December 28, 2018

VIA EMAIL ONLY

Patrick Higgins
patrick@patrickhiggins.co

RE: Open Meeting Law Complaint

Dear Mr. Higgins:

We understand that on November 27, 2018, you filed two complaints with the Leicester School Committee ("Committee") alleging violations of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, §§ 18-25. The Committee is required to notify our office of the complaints and any remedial action taken to address the complaints. G.L. c. 30A, § 23(b); 940 CMR 29.05(5). Our office received notification and responses from the Committee on December 12, 2018.

Under the Open Meeting Law, our office may only review your complaints after 30 days have passed from the time you first filed your complaints with the Committee. G.L. c. 30A, § 23(b); 940 CMR 29.05(6). After 30 days, you may file a request with our office for further review of your complaints.

Thirty days have now passed since you first filed your complaints with the Committee. You may file your complaints for further review with our office up until ninety days have passed since the alleged violation dates. Accordingly, we will presume that the action taken by the Committee was sufficient and will close these files unless we receive requests for further review and copies of the initial complaints by the following dates:

- Review of your complaint alleging violations of the Open Meeting Law on November 5, 2018, must be requested by February 4, 2019.
- Review of your complaint alleging violations of the Open Meeting Law on November 13, 2018, must be requested by February 11, 2019.

Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions about the Open Meeting Law complaint process.

Sincerely,

Mira Netsky
Paralegal
Division of Open Government

cc: Leicester School Committee, c/o Tom Lauder, Chair (by mail)
VIA EMAIL ONLY

Patrick Higgins
patrick@patrickhiggins.co

Dear Mr. Higgins:

We understand that on or about November 27, 2018, you filed two complaints with the Leicester School Committee ("Committee") alleging violations of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, §§ 18-25. Our office received notification and responses from the Committee on December 12, 2018.

Under the Open Meeting Law, our office can review a complaint only after at least 30 days have passed since that complaint was filed with the public body. G.L. c. 30A, § 23(b); 940 CMR 29.05(6). Accordingly, our office will open an investigation once the complainant files a request for further review, along with a copy of the initial complaint, with the Division of Open Government after at least 30 days have passed. However, our office received an email from you on December 28, 2018, stating that you were satisfied with the response from the Committee; thus, you are not requesting further review from our office.

We now consider this matter closed. Feel free to contact our office if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Hanne Rush
Assistant Attorney General
Division of Open Government

cc: Leicester School Committee, c/o Tom Lauder, Chair (by mail)
December 11, 2018

Mr. Patrick Higgins  
P.O. Box 24  
Swansea, MA  02777

Re:  Response to Open Meeting Law Complaint #1

Dear Mr. Higgins:

This letter serves as the Leicester School Committee’s response to your Open Meeting Law complaint dated November 27, 2018 and received by the Town of Leicester1 on November 27, 2018 (“Complaint #1”, attached as Exhibit A). The Committee’s response to Complaint #1 is as follows:

I. Alleged Violation of the Open Meeting Law and Requested Response:

In your complaint, you allege that on November 5, 2018, the Committee violated the Open Meeting Law in the following manner:

The Leicester School Committee violated the Open Meeting Law by not listing the names, or titles of the “nonunion personnel” they intended to discuss in Executive Session on the meeting notice for their November 5, 2018 meeting.

Your complaint requests the following action from the Committee:

Learn and comply with the Open Meeting Law.

II. Exhibit(s) to this Response:

Exhibit A: Complaint #1 Dated November 27, 2018.  
Exhibit B: December 3, 2018 Agenda.

III. School Committee Response:

The School Committee reviewed Complaint #1 at its December 3, 2018 meeting and responds as follows.

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1 The Town Clerk provided the Complaint to the School District.
The meeting notice for the November 5, 2018 School Committee meeting did not include the name or title of any non-union personnel because there was no discussion of (and no intent to discuss) non-union personnel at the November 5, 2018 meeting. The agenda item, as written for the November 5th meeting, tracks the language of the statute which states “To conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with nonunion personnel or to conduct collective bargaining sessions or contract negotiations with nonunion personnel.”

On November 5, 2018, the School Committee conducted a strategy session in preparation for negotiations with a union, and the agenda properly listed the Leicester Paraprofessional Association as the union which was the subject of the executive session. The School Committee only discussed strategy in preparation for negotiations with the Leicester Professional Association in executive session on November 5, 2018.

IV. Remedial Action

There is no remedial action required because the School Committee did not violate the Open Meeting Law. The School Committee did not discuss non-union personnel matter at its November 5, 2018 meeting.

