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Family Members of Virginia Beach Mass Shooting Victims
Virginia Freedom of Information Advisory Council
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Last year our loved ones were killed in the Virginia Beach mass shooting. We still don't have answers about what happened because the Virginia Beach Police won't allow us to see the full investigative report. The law needs to change.

We thank the subcommittee for working hard to develop this proposal. **We urge the FOIA Council to pass it so we can get the answers we deserve.**

On May 31st, 2019 Kate Nixon and Missy Langer went to work at the Virginia Beach Municipal Building and never came home. They are among 12 people who were killed when an employee brought a gun to the building and started shooting.

Why did the shooter do it? If no guns were allowed inside the employees' area why was there no security? How can we prevent this from happening again?

Over a year later these questions still linger. The Virginia Beach Police investigated the shooting but won't release the findings. They said it would be too traumatic for us.

What they're doing is wrong. But it is perfectly legal in Virginia. The current Freedom of Information Act lets law enforcement choose whether or not to give us information about our own family members.

How can we start to heal when we still don't know what really happened? How can we feel confident in the investigation?

While we're dealing with the worst imaginable loss, we're being victimized again by the Virginia Beach Police. That is not how justice is supposed to work.

This proposal would help us get the answers we deserve. Law enforcement opposed this bill during the special session and claimed it was to protect victims. We are the victims, and we're telling you that we want public access to investigative records.

The outcomes of police investigations should not be hidden. Public access to these records is the only way stop a tragedy like this in the future.