

On Tue, Nov 9, 2021 at 11:02 PM Mary McGovern <[maryjmcgovern@cox.net](mailto:maryjmcgovern@cox.net)> wrote:

Dear Members of the FOIA Council,

As a York county (VA) resident, I am writing to urge you to support HB2196 as approved by the Records Issues subcommittee. Public access to police disciplinary records is critical to police accountability and building public trust, as it helps ensure that the police are effectively working to uphold and safeguard the well being of our community, as we count on them to do. To this end, it is critical that we have public access to records of both substantiated and unsubstantiated allegations.

Every day, the police have within their power to take life and liberty from any of us. We need transparency in our government and accountability for those who have this power to make sure that it is not used carelessly, recklessly, or abusively. The stakes are much too high!

Thank you for your consideration.

**Mary**

Mary McGovern, MSW  
*Pronouns: She/her/hers*  
*Cofounder of SURJ-Historic Triangle*

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