

RE: PPE Request- Adjutant General

Lawrence, Will [GO] <Will.Lawrence@ks.gov>

Wed 9/16/2020 1:00 PM

To:Dennis Pyle <Dennis.Pyle@senate.ks.gov>;

Cc:Graham, Timothy [GO] <Timothy.Graham@ks.gov>;

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Hey Dennis,

I am happy to talk with you more about this and see if we can reach a solution on how to provide you what you are looking for while addressing my concerns. First, the request is for a detailed listing of not only PPE purchases, but requests for PPE from each entity, when those were filled, which ones were not filled, and those were sent back. Additionally, the request includes details noted on the lists of details about the entity. This would require a massive undertaking of staff time to provide. This comes at a time when we are still in the height of the pandemic response and KDEM staff time is extremely valuable. We will have to pull staff off of other tasks to pull this information and complete this analysis. Second, the requested information is sensitive operational and tactical information for the state during its emergency response. The ability to purchase PPE over the last 6 months has been severely limited due to competition with the federal government, other states, local units of government, hospitals, long-term care facilities, and many other private and public entities. Should this detailed list be released publicly, it would give the federal government and other states the complete list of all of the supplies we have used. Which could cause us further issues in attempting to purchase necessary supplies for the state. These supplies then are delivered to state and local partners, units of government and public and private entities. So, it greatly risks our efforts to provide PPE to those who need it across the state.

I am not sure I understand what question you are trying to answer with this request. If you can give me an idea of what you are after, I am more than happy to figure out a way to get you the information that answers your question(s) without jeopardizing the states response. Hope this makes sense and you understand where I am coming from. I am not trying to be difficult or be a barrier. However, I am trying to ensure that our staff at KDEM have what they need to continue to respond to the needs of those across the state.

Thanks,



Have you completed your 2020 Census?
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my2020census.gov

Will Lawrence | Chief of Staff

Kansas Governor Laura Kelly

300 SW 10th Avenue, Room 259-S | Topeka, KS 66612Office: (785) 368-6560 | will.lawrence@ks.gov | <https://governor.kansas.gov/governor/>

From: Dennis Pyle <Dennis.Pyle@senate.ks.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, September 15, 2020 11:40 AM

<https://legemail.ks.gov/owa/>

9/21/2020

To: Lawrence, Will [GO] <Will.Lawrence@ks.gov>

Subject: Fw: PPE Request- Adjutant General

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Good morning, Will.

I was asked by Chairman Patton to contact you concerning the request made in the KEMA meeting. Can you please inform me as to why there is an issue with this request and what other information do you need to fulfill this request, also what time frame should the committee expect answers to see this request ?

Respectfully,

Dennis Pyle

State Senator

From: Natalie Nelson
Sent: Monday, September 14, 2020 11:30 AM
To: Dennis Pyle; Fred Patton
Subject: RE: PPE Request- Adjutant General

Hello Senator Pyle and Representative Patton,

Per your request, here is the text of the correspondence between Aaron Klaassen, Principal Fiscal Analyst, KLRD, and the Adjutant General's Department (TAG) regarding the request you made during the last meeting of the Special Committee on KEMA:

On August 26, 2020, Aaron sent the following email to TAG:

Greetings,

The Special Committee on the Kansas Emergency Management Act (KEMA) has requested a detailed listing of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) purchased by the Adjutant General's Department in relation to the latest disaster, requests for PPE from the Adjutant General's Department from each entity, those requests that were fulfilled, those that were not, and those that were sent back. If there are any details about the entity requesting the PPE, especially if they were schools, can you denote that within the information?

Please let me know if you have any additional questions regarding this request. This series of questions was asked today during the Special Committee meeting on the KEMA. We are hoping to have this information back to be sent around for the Committee's review prior to the next meeting(s) of the Special Committee on the KEMA.

Thanks,

Aaron

On September 10, 2020, Aaron sent the following email to check on the progress of the request:

I get a busy signal when I call your number at the moment... I was just hoping to check in to see how the Kansas Emergency Management Act request is going in relation to PPE requests fulfilled, not fulfilled, etc. by the Adjutant General's Department?

Thanks for any update you can provide,

Aaron

On September 10, 2020, TAG responded to the above email:

The governor's office has directed us not to provide any detail for the question they ask. If you have any questions please contact Will.

From: Dennis Pyle <Dennis.Pyle@senate.ks.gov>
Sent: Monday, September 14, 2020 10:14 AM
To: Fred Patton <Fred.Patton@house.ks.gov>
Cc: Natalie Nelson <Natalie.Nelson@KLRD.ks.gov>
Subject: Re: PPE Request- Adjutant General

Fred and Natalie, FYI

The following is the text from the email I sent to Natalie after receiving the email from Fred last week.

"

Good morning Natalie.

I just received contact from chair of KEMA. He said you are have difficulty obtaining information from Adjutant General office. Please send me all correspondence between KLRD and them on my request. Also what is your direct phone line number at KLRD?

Dennis Pyle

State Senator"

From: Dennis Pyle
Sent: Monday, September 14, 2020 10:11:03 AM
To: Fred Patton
Cc: Natalie Nelson
Subject: Re: PPE Request- Adjutant General

Thank you, Fred.

I emailed Natalie, and asked for all communication per the request.

Natalie, I received your phone call this morning but was out working cattle. Natalie can you please share with the Chair and me the request itself, as well as the response from the Adjutant Generals office?

Dennis Pyle

State Senator

From: Fred Patton
Sent: Friday, September 11, 2020 9:54:09 AM
To: Dennis Pyle
Cc: Natalie Nelson
Subject: PPE Request- Adjutant General

Good morning, Senator Pyle!

Natalie Nelson, in Legislative Research, has been trying to obtain an accounting of PPE purchased by the state, as you requested at our August KEMA meetings. Long story short, she has been unable to get that information from the Adjutant General's Department.

This morning, I corresponded with Will Lawrence in the Governor's Office regarding your request. Mr. Lawrence asked me to see if you would be willing to reach out to him directly regarding this request so that he can try to narrow down the request a bit to make it something they can get to us prior to our upcoming meetings. Mr. Lawrence can be reached via email at Will.Lawrence@ks.gov or by phone at (785) 368-6560.

Thanks!
Fred

Fred C. Patton

Chairman, House Judiciary Committee

Representative, 50th District

State Capitol, Room 519-N

Topeka, Kansas 66612

(785) 296-7460

