

March 10, 2022

Delegate Dan Cox Lowe House Office Building, Room 326 6 Bladen St., Annapolis, MD 21401 dan.cox@house.state.md.us

CC: mya.dempsey@mlis.state.md.us

## **Re: Public Information Act Request**

Dear Delegate Cox and staff:

Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington ("CREW") makes this request for records of the Maryland State House of Delegates pursuant to the Maryland Public Information Act.

Specifically, CREW requests the following records from Delegate Dan Cox and his staff, including but not limited to public records sent or received from Delegate Cox's email account dan.cox@house.state.md.us, his official and personal phones, or any other personal email or electronic messaging account:

- 1. All communications from October 3, 2020 to April 6, 2021 that include any of the following words and phrases:
  - a. "Stop the Steal" or "#StopTheSteal";
  - b. "Save America Rally";
  - c. "Million MAGA March";
  - d. "Trump rally";
  - e. "Wild protest";
  - f. "Make America Great":
  - g. "January 6";
  - h. "U.S. Capitol";
  - i. "Proud Boys";
  - j. "Oath Keepers".
- 2. All communications with representatives from the Frederick County Conservative Club, including but not limited to its president, Fred Propheter.
- 3. All emails sent or received on January 5 and January 6, 2021.

Please search for responsive records regardless of format, medium, or physical characteristics. We seek records of any kind, including paper records, electronic records, audiotapes, videotapes, photographs, data, and graphical material. Our request includes without limitation all correspondence, letters, emails, text messages, facsimiles, telephone messages, voice mail messages, and transcripts, notes, or minutes of any meetings, telephone conversations, or discussions. Our request also includes any attachments to emails and other records, as well as emails to which the subjects of this request were cc'ed or or bcc'ed.

Our request also seeks all responsive records stored in personal or non-official electronic messaging accounts or devices that concern state business or otherwise fall within the scope of the Maryland Public Information Act.

If it is your position that any portion of the requested records is exempt from disclosure, please provide an index of records or categories of records that have been withheld and the reasons the records or categories of records have been withheld. If some portions of the requested records are properly exempt from disclosure, please redact those portions and produce the remainder of the requested records.

Delegate Cox attended events protesting and seeking to discredit the 2020 presidential election results in Washington, DC on January 6, 2021. He also helped organize transportation to the events. 2

CREW is a non-profit corporation, organized under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. CREW is committed to protecting the public's right to be aware of the activities of government officials, to ensuring the integrity of those officials, and to highlighting and reducing the influence of money on politics. CREW intends to analyze the information responsive to this request and to share its analysis with the public. The release of information obtained through this request is not in CREW's financial interest. Moreover, there is substantial public interest in the requested documents insofar as they concern Delegate Cox's role and activity on January 6.

Because this request is made for noncommercial purposes, CREW requests that any fees charged in connection with processing this request be limited to copying and postage charges, if applicable. CREW agrees to pay up to \$100 for copying and postage charges in connection with processing this request. If such costs or fees are expected to exceed this amount, please contact me at wdayis@citizensforethics.org.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Hannah Gaskill, <u>Del. Cox Arranged Buses to Violent Trump Rally, Calls Vice President a 'Traitor',</u> *Maryland Matters*, January 7, 2021,

https://www.marylandmatters.org/2021/01/07/del-cox-arranged-buses-to-violent-trump-rally-calls-vice-president-a-traitor/.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> *Id*.

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Where possible, please produce records in electronic format. Please send the requested records to me at either wdavis@citizensforethics.org. Please contact me if you have any questions about this request or foresee any problems in fully releasing the requested records. Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Walker Davis

Deputy Research Director