

Description of alleged violation:

Describe the alleged violation that this complaint is about. If you believe the alleged violation was intentional, please say so and include the reasons supporting your belief.

Note: This text field has a maximum of 3000 characters.

Summary: The Natick, MA School Committee (Committee) has Failed to Timely Respond to a request to inspect the minutes of the executive session meeting(s) of the Committee that were held since April 2, 2019 within the ten (10) day statutory time limit. The Committee is therefore in violation of the Open Meeting Law (OML).

DETAILS (all dates below refer to dates in 2019 unless otherwise specified):

- 1) On June 6, 2019, I sent a request, via email, to the Committee for the minutes for all open and executive session meetings held by the Committee since April 2, 2019. My request is attached hereto.
- 2) Today is June 20, 2019, and I have not received any response from the Committee regarding this request.
- 3) The OML states that "Upon request by any person to inspect or copy the minutes of an executive session or any portion thereof, the body shall respond to the request within 10 days following receipt and shall release any such minutes not covered by an exemption under subsection (f);" G.L. c. 30A s. 22 paragraph g(2). By that law, the Committee should have responded to my June 6 request no later than end of day on Monday, June 17, 2019.
- 4) Since the Committee has Failed to Respond to my request to inspect the 2019 executive session minutes within the statutory time limit, the Committee has violated the Open Meeting Law.
- 5) Since June 17, 2019 was the date of the alleged violation, this Complaint is being filed "within 30 days of the alleged violation" as stated in the instructions above.
- 6) Also attached hereto is OML 2019-35, in which The Committee was found guilty of exactly the same violation on April 17, 2019 and was warned that "similar future violations could be considered evidence of intent to violate the law." Since the Committee has continued violating the OML in this manner, this repeat violation should be determined as intentional, and any and all measures to censure the Committee should be considered, including fines, hearings, and remedial training.

What action do you want the public body to take in response to your complaint?

Note: This text field has a maximum of 500 characters.

- 1) I want the Committee to make a public statement and apology, during an Open Session of the Committee, admitting that they violated Open Meeting Law and Failed to Timely Respond to a request for the executive session meeting minutes since April 2, 2019.
- 2) I request that the Attorney General find that the above violation(s) are intentional, and take all steps appropriate to censure the Committee for these violations, including hearings and fines, and remedial training.

Review, sign, and submit your complaint

I. Disclosure of Your Complaint.

Public Record. Under most circumstances, your complaint, and any documents submitted with your complaint, is considered a public record and will be available to any member of the public upon request.

Publication to Website. As part of the Open Data Initiative, the AGO will publish to its website certain information regarding your complaint, including your name and the name of the public body. The AGO will not publish your contact information.

II. Consulting With a Private Attorney.

The AGO cannot give you legal advice and is not able to be your private attorney, but represents the public interest. If you have any questions concerning your individual legal rights or responsibilities you should contact a private attorney.

III. Submit Your Complaint to the Public Body.

The complaint must be filed first with the public body. If you have any questions, please contact the Division of Open Government by calling (617) 963-2540 or by email to openmeeting@state.ma.us.

By signing below, I acknowledge that I have read and understood the provisions above and certify that the information I have provided is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signed:

Ronald D. Alyande

Date:

June 20, 2017

For Use By Public Body
Date Received by Public Body:

For Use By AGO
Date Received by AGO: