

March 1, 2016

VIA E-MAIL

Mr. Steven Schupbach
Data Collection Department
OpenTheBooks
Email: illinois@OpenTheBooks.com

RE: 16-FOIA-033 All Active Employees RTA Pension Info

Dear Mr. Schupbach:

We are in receipt of your request for information pursuant to the Illinois Freedom of Information Act, 5 ILCS 140/1 *et seq.*

On February 11, 2016, we received your request for an electronic copy of any and all active employees which were submitted to the RTA for pension benefits for the year 2015 broken down by employee, in electronic format and emailed. This data to include union and non-union employees with the following data items: first name, middle initial, last name, reported pension wages, service credits (if applicable), employer name, employer zip code and member pension contribution amount (if applicable) (“**Request**”).

I sent you an email on February 17, asking that you contact me to discuss your Request. You contacted me by phone that same day and clarified the records you were seeking. You followed-up with an email with examples of the types of records discussed, stating that you would like the requested data to look the same as the examples. You also noted that you wanted to change your Request to include Y2014 in addition to Y2015. I responded to your email on February 18 advising that if acceptable to you, we would treat this modified request as if we were narrowing the scope and restart the clock, making your initial due date for these records February 25. You responded shortly thereafter stating that this was acceptable to you.

In response to your Request, Metra is providing you with spreadsheets containing the salaries or wages of all Non-Contract and Contract employees for Y2014 and Y2015, including the employee status, employee full name, job title, and total wages (“**Responsive Documents**”).

For your information, please note that Non-Contract and Contract Employees do not make contributions to their pension plans, and therefore, there are no documents reflecting employee contributions. Furthermore, the total wages reported include the base wages plus the imputed income for group term life insurance, the imputed income for access to a company take-home vehicle, and the imputed income for health insurance purchased for eligible dependents. In addition, other variances in wages may be accounted for if the employee was hired, terminated, switched jobs, or took a leave of absence during Y2014 or Y2015. It is also possible that employees who terminate their employment may cash out their unused vacation or sick time. An employee who changed positions within Metra in Y2014 or Y2015 may also be listed more than once within the Responsive Documents.

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If I can be of further assistance to you, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "K. Haton".

Kathleen E. Haton
Freedom of Information Officer
FOIA@metrarr.com
FOIA Hotline #312-663-3642

Attachments