

From: Kevin
To: Rose, Al (SAO)
Subject: Re: Fw: SAO Response to PRR #7675 - Pierce County
Date: Tuesday, July 15, 2025 2:46:52 PM
Attachments: image001.png
Outlook-cid:image0.png
Outlook-cid:image0.png
Outlook-cid:image0.png
Outlook-cid:image0.png
Outlook-cid:image0.png

External Email

And for the record you are not posting all public records requests made to the SAO on your website, which you imply that you do.

On Tuesday, July 15th, 2025 at 2:44 PM, Kevin <StopSecrecyWA@proton.me> wrote:

Your PRO says that I have to jump through special hoops because of my Email address and that she even had your IT make special instructions for when this happens.

That should not be.

It is discrimination.

On Tuesday, July 15th, 2025 at 2:41 PM, Rose, Al (SAO) <rosea@sao.wa.gov> wrote:

you keep changing the subject. no discrimination. we are not keeping you from doing anything. the choice is yours. we have told you that Microsoft authenticator shares no information with SAO. and you can send a friend or family member in to get the thumb drive. all they will need it the PRR reference number which you have.

thanks



Al Rose

Director of Legal Affairs, [Office of the Washington State Auditor](#)

(564) 999-0805 | (360) 688-6857 (cell) | www.sao.wa.gov

From: Kevin <StopSecrecyWA@proton.me>
Sent: Tuesday, July 15, 2025 2:39 PM
To: Rose, Al (SAO) <rosea@sao.wa.gov>
Subject: Re: Fw: SAO Response to PRR #7675 - Pierce County

External Email

Can you answer why you are discriminating against certain Email providers? Because that is what your PRO explained as the why your delivery system doesn't work for me.

That is my issue at this point.

Because it's not right. You, as a public agency can not blanket discriminate like that.

On Tuesday, July 15th, 2025 at 2:35 PM, Rose, Al (SAO) <rosea@sao.wa.gov> wrote:

we will send the attorney the records. give us the name and address



Al Rose

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From: Kevin <StopSecrecyWA@proton.me>

Sent: Tuesday, July 15, 2025 2:32 PM
To: Rose, Al (SAO) <rosea@sao.wa.gov>
Subject: Re: Fw: SAO Response to PRR #7675 - Pierce County

External Email

LOL, no, I can have an attorney sue you (remaining anonymous). That was what the case law was about that allows for anonymity in the first place.

On Tuesday, July 15th, 2025 at 2:29 PM, Rose, Al (SAO) <rosea@sao.wa.gov> wrote:

inaccurate. to use the share system you will have to download Microsoft authenticator

or come into our office.

and to "go from there", you will be identifying yourself.



Al Rose

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From: Kevin <StopSecrecyWA@proton.me>
Sent: Tuesday, July 15, 2025 2:27 PM
To: Rose, Al (SAO) <rosea@sao.wa.gov>
Subject: Re: Fw: SAO Response to PRR #7675 - Pierce County

External Email

My understanding from your PRO is that SAO online retrieval system does not work for certain Email accounts.

Care to justify that?

On Tuesday, July 15th, 2025 at 2:25 PM, Rose, Al (SAO) <rosea@sao.wa.gov> wrote:

your understanding as to the "IT dept" is also incorrect. as is your interpretation of the words you copied below.

we are giving you anonymity. the microsoft authenticator does not identify yourself to SAO.

we have given you three methods. you can choose but do so in 30 days



Al Rose

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From: Kevin <StopSecrecyWA@proton.me>
Sent: Tuesday, July 15, 2025 2:23 PM
To: Rose, Al (SAO) <rosea@sao.wa.gov>
Subject: Re: Fw: SAO Response to PRR #7675 - Pierce County

External Email

Check with Morgan.

You're an attorney????

My understanding is that your IT dept is discriminating against proton accounts in terms of how records can be accessed.

On Tuesday, July 15th, 2025 at 2:21 PM, Kevin <StopSecrecyWA@proton.me> wrote:

In Washington State, the Public Records Act (PRA) (RCW 42.56) generally allows individuals to submit public records requests anonymously.

