Tim LeMaster SB243 Testimony

I oppose SB 243.

This is likely to be a legislative vehicle for the Oregon Legislature to consolidate numerous bills pertaining to firearms regulations.

I am raising a point of concern Oregon State Police (OSP) are failing to follow the law regarding failed firearms transfer background checks.

I have notified legislators and 2 years ago I testified to the judiciary committee on the OSP procedure failure.

ORS 166.412 requires notifications to various state, federal, and local law enforcement agencies that have purview over persons who are discovered through background checks to be illegally purchasing firearms. Subsequently the OSP is required by the same statute to provide an annual reporting of those notifications and disposition of the referred investigations.

They do not track that information.

I submitted an information request March 28, 2023 to OSP for the information regarding what illegal gun purchases were referred for investigation and the disposition of those referrals.

Ultimately, I did receive a published annual report on gun purchases, but that report did not contain the investigation referral and disposition data. When I followed for that specific information the OSP replied they "considered the matter closed" refusing to provide the data. I think it is safe to presume OSP does not have that data because they do not follow the law in this matter.

So before there is a new program to spend much needed finances on researching the problems in the transaction process, there is room for improvement in simply following the law to begin with. Get the processes compliant with the law then see where the fixes need to be. It is pointless to study something with known severe shortcomings. Fix the known problems fixed first before spending money on finding out unknown problems.

ORS 166.412.7.i.C-D

166.412 Definitions; firearms transaction record; criminal history record check; prohibited transfer report; liability; rules.

(i) The department shall annually publish a written report, based on any information received under paragraph (h) of this subsection, detailing the following information for the previous year:

(C) The number of investigations arising from the reports made pursuant to paragraph (c) of this subsection, the number of investigations concluded and the number of investigations referred for prosecution, all arranged by category of prohibition; and

(D) The number of criminal charges arising from the reports made pursuant to paragraph (c) of this subsection and the disposition of the charges, both arranged by category of prohibition.



Timothy LeMaste

PR68555 - information enclosed

4 messages



Tue, Jun 20, 2023 at 12:22 PM

Mr. LeMaster –

Thank you for the clarification of your request.

Please disregard the fee letter that was sent to you. I've attached the 2022 Oregon Firearm Transaction Denial Report, which contains the information that you are seeking for the 2022 year.

While the Oregon State Police did not produce this report until 2023 for the 2022 data, portions of the information you have requested is contained within the annual overview documents. I've attached 2021, 2020, and 2019 for your reference.

Thank you for your patience.



Coral Smith Director | Central Records Section Oregon State Police 3565 Trelstad Ave SE Salem, OR 97317 Email: coral.smith@osp.oregon.gov

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4 attachments



Timothy LeMaster

Draft To: "Smith, Coral" < Coral.Smith@osp.oregon.gov>

Thu, Jun 22, 2023 at 5:20 AM

Thu, Jun 22, 2023 at 5:33 AM

[Quoted text hidden]



Timothy LeMaster To: "Smith, Coral" <Cora...Smith@osp.oregon.gov> Cc: "Kanaeholo, Kyle K" <Kyle.Kanaeholo@osp.oregon.gov>

Good morning, I appreciate your response

This information does not fulfill my request.

I already had two of these reports.

The information request is specifically for the details of the statutorily required report on the follow up investigations, charges, and disposition of those charges of illegal purchase attempts referenced in these reports.

For example,

In 2022 there were more than 2,300 illegal purchase gun attempts denied.

The cited statute requires reporting of those attempts how many were investigated? How many were charged for the illegal attempt and connected crimes? And what was the final disposition/adjusication of those charges?

As I referenced in my information request this specific follow up data is required by law to be compiled and reported

annually by OSP.

I would like a copy of the report of that data that follows up as exampled above.

Thank you, Tim LeMaster

On Tue, Jun 20, 2023, 13:22 Smith, Coral <Coral.Smith@osp.oregon.gov> wrote: [Quoted text hidden]



Smith, Coral <Coral Smith@osp.oregon.gov>

Thu, Jun 22, 2023 at 4:34 PM

Mr. LeMaster -

OSP has provided the only responsive records to your request. The only report that contains the requested information was created with the 2022 data, and has been provided. The department did not write reports for 2020 and 2021, therefore those reports do not exist.

We will consider your public records request closed at this time. Thank you!



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Email: coral.smith@osp.oregon.gov

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From: Sent: Thursday, June 22, 2023 5:33 AM To: Smith, Coral <Coral.Smith@osp.oregon.gov> Cc: Kanaeholo, Kyle K <Kyle.Kanaeholo@osp.oregon.gov> Subject: Re: PR68555 - information enclosed

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REQUEST FOR	OREGON STATE POLICE AND	OREGON ST	TATE FIRE MA	ARSHAL RECORDS
Ma	Provide all informa ssociated with your request you will receive ail, fax or email to: Oregon State Police Attn: Central Records S 3565 Trelstad Ave. SE Salem, OR 97317 Fax: (503) 378-6300 Email: central.records@	a fee letter with ection Dosp.oregon.gov		
	estions? Call (503) 378-3725 extension 444 ion that best describes which requester typ			regon.gov
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Contact Person e-mail	address: (optional)		•	
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Location of Incident/Street Address:		City: County:		County:
Type of Incident/Crime	e/Description of events:			
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Please allow up to 30	days for your request to be processed. All r	eports requested	d are subiect to rel	ease per state and federa
	statutes. Records may contain exempt and	•	•	