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In Re: Public Records / David James Elliott / Altru Shooting

February 3, 2016

Mark Nelson

Chief of Police

Grand Forks Police Dept.

122 South 5th Street,

PO Box 5548

Grand Forks, ND 58201

Chief Nelson,

I am contacting you in regards to my requests to your Department for 911 records, officer dash-cam and/or officer body-cam video pertaining to the David James Elliott case.

I made my initial request on November 3, 2015 and a discussion on the matter began. It was on hold because the case was not technically over. I resumed the discussion with Lt. Derik Zimmel on February 2, 2015 when sentencing occurred and the records became public.

Through my correspondences with Lt. Zimmel it has been made clear to me that acquiring all of the available public records regarding this case will be very expensive. In fact, the GFPD won't even begin the process until I have fifty percent of the cost in advance.

I am aware public requests only go through the redaction process once. After the records are redacted – the costly redaction process does not have to be repeated.

Because I was told by your Office I may not read, view, or observe any of the public records until the redaction process has taken place - I was effectively being told by the GFPD that I am the first news agency to request this information.

As your police records will show, my life has been threatened and reports have been made to police in both East Grand Forks, Minnesota, as well as the GFPD in North Dakota.

I also made a report to the GFPD when organized crime directly contacted my employer in Grand Forks and criminally defamed me; in hopes of securing my termination; because I did not capitulate to their demands for me to remove my publication(s) from the Web.

The Mafia threatening to kill me, which claims to be watching my home, also published a series of videos on You Tube warning me to remove all of my websites by specific dates or I would suffer severe consequences including the kidnapping of my grandchild.

I am still investigating if the threats pertain to any of my reporting on the shooting of David James Elliott.