Here are the key points regarding anonymity in WA state public records requests:

- No requirement to use true identity: Requestors are not required to use their true identity when making a request. An assumed name or even "anonymous" can be entered in the name field.
- Contact information is needed: While a requestor's name and address are optional, contact information (like an email address) is needed to communicate about the request and deliver the records.
- Impact of anonymity on accessing sensitive information: Anonymous requestors may not be able to access records containing sensitive personal information, such as social security numbers, identification numbers, or addresses of public safety employees.
- Agencies cannot withhold records based on the requestor's identity: In general, agencies cannot deny a request solely based on the identity of the person making it.
- Exceptions to disclosure: Even if a request is made anonymously, agencies can withhold records if they are exempt from disclosure under state or federal law. These exemptions often protect privacy interests or the functions of government agencies.

In essence, while you can submit a public records request anonymously in Washington, you will still need to provide a way for the agency to communicate with you and deliver the records. Additionally, some records containing sensitive personal information may not be accessible to anonymous requestors.

On Tuesday, July 15th, 2025 at 2:18 PM, Kevin <StopSecrecyWA@proton.me> wrote:

Seriously?

It was the result of a court case.

But here, you can just google it:

Yes, in Washington state, you generally have the right to make a public records request anonymously. The Public Records Act (PRA) does not require requesters to identify themselves or provide proof of identity. However, there are exceptions, such as when a request is for records used for a commercial purpose or when the records contain sensitive information.

On Tuesday, July 15th, 2025 at 2:13 PM, Rose, AI (SAO) <rosea@sao.wa.gov> wrote:

Dear Sir,

the public records officer has forwarded your correspondence to me. I have reviewed your responses. Contrary to your claims, there is no right to remain anonymous in making a public disclosure request. Having read 42.56 RCW many times, i can not locate any such right as you claim. Please cite the statutory reference.

To recap our correspondence, SAO has sent you the responsive records and you are refusing to download Microsoft Authenticator in order to view the records which were sent via SAO Share. You setting that app up doesn't give SAO any information as to your identify. Your desire to remain anonymous is unaffected. SAO has also given you the option of coming to our Olympia Office asking for the thumb drive and that drive will be given over to you free of charge. Again, anonymity unaffected. Finally, you can give

us a mailing address and we will mail the drive to you (again free of charge). SAO will even pay for the mailing. SAO does not use dropbox so we can not accommodate you request.

Please choose one of the methods listed above in order to receive your records. If you refuse to choose one of the three methods outlined above within 30 days, SAO will consider this request to be abandoned.

Sincerely,



Al Rose

Director of Legal Affairs, [Office of the Washington State Auditor](#)

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www.sao.wa.gov

From: Leider, Mary (SAO) <leiderm@sao.wa.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, July 15, 2025 1:53 PM
To: Rose, Al (SAO) <rosea@sao.wa.gov>
Subject: FW: SAO Response to PRR #7675 - Pierce County

FYI...

From: Kevin <StopSecrecyWA@proton.me>
Sent: Tuesday, July 15, 2025 11:20 AM
To: Leider, Mary (SAO) <leiderm@sao.wa.gov>
Subject: RE: SAO Response to PRR #7675 - Pierce County

External Email

The WAPRA allows for anonymity if desired. It of course does not require it. I should not have to give things like phone number or address.

On Tuesday, July 15th, 2025 at 11:17 AM, Leider, Mary (SAO) <leiderm@sao.wa.gov> wrote:

You have already identified yourself. There is no requirement of anonymity. The Microsoft Authenticator app does not identify you to SAO. Did you see page 7 of the instructions I sent? ***"If you prefer not to use the Microsoft Authenticator App."***

Due to the size of the file, there are only 3 options on how to obtain the records from SAO. Use the SAO share method. Pick up USB in Olympia Sunset Bldg. office, or we can mail USB to you, if you provide address. You must decide one of these options.



