

# LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT



**CHARLIE BECK**  
Chief of Police

P. O. Box 30158  
Los Angeles, California 90030  
Telephone: (213) 978-2100  
TDD: (877) 275-5273  
Reference Number: 14.4

**ERIC GARCETTI**  
Mayor  
March 9, 2018

Hamid Khan  
Stop LAPD Spying Coalition  
838 E. 6<sup>th</sup> Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90021

SENT VIA EMAIL ONLY TO: [stoplapdspying@gmail.com](mailto:stoplapdspying@gmail.com)

**Re: California Public Records Act ("CPRA") Request No. C17-0500027 for Records Pertaining to Los Angeles' Strategic Extraction and Restoration Program ("LASER Program")**

Dear Mr. Khan:

The Los Angeles Police Department (the "Department") received your May 10, 2017, CPRA request for nine categories of documents relating to Operation LASER. The Department has reviewed your request, searched for responsive records, and responds as follows:

**Request Number 1:** "Any and all "grant applications" in their entirety filed for in regards to implementation of the Los Angeles Strategic Extraction & Restoration ("LASER") program."

**Department's Response to Request Number 1:** The Department has identified the following responsive records and produces them herewith:

- Final Community Survey Report
- 1 Rev Time-Line for Operation LASER
- 1 Time-Line Operation LASER
- Attachment 1 Title Page and Abstract
- Attachment 2 Program Narrative
- Attachment 3 Budget and Budget Narrative
- Attachment 4 Timeline Resumes
- Award Acceptance
- Award Report 1
- Budget Narrative LAPD Rev 11-17-15
- Extension June 2018
- FY 14 Supplement Invitation Letter Operation LASER
- Grant Adjustments Home (00B)
- Grant Adjustments Home (00D)
- Grant Adjustments Home (003)

- Grant Adjustments Home (005)
- Grant Adjustments Home (009)
- Grant Adjustments Home
- Justification for no-cost ext Oct. 2016
- Justification for no-cost extension\_2
- No cost extension 012413
- No cost extension December 2014
- No cost extension Nov 2013\_1
- No cost extension til 03-31-17
- No cost extension Dec 31 2013
- Program Narrative
- Rev Budget Worksheet – Submitted to BJA 05-03-14 (003)
- Rev Budget Worksheet – Submitted to BJA 05-03-13
- Revised-Smart Policing Budget Narrative LAPD 05-03-13
- Signed SPI Abstract
- SPI No-Cost Extension GAN\_1

**Request Number 2:** “Any and all documents and charts related to the evaluation, analysis, and implementation of the LASER Program.”

**Department’s Response to Request Number 2:** The CPRA defines an appropriate request as one that “reasonably” describes identifiable public records. (Gov. Code, § 6253, subd. (b).) Here, Request Number 2 does not reasonably describe an identifiable public record, nor does it establish a time frame for the requested records. The request constitutes a blanket, generalized demand for every single piece of paper that is in any way related to the LASER Program, which has been in effect since 2009. However, to the extent that your request seeks background information on the LASER Program, the Department provides the following documents that may be responsive to your request:

- Spotlight on Operation LASER
- LAPD 2020
- LASER Uchida Swatt LAPD
- Chronic Offender Purpose and Checklist

**Request Number 3:** “Any and all reports and charts written by the Los Angeles Police Department’s (“LAPD”) Smart Policing Initiative project/group in regards to the implementation of the LASER Program.”

**Department’s Response to Request Number 3:** The CPRA defines an appropriate request as one that “reasonably” describes identifiable public records. (Gov. Code, § 6253, subd. (b).) Here, Request Number 3 does not reasonably describe an identifiable public record. The Department does not have a “Smart Policing Initiative project/group.” As worded, Request Number 3 does not provide the Department with enough information to properly identify and locate the requested records, or to determine whether any exemption to disclosure applies. In the interest of cooperation and transparency, however, the Department hereby produces the following documents that provide

background information on the LASER Program:

- Spotlight on Operation LASER
- LAPD 2020
- LASER Uchida Swatt LAPD
- Chronic Offender Purpose and Checklist

**Request Number 4:** “List of all LAPD Divisions currently using the LASER Program.”

**Department’s Response to Request Number 4:** The Department does not have such a list and the CPRA does not require it to create a new record to respond to a public records request. (*See Fredericks v. Superior Court* (2015) 233 Cal.App.4th 209, 227.) In the interest of cooperation and transparency, however, LAPD divisions currently using the LASER Program are listed below:

Central Bureau:

- Central Area
- Rampart Area
- Hollenbeck Area
- Northeast Area
- Newton Area

South Bureau

- 77<sup>th</sup> Street Area
- Southwest Area
- Harbor Area
- Southeast Area

West Bureau

- Wilshire Area
- Olympic Area
- Hollywood Area

Valley Bureau

- Foothill Area
- Devonshire Area

**Request Number 5:** “List all “predetermined criteria” used to select who a Chronic Offender Bulletin will be opened on.”

