

David A. Plymyer  
Attorney at Law  
717 Maiden Choice Lane #207  
Catonsville, Maryland 21228-6114  
dplymyer@comcast.net

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R. Brady Locher III, Assistant County Attorney  
Baltimore County Office of Law  
400 Washington Avenue, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor  
Towson, MD 21204

SENT BY EMAIL ATTACHMENT TO: blocher@baltimorecountymd.gov

Dear Mr. Locher:

I was contacted by \_\_\_\_\_ regarding the MPIA request that \_\_\_ submitted on Monday. A copy of \_\_\_ request is attached. I understand that you told \_\_\_ that a response to \_\_\_ request for the recent appraisal of the former site of the fire station at York Road and Bosley Avenue, now the site of proposed development known as Towson Station, would be sent to \_\_\_ within thirty days.

That's an absurd response, but typical of what I have come to expect from Baltimore County. \_\_\_\_\_ submitted \_\_\_ request in person at the County office building and, after \_\_\_ was given the customary runaround, met with you. I am not sure what the point of getting a County lawyer involved is if the lawyer isn't going to give the custodian the proper legal advice: As you know, the necessary implication of §4-349 of the General Provisions Article of the State Code is that the County is required to allow inspection of a real estate appraisal of property owned by the County. The law on the issue is 100% clear.

In other words, a custodian who respects the spirit of the MPIA would have allowed \_\_\_\_\_ to inspect this readily-available document on the spot. If you send me a PDF copy by email attachment, I will make sure that \_\_\_ gets it without any further inconvenience to \_\_\_ caused by the County's general hostility to disclosure of public records.

I thought it interesting that you told \_\_\_\_\_ that \_\_\_ should expect a response within thirty days. The law of course requires the custodian to give the applicant for a public record the reason for the delay if production of the record is going to take more than *ten* working days – a provision of the law that, in my experience, the County never follows. I'd love to hear the reason why the custodian can't produce this appraisal within ten days.

In my opinion, you and the custodian gave \_\_\_\_\_ the bureaucratic brush-off and are helping to cement Baltimore County's reputation for being the least open and transparent jurisdiction in the entire state. I hope that you change your mind and send the appraisal.

Thank you very much for cooperation.

Sincerely,

/s/

David A. Plymyer

Enclosure