

Luzerne County Public Defender's Office
C/O Right to Know Officer
Penn Place
20 N. Pennsylvania Ave.
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18701

Todd Tarselli/BY-8025
Smart Comm/PADOC/SCI Forest
P.O. Box 33028
St. Petersburg, FL 33733

June 10, 2020

RE:Right to Know request

Dear Sir or Madam,

I request the following information under the Pa. Right to Know Act.

Please inform me the following:

(1) Does the Luzerne County Public Defender's Office allocate funds for "Conflict Lawyers" for Luzerne County court cases?

(2) If the Luzerne County Public Defender's Office does not allocate funds for Conflict Lawyers, what office controls this budget?

(3) How much money was paid to conflict counsel Robert Butner Esq. (SNB Plaza, 108 N. Washington Ave. Ste. 700, Scranton, PA 18503-1878) during the years of 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018 and 2019?

Should this request be denied please provide the office I may file an appeal.

Thank you in advance for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,


Todd Tarselli

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JUN 11 10 50 AM '20
PUBLIC DEFENDER'S OFFICE
LUZERNE COUNTY

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(2)If the Luzerne County Public Defender's Office does not allocate funds for Conflict Lawyers, what office controls this budget?

(3)How much money was paid to conflict counsel Jeffery Yelen Esq., (100 Citizens Bank Center, 8 West Market St., Wilkes-Barre, PA 18701-1885) during the years of 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018 and 2019?

Should this request be denied please provide the office I may file an appeal.

Thank you in advance for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,


Todd Tarselli

RECEIVED

JUN 15 2020

PUBLIC DEFENDER'S OFFICE
LUZERNE COUNTY



Right-To-Know Response Form

June 29, 2020

Todd Tarselli/BY-8025
Smart Communications/PADOC/SCI Forest
P.O. Box 33028
St. Petersburg, FL 33733

RTK REQUEST #2020-102

Dear Mr. Tarselli:

Thank you for writing to Luzerne County with your request for information pursuant to the Pennsylvania Right- To-Know law ("RTKL").

In response to your Right to Know, please allow me to provide the following responses:

1. No.
2. The Office of Law.
3. Robert Butner was not a Conflict Counsel employee since the Department started in 2014. Any work Attorney Butner did would be as an independent contractor for Luzerne County.

You have a right to appeal this denial of information in writing to Executive Director, Office of Open Records, Commonwealth Keystone Building, 400 North Street, 4th Floor, Harrisburg, PA 17120.

If you choose to file an appeal, 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 Laura C. Dennis. Please be advised that this correspondence will serve to close this record with our office as permitted by law.

Respectfully,

Laura C. Dennis, Esq.
Luzerne County
Open Records Officer
200 North River Street
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18711