

**From:** [Julie Friebele](#)  
**To:** ["Nicholas Ruettiger PLS"](#)  
**Cc:** ["Public Access"](#); ["publicaccess@atg.state.il.us"](mailto:publicaccess@atg.state.il.us)  
**Subject:** RE: FOIA request 4/12/2018  
**Date:** Thursday, April 12, 2018 3:45:00 PM

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Good Afternoon Mr. Ruettiger,

Thank you for your note rejecting the request to narrow your FOIA request dated April 12, 2018, which requests all emails between Marian Gibson and Julie Friebele between June 1, 2017, and the present. Ms. Gibson is the Village Administrator and I am the Executive Assistant and the Village Clerk. Your categorical request spans ten and one – half months. Ms. Gibson and I often communicate numerous times a day. The number of emails that you have requested are in the hundreds if not thousands. Each of these emails will have to be reviewed and a determination made as to whether they are subject to disclosure. This will take multiple hours of work. I am the Executive Assistant, Village Clerk and FOIA officer. I have no Deputy Clerk or Deputy FOIA officer. As you are aware, this Village of 2,500 people has a limited number of administrative employees. I have many duties which my position requires me to perform. To take the hours necessary to collect, review and analysis each of these emails will take me away from all of my other duties at the Village. You have refused to narrow your request, therefore, your request is denied.

The person responsible for this denial is Julie Friebele FOIA officer. You may appeal this denial to the Illinois Attorney General Public Access Counselor:

Sarah Pratt  
Acting Public Access Counselor  
Office of the Attorney General  
500 S. 2nd Street  
Springfield, Illinois 62706  
1-877-299-3642

You also have the right to judicial review of this decision.

Very truly yours,  
Julie Friebele  
Village Clerk  
Village of Elwood  
401 E. Mississippi Avenue  
Elwood, IL 60421  
815-424-1079 Fax 815-423-6861

**From:** Nicholas Ruettiger PLS <[nruettiger@gmail.com](mailto:nruettiger@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 12, 2018 2:13 PM  
**To:** Julie Friebele <[julie.friebele@villageofelwood.com](mailto:julie.friebele@villageofelwood.com)>  
**Cc:** Public Access <[paccess@atg.state.il.us](mailto:paccess@atg.state.il.us)>; [publicaccess@atg.state.il.us](mailto:publicaccess@atg.state.il.us)

**Subject:** Re: FOIA request 4/12/2018

Ms. Friebele,

I would not like to narrow my request.

Unduly burdensome claims do not apply here since it could be argued that you are overestimating the burden of fulfilling this request. Given that all email programs contain a search function you should be able to obtain the requested documents by going into your email account and typing "Marian Gibson" into the search box. The methodology for searching for these documents in a timely fashion does indeed exist.

Best Regards,

Nicholas Ruettiger

On Thu, Apr 12, 2018, 8:55 AM Julie Friebele <[julie.friebele@villageofelwood.com](mailto:julie.friebele@villageofelwood.com)> wrote:

Good Morning Mr. Ruettiger,

This email is in response to your FOIA request relating to:

Any and all correspondence between Marian Gibson and Julie Friebele between July 1, 2017 and present.

Response:

Before exercising its right to deny this request as categorical and presenting an unduly burden upon the Village to search for documents which are not clearly identified, the Village extends to you the invitation to narrow your request to a subject and reduce the request to manageable proportions.

Thank you,

Julie Friebele  
Village Clerk  
Village of Elwood  
401 E. Mississippi Avenue  
Elwood, IL 60421  
815-424-1079 Fax 815-423-6861

**From:** Nicholas Ruettiger PLS <[nruettiger@gmail.com](mailto:nruettiger@gmail.com)>

**Sent:** Thursday, April 12, 2018 8:10 AM

**To:** Julie Friebele <[julie.friebele@villageofelwood.com](mailto:julie.friebele@villageofelwood.com)>

**Cc:** Public Access <[paccess@atg.state.il.us](mailto:paccess@atg.state.il.us)>; [publicaccess@atg.state.il.us](mailto:publicaccess@atg.state.il.us)

**Subject:** FOIA request 4/12/2018

Good morning Ms. Friebele,

Per the Freedom of Information Act I am requesting the following:

Any and all correspondence between Marian Gibson and Julie Friebele between July 1, 2017 and present.

Given the nature of this request and the potential for a conflict of interest, I have taken the liberty of attaching Public Access Counselor Sarah Pratt to this correspondence.

Best Regards,

Nicholas Ruettiger