Mary Leider, CPRO

Public Records Officer, [Office of the Washington State Auditor](#)

(564) 999-0919 (find me anywhere via Teams)

Let us help you improve your cyber health: [#BeCyberSmart](#).

From: Kevin <StopSecrecyWA@proton.me>
Sent: Tuesday, July 15, 2025 10:58 AM
To: Leider, Mary (SAO) <leiderm@sao.wa.gov>
Subject: RE: SAO Response to PRR #7675 - Pierce County

External Email

Well, mailing it would void anonymity as well.

You do know that anonymity is protected under the WAPRA.

Other agencies use dropbox and other methods that work just fine. I don't think you have investigated other means at all.

On Tuesday, July 15th, 2025 at 10:54 AM, Leider, Mary (SAO) <leiderm@sao.wa.gov> wrote:

Kevin,

My only other options would be that we can put the records on a USB drive and you can pick it up at our office in Olympia. You would need to schedule a pick up time and date, or we can mail it to you if you provide an address. Due to the size limitations on our website, those are my only other options for you to obtain the records. Let me know what you decide.

Thanks,



Mary Leider, CPRO

Public Records Officer, [Office of the Washington State Auditor](#)

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From: Kevin <StopSecrecyWA@proton.me>
Sent: Tuesday, July 15, 2025 10:29 AM
To: Leider, Mary (SAO) <leiderm@sao.wa.gov>
Subject: RE: SAO Response to PRR #7675 - Pierce County

External Email

The methods in that sheet don't allow for

anonymity. It requires things you can't require under the WAPRA.

On Tuesday, July 15th, 2025 at 9:44 AM,
Leider, Mary (SAO) <leiderm@sao.wa.gov>
wrote:

Here are some instructions that
our IT staff put together that will
hopefully help. Let me know.

Thanks,



Mary Leider, CPRO

Public Records Officer, [Office of the Washington State Auditor](#)

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From: Kevin
<StopSecrecyWA@proton.me>
Sent: Tuesday, July 15, 2025 9:42
AM
To: Leider, Mary (SAO)
<leiderm@sao.wa.gov>
Subject: Re: SAO Response to PRR
#7675 - Pierce County

External Email

I tried the steps and got stuck
here:

Microsoft
Authenticator



**Start by getting the
app**

On your phone, install the
Microsoft Authenticator
app. [Download now](#)

After you install the Microsoft
Authenticator app on your
device, choose "Next".

I want to use a different
authenticator app

On Tuesday, July 15th, 2025 at

9:29 AM, Leider, Mary (SAO)
<leiderm@sao.wa.gov> wrote:

(This is just the cover letter for your request with us, the attachment is too large to be sent via normal email attachment. We are sending the documents via SAO Share, you should receive an email invitation message from the system in a couple of hours on how to obtain the records. If you don't receive an email invitation, check your SPAM/Junk folder. Please let me know if you have any problems).

Dear Mr. Kevin,

The Office of the Washington State Auditor has completed our response to your public records request sent in via email, as follows:

Communications to the SAO referenced in this recent audit report [http://portal.sao.wa.gov/ReportSearch/Home/ViewReportFile?arn=1037450&isFindings=false&specifically the direct communications made to the SAO by Pierce County where they are disagreeing with SAO findings](http://portal.sao.wa.gov/ReportSearch/Home/ViewReportFile?arn=1037450&isFindings=false&specifically%20the%20direct%20communications%20made%20to%20the%20SAO%20by%20Pierce%20County%20where%20they%20are%20disagreeing%20with%20SAO%20findings).

In response, we have sent a link to all the responsive records found to

fulfill your request with us. We will now consider this closed. SAO does not intend to further address the request, and the PRA's one-year statute of limitations to seek judicial review has started to run as of the date of this letter. Please contact us within 30 days by e-mail at PublicRecords@sa.wa.gov, if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Mary Leider, CPRO

Public Records Officer, [Office of the Washington State Auditor](#)

(564) 999-0919 (find me anywhere via Teams)

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