



City of Boston, Massachusetts
Office of the Mayor
MICHELLE WU

March 23, 2026

TO THE CITY COUNCIL

Dear Councilors:

This is the response to the 17F: Order requesting certain information under Section 17F re: Memoranda of Understanding between the Boston Police Department and external entities. (Docket #0296 filed on 1/30/2026).

Sincerely,

Michelle Wu
Mayor of Boston

March 16, 2026

Boston City Council
1 City Hall Square
Boston, MA 02201

Re: Order Requesting Certain Information Under Section 17f Re: Memoranda Of Understanding Between The Boston Police Department And External Entities

Dear President Breadon and Members of the Boston City Council,

In response to your request for information under Section 17F, the Boston Police Department (BPD) provides the following response.

Request 1: Any existing and expired Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) between the Boston Regional Intelligence Center or Boston Police Department and the Department of Homeland Security's Office of Intelligence and Analysis regarding data and information sharing executed from 2005 to the present.

The following attached Memorandum of Agreement is presently in effect:

- (1) Department of Homeland Security - Memorandum of Agreement between the Department of Homeland Security [Office of Intelligence and Analysis] and the Boston Police Department, Boston Regional Intelligence Center [Host]

There is presently one employee from the *Department of Homeland Security's Office of Intelligence and Analysis (DHS I&A)* assigned to the Boston Regional Intelligence Center (BRIC) within the Boston Police Department. This individual does not have direct access to Boston Police Department databases and systems, including, but not limited to, the Associative Violence Information System (formerly known as the Gang Assessment Database). As stated in the MOU, all information sharing between BPD / BRIC and DHS I&A must comply with all applicable laws, Department policies and procedures, and City of Boston ordinances including, specifically, the Boston Trust Act.

Request 2: Any existing and expired Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) between the Boston Regional Intelligence Center or Boston Police Department and the Department of State Police's Commonwealth Fusion Center regarding data and information sharing executed from 2005 to the present.

The following attached document provides information regarding the relationship between the Commonwealth Fusion Center (CFC) and the Boston Regional Intelligence Center:

(1) Massachusetts' Fusion Centers Statewide Concept of Operations

Additional information regarding the BRIC's operations, including the (a) Privacy, Civil Rights & Civil Liberties Protection Policy, (b) Standard Operating Procedures for Dissemination Of Information And Intelligence Products, and (c) Standard Operating Procedures for Request For Information (RFI) Processing, can be found at <https://police.boston.gov/bureaus/>.

Request 3: Any existing and expired Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) between the Boston Regional Intelligence Center or Boston Police Department and any federal agency, including but not limited to the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Drug Enforcement Administration, Homeland Security Investigations, and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives executed from 2005 to the present.

The Department located the following agreements between the Department and a federal agency that are all presently in effect. The Department provides this response with the following sixteen documents:

- (1) Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Investigation - Joint Terrorism Task Force Standard Memorandum of Understanding Between the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the City of Boston Police Department
- (2) Department of Homeland Security - Memorandum of Understanding between U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement Homeland Security Investigations and Boston Police Department regarding the Designation of Boston Police Department Employees as Customs Officers (Excepted)
- (3) Department of Justice, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives - Memorandum of Agreement Between the ATF and BPD for Reimbursement of Overtime Salary Costs Associated with ATF Task Force
- (4) Department of Justice, Drug Enforcement Agency Task Force Group One - Program - Funded State and Local Task Force Agreement
- (5) Department of Justice, Drug Enforcement Agency Task Force Group Five - Program - Funded State and Local Task Force Agreement
- (6) Department of Justice, Drug Enforcement Agency Financial Investigations Team - Program - Funded State and Local Task Force Agreement
- (7) Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Investigations New England Regional Computer Forensics Lab - Addendum #1 to the Regional Computer Forensic Laboratory Cooperation Agreement / Memorandum of Understanding New England RCFL (NERCFL)

- (8) Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Secret Service - New England Cyber Fraud Task Force - Memorandum of Understanding Between the Boston Police Department and the United States Secret Service
- (9) Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Secret Service: New England Cyber Fraud Task Force - Memorandum of Understanding on Reimbursement of Certain Overtime Costs, And Other Expenses Between The Boston Police Department And The United States Secret Service
- (10) Department of Justice, U.S. Marshals - Fugitive Task Force - United States Marshals Service Fugitive Task Force Memorandum of Understanding
- (11) Department of Justice, United States Postal Inspection Service - Regional Interdiction Investigations Drive Enforcement Task Force - Memorandum of Understanding
- (12) Federal Bureau of Investigation Boston Violent Crime Task Force - Memorandum of Understanding
- (13) Federal Bureau of Investigation Child Exploitation Task Force (CETF) - Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)
- (14) Cyber Task Force Standard Memorandum of Understanding Between the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Boston Police Department
- (15) Federal Bureau of Investigation Metro Boston Gang Task Force Memorandum of Understanding
- (16) Memorandum of Understanding Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Forces (OCDETF) Boston Strike Force District of Massachusetts

Please note, to allow for the public release of these documents, redactions have been made in accordance with Mass. Gen. Laws c. 4 § 7(26)(f) (investigatory materials) and (n) (public safety). None of the redacted information relates in any way to immigration or immigration enforcement nor does the redacted information create an obligation on the Department to act in violation of state or local laws.

As you know, we are mindful of our obligations regarding information sharing under state and local laws in all aspects of the Department's work, including in our partnerships with federal agencies. We engage and continue to collaborate with our federal partners on criminal investigations while maintaining compliance with all state and local laws. Nothing in these agreements, including with the Department of Homeland Security Immigration and Customs Enforcement / Homeland Security Investigations, gives the Department authority to enforce administrative violations of immigration law. The Department's participation in these task forces is consistent with our local authority and remains focused on investigating criminal activity and holding offenders accountable for their behavior.

We look forward to continuing to work with the City Council and discussing these important topics that will further build trust within the City of Boston and keep our communities safe.

Sincerely,


Michael A. Cox
Police Commissioner