



Laura Belin <laurarbelin@bleedingheartland.com>

public records request

Treasurer [TOS] <Treasurer@tos.iowa.gov>
To: Laura Belin <laurarbelin@bleedingheartland.com>

Wed, Aug 7, 2024 at 3:24 PM

Good Afternoon,

Our office required the assistance of other state agencies to produce the requested records, and their timelines were the cause for the delay.

The list included in your 8/2 email, is a list of times Treasurer Smith sought reimbursement and does not include travel from his home to the Capitol Building, or his return home. As State Treasurer, Treasurer Smith has not sought reimbursement for the purpose of traveling to his Capitol office. Therefore, the list below is not representative of the times Treasurer Smith has worked in his Capitol office.

The Treasurer's Office offers a flexible work from home policy to all of our employees. This practice can be found throughout state government, including some agencies that now have fully remote staff.

Sincerely,

Molly M. Widen, JD | Chief of Staff

Treasurer of State ▪ State Capitol Building

1007 E Grand Ave., First Floor ▪ Des Moines, Iowa 50319

[p] 515.281.6878 ▪ [w] iowaTreasurer.gov

From: Laura Belin <laurarbelin@bleedingheartland.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 7, 2024 8:35 AM
To: Treasurer [TOS] <Treasurer@tos.iowa.gov>
Subject: Re: public records request

Hello again Molly,

I am requesting an interview with Treasurer Smith (either by phone or in person) to discuss how often he works in the Des Moines office and how often he works from home in Davenport.

I am also seeking the following information from you, by 10 am on Friday, August 9:

1. How many other employees in the Treasurer's Office often work remotely?
2. Why did it take you three months to respond to my records request?
3. Do you maintain a calendar of Treasurer Smith's meetings, either in person or remotely?
4. On which dates has Treasurer Smith worked in Des Moines since January 2, 2023?

Thanks,

Laura

On Fri, Aug 2, 2024 at 9:39 AM Laura Belin <laurarbelin@bleedingheartland.com> wrote:

Hello again Molly,

Why did it take you three months to respond to my records request? The Iowa Supreme Court has said public records must be provided promptly unless the size or nature of the request makes that infeasible.

Are you telling me your office does not maintain any kind of calendar that indicates when Treasurer Smith will be working or has been working in the Des Moines office?

As chief of staff, you must have records indicating which days Treasurer Smith was working in Des Moines and which days he was working from home or other locations. I have never heard of a chief of staff who wasn't aware of the boss's location on any given day.

Based on the travel reimbursement forms you provided, it appears that Treasurer Smith has traveled to the Des Moines metro area on the following dates:

- several trips during November and December 2022 related to the transition
- February 17, 2023 (he traveled from the capitol to IPERS)
- March 21, 2023 (he traveled from the capitol to the FFA Enrichment Center in Ankeny)
- March 24, 2023 (investment board meetings)
- March 29, 2023 (Iowa Lottery quarterly meeting)
- May 24, 2023 (he traveled from the capitol to Children's Cancer Connection in Johnston)
- September 27 and 28, 2023 (IPERS and investment board meetings)
- December 7, 2023 (investment board meetings)
- March 22, 2024 (investment board meetings)
- some other dates in March 2024? (it appears he traveled from there to Ames and Ankeny)
- May 27, 2024 (Camp Dodge outreach event)
- June 20, 2024 (investment board meetings)

Has Treasurer Smith worked in the Des Moines office on any other dates since January 2, 2023? If so, on which dates? Most other state employees have been required to work in their offices since July 2021.

Thank you in advance for clarifying.

Yours,

Laura

On Wed, Jul 31, 2024 at 4:53 PM Laura Belin <laurarbelin@bleedingheartland.com> wrote:

Hello there,

Are you saying there are no paper or electronic calendars that note when Treasurer Smith has meetings or other work in Des Moines? Does the State Treasurer's office not maintain any calendars? That would be highly unusual.

Yours,

Laura

On Wed, Jul 31, 2024 at 4:40 PM Treasurer [TOS] <Treasurer@tos.iowa.gov> wrote:

Good Afternoon,

Records related to Item #1, to the extent they exist, would be considered confidential pursuant to Iowa Code §22.7(50).

Records related to Items #2 and #3 are attached.

There are no responsive records to Item #4.

Our office considers this public records request to be closed.

Sincerely,

Molly M. Widen, JD | Chief of Staff

Treasurer of State ▪ State Capitol Building

[1007 E Grand Ave.](#), First Floor ▪ Des Moines, Iowa 50319

[p] 515.281.6878 ▪ [w] iowaTreasurer.gov

From: Laura Belin <laurarbelin@bleedingheartland.com>

Sent: Friday, July 12, 2024 4:00 PM

To: Treasurer [TOS] <Treasurer@tos.iowa.gov>

Subject: Fwd: public records request

It's been about two and a half months since I submitted this request. When can I expect to receive the records?

Since there has been considerable delay I am requesting that records be provided relating to all four points from January 2, 2023 through July 12, 2024. (not through April 25, 2024, the date I initially submitted the request)

Yours,

Laura

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Laura Belin** <laurabelin@bleedingheartland.com>

Date: Thu, Apr 25, 2024 at 1:32 PM

Subject: public records request

To: Treasurer [TOS] <treasurer@tos.iowa.gov>

To the State Treasurer's Office:

Under Iowa Code Chapter 22 I request the following public records:

1. Records showing dates on which State Treasurer Roby Smith has used his key card to enter his office in Des Moines, from January 2, 2023 to the present.

2. Copies of mileage reimbursement requests submitted by Treasurer Smith (or by staff on his behalf) from January 2, 2023 to the present.

To be clear, I am asking for all such records in the possession of the State Treasurer's Office, whether the original request for a mileage reimbursement was submitted to the Department of Administrative Services or to another state entity, including but not limited to IPERS or the Lottery authority.

3. Records showing payments to Treasurer Smith for mileage reimbursements from January 2, 2023 to the present.

4. Copies of paper or electronic calendar entries showing all dates on which Treasurer Smith was working from his Des Moines office, from January 2, 2023 to the present.

To reduce photocopying and postage costs, I request that these records be provided in electronic format and sent to me via email.

Thank you in advance,

Yours,