mother was returning Sando's 2012 Mercedes around 8:30 p.m. Feb. 24. When the vehicle started making a thumping sound and the check engine indicator lit up, her mother parked the vehicle along a public road a few blocks from Sando's residence, not blocking any driveways or handicap spots.

Sando said her mother couldn't get anyone to immediately look at the vehicle and didn't inform her of the problem because she didn't want to ruin her trip.

Shortly before 3 a.m. on Feb. 26, Sando said she received a private message through Facebook from a stranger identified on the social media site as Richards, a county assistant district attorney.

The message questioned why her car was parked front of his house while she was "away eating seafood."

"I happen to be quite upset that your car is parked in front of my (expletive) house in BOTH of the parking spots in front of my house while you're on some fun (expletive) vacation to AC," it said.

The message asked her to let him know why he should not have the car towed and/or impounded while it was occupying both spots in front of his house "that we typically use every (expletive) day."

After contacting her mother to find out what happened with the car, Sando said she immediately packed up and left Atlantic City at 4:30 a.m. so she could "quietly" move her vehicle early in the morning, hoping to avoid an encounter with Richards.

However, she said she was "mortified" she had to contact state police because her vehicle was sandwiched in by two vehicles parked close in the front and back. The responding state police trooper asked Richards to move one of these vehicles so she could get out, she said.

"There was no way I could get out without hitting a car," she said, noting she also has photographs documenting the position of the vehicles.

Sando said she had planned to drop the matter until she saw her vehicle blocked in and said she was publicly speaking out to discourage "bullying." Her posting questioned how he "can somehow impound and tow cars that are legally parked on a public street."

"I don't feel comfortable with this. The tone was not appropriate. Instead of being threatening, he should have checked to see if I was OK," Sando said.

Richards, who was hired as assistant district attorney in 2014, could not be reached for comment Wednesday.

County District Attorney Stefanie Salavantis said she can't discuss the matter, citing personnel confidentiality. She stressed no government resources were used to track down any vehicle owner.

Dobash's letter to the Carbon County office said she was "compelled to address this inappropriate action" of an assistant district attorney and asserted "many individuals" viewed the message.

"The communication is vulgar and aggressive. This is not the demeanor needed in the role of assistant district attorney," she wrote.

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COUNTY MANAGER  
C. DAVID PEDRI, ESQUIRE

COUNTY of LUZERNE  
PENNSYLVANIA  
ESTABLISHED 1786

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June 27, 2018

David Kneller  
P. O. Box 485  
Schaefferstown, PA 17088  
Email: PA.CONSTABLE@LIVE.COM  
RE: RTK Request # 18-125

Dear Mr. Kneller:

Thank you for writing to Luzerne County with your request for information pursuant to the Pennsylvania Right-To-Know law. My email is Jackie.Carroll@luzernecounty.org.

On June 25, 2018, the Luzerne County Office of Law received a request for documents from you described in the attached Right to Know request. Your request is denied for the following reasons pursuant to the Pennsylvania Right to Know Law ("RTKL").

"A written request should identify or describe the records sought with sufficient specificity to enable the agency to ascertain which records are being requested." 65 P.S. § 67.703. Pursuant to said Right-To-Know Law, your request is overly broad and as such, is denied.

You have a right to appeal this denial of information in writing to Office of Open Records, Commonwealth Keystone building, 400 North Street, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Harrisburg, PA 17120.

If you choose to file an appeal for any reason, you must do so within 15 business days of the mailing date of the agency's response. Section 1101. If you have further questions, please contact me. Please be advised this correspondence will serve to close this request with our office as permitted by law.

Very truly yours,

JACQUELINE MUSTO CARROLL, ESQUIRE  
Luzerne County – Open Records Officer  
200 North River Street  
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18711