COTATI POLICE DEPARTMENT
CHRIS SIMMONS, CHIEF OF POLICE
203 WEST SIERRA AVENUE • COTATI, CA 94931 • PHONE: (707) 792-4611 • FAX: (707) 795-0168

Monday, February 16, 2026

Ayyub Ibrahim
Via email: admin@mljusticelab.com

Dear Ayyub,

This is in response to your request, dated February 10, 2026, and received by the City on February 11, 2026, for the following records: "All complaints, allegations, findings, investigations, and related documentation reported to the Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) by the your department pursuant to SB-2 and Penal Code Section 13510.9, including but not limited to reports made under subsections (a)(2), (a)(3), (a)(4), and (a)(5), from January 1, 2020 to the present."

We are treating your request as a request for public agency information in accordance with California Government Code section 7920.000 under and following (the California Public Records Act (CPRA), which requires that public agencies make reasonably identified, non-exempt public records available for inspection or provide copies upon payment of the direct cost of duplication.

Please be advised that the City has records responsive to your request. However, peace officer personnel records and records of citizen complaints, or information obtained from these records, are confidential and may not be disclosed except by discovery pursuant to statutorily prescribed procedures, or unless explicitly prescribed by law. (Pen. Code, § 832.7; Evid. Code, §§ 1043, 1046.)

Furthermore, to the extent applicable, records of complaints to, or investigations conducted by local police agencies are exempt from disclosure whether or not they are ever included in an investigatory file. (Government Code Section 7923.600(a); *Haynie v. Superior Court* (2001) 26 Cal.4th 1061, 1069-1070.) Additionally, the exemption for investigatory records and files extends indefinitely, even after an investigation is closed. (*Rivero v. Superior Court (1997) 54 Cal.App.4th 1048, 1052; Williams v. Superior Court (1993) 5 Cal.4th 337, 361–362; Rackauckas v. Superior Court* (2002) 104 Cal.App.4th 169.) Specifically, Gov. Code Sections 7923.600-7923.625 require only the disclosure of certain information contained in investigatory records relating to specific listed crimes, but not the records themselves. (*Haynie v. Superior Court*, at p. 1068.) The investigative portions of any police records responsive to your request were created in the course of a police officer's investigation and, therefore, are exempt from release under the CPRA. As noted above, the exemption for investigatory records extends indefinitely, even after an investigation is closed.

In addition, Section 7922.000 authorizes nondisclosure under a "public interest" exemption that permits local agencies to withhold a record if the agency can demonstrate that, on the facts of the particular case, the public interest served by not making the record public clearly outweighs the public interest served by disclosure of the record. The public interest served here by not making confidential and sensitive police personnel and investigatory records public clearly outweighs the public interest served by disclosure of the record.

This determination has been made in consultation with Alexandra Wolf from the City of Cotati Attorney's Office. If you have any questions or are able to refer me to a controlling legal authority that supports a different result, please contact me.

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Respectfully,

Michael Callen
Records Analyst