**Department’s Response to Request Number 5:** The Department does not have such a list and the CPRA does not require it to create a new record to respond to a public records request. (*See Fredericks v. Superior Court* (2015) 233 Cal.App.4th 209, 227.) In the interest of cooperation and transparency, however, the Department here lists the criteria used to identify a chronic offender, which are gang membership, parole or probation status, prior arrests with a handgun, violent crimes on rap sheet, and police contact involving a violent crime or a firearm in the last two years. In addition, the

document entitled “Chronic Offender Purpose and Checklist” and the “LASER” PowerPoint presentation also contains responsive information and is produced herewith.

**Request Number 6:** “List of all data elements such as race, age, ethnicity, gender, national origin etc. used in creation of a “Chronic Offender Bulletin.”

**Department’s Response to Request Number 6:** The Department does not have such a list and the CPRA does not require it to create a new record to respond to a public records request. (*See Fredericks v. Superior Court* (2015) 233 Cal.App.4th 209, 227.) In the interest of cooperation and transparency, however, data identified in a Chronic Offender Bulletin are listed below:

- Name
- Date of Birth
- Driver’s License Number
- Mugshot
- Address
- Sex
- Hair
- Eyes
- Height
- Weight
- Physical Oddities (e.g., tattoos, scars)
- Arrest History
- Gang Membership Information
- Parole Status
- Probation Status
- Warrant Status
- Description of Vehicles that the Offender is associated with
- Recent Police Encounters, including officers involved, date, location, reporting district, narrative, and associates
- Police Contacts, including date, reporting district, location and disposition

**Request Number 7:** “List of all databases that the Palantir platform searches through for the creation of a Chronic Offender Bulletin.”

**Department’s Response to Request Number 7:** The Department does not have such a list and the CPRA does not require it to create a new record to respond to a public records request. (*See Fredericks v. Superior Court* (2015) 233 Cal.App.4th 209, 227.) In the interest of cooperation and transparency, however, the Department responds as follows: Palantir does not create Chronic Offender Bulletins. Rather, as described in the document “Chronic Offender Purpose and Checklist,” which is produced herewith, Department personnel access the databases on Palantir in making their determination as to whether an individual qualifies as a “Chronic Offender.” The databases accessible on Palantir are listed below:

**Internal LAPD systems**

CAMS-Crime Analysis Mapping System  
CAMS- Arrest  
CAMS-Recovered Vehicles  
AFIS-Automated Field Interview System  
TISI-Traffic Citations  
Crime Alerts  
ALPR (Automated License Plate Recognition) Phoenix  
290 Database-Registered sex offenders

**External systems**

LASD-Los Angeles Regional Crime Information Systems  
LASD-Crossroads (citations)  
LASD-Crossroads (collisions)  
LASD-Replicated Automated Justice Information System (RAJIS)-County Jail information  
LASD-County Warrant System (CWS) - warrants  
CLETS- California Law Enforcement Telecommunication System  
ALPRS- Automated License Plate Recognition System (State)

**Request Number 8:** “Any and all programs such as Community Safety Partnership used in conjunction with LAPD’s LASER program.”

**Department’s Response to Request Number 8:** The CPRA defines an appropriate request as one that “reasonably” describes identifiable public records. (Gov. Code, § 6253, subd. (b).) Here, Request Number 8 does not reasonably describe an identifiable public record. As worded, Request Number 8 does not provide the Department with enough information to properly identify and locate the requested records, or to determine whether any exemption to disclosure applies.

**Request Number 9:** “Any and all Chronic Offender Bulletins created by the LAPD from the inception and to date of the LASER program.”

**Department’s Response to Request Number 9:** The responsive records are exempt from disclosure under Government Code section 6254, subdivisions (c), (f) and (k), Government Code section 6255, Evidence Code section 1040, and Article 1, Section 1 of the California Constitution. As demonstrated in the Department’s Response to Request Number 6, the Chronic Offender Bulletins contain highly sensitive, personal information about individuals identified as Chronic Offenders. Furthermore, this request is overly broad and burdensome. The Department first began generating Chronic Offender Bulletins in 2009. The individuals identified in Chronic Offender Bulletins frequently change because an individual previously-identified as a “Chronic Offender” no longer meets the criteria, has been arrested, or has left the area. Request Number 9 seeks nine years of Chronic Offender Bulletins, which constitute at least 800 documents spread throughout 14 Divisions.

If you have any questions regarding this response, please contact Management Analyst LeRoy Beavers of the Discovery Section at (213) 978-2156. Please refer to Case No. C17-0500027.

Hamid Khan  
March 14, 2018  
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Very truly yours,

CHARLIE BECK  
Chief of Police

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Martin Bland for". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

MARTIN BLAND, Senior Management Analyst  
Officer-in-Charge, Discovery Section  
Legal Affairs Division

Attachments