

CITY OF CHARLOTTESVILLE

"A World Class City"

Office of The City Manager

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November 24, 2020

Jason Kessler
2308 Mt. Vernon Ave. #108
Alexandria, VA 22301

Dear Mr. Kessler:

In response to your April 25, 2019 FOIA request, please find via the link below the communications of Maurice Jones on August 11 and 12, 2017.

<https://www.charlottesville.gov/20190425-Kessler-FOIA-records>

Redactions have been made in accordance with exemptions allowed by the Virginia Freedom of Information Act. Specific exemptions are noted on each page in the area of the redaction.

Your original request was titled "Jones Text Messages" and we inadvertently overlooked that your request for text messages included emails; the true scope of your request was not realized until your Writ of Mandamus was reviewed. We are producing those emails now.

The City does not have the original text messages sent and received by Maurice Jones. Consistent with City practice at the time of his departure, Mr. Jones's text messages were not retained by the City and the cell phone issued to him was wiped upon his departure in 2018. My original response to you was accurate in that regard.

Your Writ identifies text messages received by former Mayor Signer. Based on this, the City has done an additional search within Mr. Signer's records, and also of previous FOIA requests responded to by the City prior to Jones' departure, and we have located a few screen shots that appear to include texts of Mr. Jones. We are producing them to you now.

Based on the footnotes of the Heaphy Report (which reference only one Jones text) and our review of prior FOIA responses from 2017 and 2018, we believe that the City does not have any other records responsive to your request for Maurice Jones' text messages.

Sincerely yours,


Brian A. Wheeler

FOIA Officer & Director of Communications

cc: Elizabeth Southall