

December 12, 2013

Commissioner Mona Dohman Department of Public Safety 445 Minnesota Street St. Paul, MN 55101-5155

Dear Commissioner Dohman:

We are writing regarding recent media stories about law enforcement's use of cellular exploitation equipment like KingFish and StingRay that mimic local phone towers and allow the capture of any individual's cell phone data and location information without a warrant and without going through the user's phone company. It is our understanding that the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension is currently using such technology.

The public's concern about the federal government's use of phone data puts additional scrutiny on similar surveillance by state and local law enforcement agencies. Additionally, mistrust and problems with data breaches at the state level raise concerns about who has access to this information and how long it is kept by the government.

To help alleviate concerns that we and the public have about the use of this equipment, we respectfully request the following information:

- What is the type of cellular exploitation equipment currently used by the department and by which DPS divisions?
- How much has the department spent on the equipment and what was the source of the funding?
- What are the capabilities and functions of the equipment?
- Is a warrant obtained prior to accessing cell phone data or locations? If not, please explain why.
- What evidentiary extrapolations does the department make and what methodology is used from the data extracted by these devices to further investigations?
- Please provide a few examples of closed (non-active) investigations where such equipment was used and why it was felt to be necessary.

- Have these devices been used in or near the State Capitol to surveil people on the Capitol grounds?
- What type of cellular phone data is kept by the department and how many records are currently held?
- How long is cellular data kept and who has access to it?
- Have there been any data breaches of information gathered from such equipment? If so, please describe who accessed the information and what type of data was accessed.

Thank you in advance for your timely response to these questions.

Sincerely,

D. Scott Dibble, Chair

Senate Transportation and Public Safety Committee

State Senator, District 61

Sean R. Nienow

State Senator, District 32

John Lesch, Chair

House Civil Law Committee

State Representative, District 66B

Mary Liz Holberg

State Representative, District 58A