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**public records request re: gun statistics**

1 message

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**Jennifer Lloyd** <jennifer.lloyd@bloomington.in.gov>

Thu, May 13, 2021 at 11:47 AM

To: Dave Askins <dave@bsquarebeacon.com>

Cc: City of Bloomington Office of the Mayor <mayor@bloomington.in.gov>, Jim Sims <simsji@bloomington.in.gov>, Michael Diekhoff <diekhofm@bloomington.in.gov>, Philippa Guthrie <guthriep@bloomington.in.gov>, Brittany Jarrett <dankob@bloomington.in.gov>

Dear Dave,

Your May 9 email to the Mayor, Councilmember Sims and others has been forwarded to me for response. Your email references a public records request you submitted to the Bloomington Police Department on May 4:

"In February 2021, Chief Diekhoff reported that crimes where a gun was used increased in 2020 by 52 percent compared to the previous year. For the years between 2016 and 2020, if such information is available, I would like a copy of the datasets that were used to compute the number of crimes for each year that involved the use of a gun, or list of crimes for each year that were determined to involve the use of a gun, and any additional notes or information that was used to determine if a specific crime involved the use of a gun."

The City of Bloomington Police Department does not maintain datasets that are used to compute the number of crimes that involve the use of a gun. Certain types of crimes involving guns must be reported to the FBI, and the City has the ability to generate lists of those crimes; however, they are only a subset of the total overall types and numbers of crimes involving guns.

The City does not maintain lists that track all crimes involving guns.

In order to calculate the information reported in February, 2021, BPD's analyst used a combination of keyword-driven computer searches and manual review of investigative reports to determine the number of occurrences in 2019 and 2020 in which a crime involved the use of a gun. These raw tallies were used to calculate the annual figures. Information about these numbers was provided in an email from Brittani Evans to Chief Diekhoff, which is attached. The City has not located other notes or documents having to do with the compilation or calculation of this information.

This type of research project was not undertaken for the years 2016, 2017 or 2018, and the 2019 research was solely for the purpose of calculating the 2020 figures. Therefore, the attached email is the only document in BPD's possession that is responsive to your request.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Lloyd

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**Jennifer L. Lloyd**  
Assistant City Attorney  
City of Bloomington  
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