That said, going forward, the agenda will list only the specific item(s) from section 21(a)(2) to be discussed in executive session. By way of example, see item 12 of the Agenda for December 3, 2018 (Exhibit B).

To satisfy the Open Meeting Law and the Attorney General’s regulations, the School Committee will submit a copy of your Complaint #1 to the Attorney General’s Division of Open Government along with a copy of this written response.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Tom Lauder, Chair
Leicester School Committee

Enclosures

cc: Division of Open Government, Attorney General’s Office (openmeeting@state.ma.us)
Office of the Attorney General
One Ashburton Place, Boston, MA02108
School Committee
Marilyn Tencza, Superintendent
Kimberly A. Rozak, Esq., District Counsel
PUBLIC NOTICE POSTING REQUEST
TO OFFICE OF THE LEICESTER TOWN CLERK

AMENDED

ORGANIZATION: Leicester School Committee

Day & DATE: Monday, December 3, 2018

LOCATION: Leicester High School – Media Center
174 Paxton St, Leicester, MA 01524

REQUESTED BY: Marilyn Tencza – Superintendent of Schools

ALL MEETING NOTICES MUST BE FILED AND TIME STAMPED IN THE TOWN CLERK’S OFFICE AND POSTED ON THE MUNICIPAL BULLETIN BOARD 48 HOURS PRIOR TO THE MEETING. (In accordance with Chapter 30E Acts of 1975)

LIST OF TOPICS TO BE DISCUSSED

1. Call to order

2. Interview of Director of Finance and Operations

3. Develop Questions for Attorney Visit on December 11, 2018

4. M.G.L. Open Meeting Law - Two Complaints from Complainant (Patrick Higgins and Associates)

5. Field Trip Transportation
   - (LPS Van Usage)
   - Trips that Extend Overnight

6. School Committee Policies
   - IJNDD - Social Media – Policy of Facebook and Social Networking Sites,
   - DD-A - Crowdsourcing Proposals

7. MASC Conference Report – Stella Richard and Marilyn Tencza

8. COSCAP Conference Report – Lisa Martinelli

9. Jan/Feb Early Release Day Discussion

10. FY19 Budget Journal Entry

11. FY20 Budget Update

12. Executive Session
   M.G.L. Chapter 30 (A) Section 21 (a) (2) to conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with a nonunion personnel (Director of Finance and Operations) and not to reconvene in open session.

13. Adjournment
OPEN MEETING LAW COMPLAINT FORM
Office of the Attorney General
One Ashburton Place
Boston, MA 02108

Please note that all fields are required unless otherwise noted.

Your Contact Information:
First Name: Patrick                   Last Name: Higgins
Address: P O Box 24
City: Swansea                        State: MA Zip Code: 02777
Phone Number: +1 (508) 674-3140 Ext.
Email: patrick@patrickhiggins.co
Organization or Media Affiliation (if any): Patrick Higgins and Associates

Are you filing the complaint in your capacity as an individual, representative of an organization, or media?
(For statistical purposes only)

☐ Individual       ☒ Organization        ☐ Media

Public Body that is the subject of this complaint:
☒ City/Town        ☐ County          ☐ Regional/District ☐ State

Name of Public Body (including city/town, county or region, if applicable): Leicester School Committee

Specific person(s), if any, you allege committed the violation: All Members

Date of alleged violation: Nov 5, 2018

NOV 27 2018
Description of alleged violation:
Describe the alleged violation that this complaint is about. If you believe the alleged violation was intentional, please say so and include the reasons supporting your belief.

Notes: This text field has a maximum of 3000 characters.

The Leicester School Committee violated the Open Meeting Law by not listing the names, or titles of the "nonunion personnel" they intended to discuss in Executive Session on the meeting notice for their November 5, 2018 meeting.

What action do you want the public body to take in response to your complaint?

Notes: This text field has a maximum of 500 characters.

Learn and comply with the Open Meeting Law.

Review, sign, and submit your complaint

I. Disclosure of Your Complaint.
Public Record. Under most circumstances, your complaint, and any documents submitted with your complaint, is considered a public record and will be available to any member of the public upon request.

Publication to Website. As part of the Open Door Initiative, the AGO will publish to its website certain information regarding your complaint, including your name and the name of the public body. The AGO will not publish your contact information.

II. Consulting With a Private Attorney.
The AGO cannot give you legal advice and is not able to be your private attorney, but represents the public interest. If you have any questions concerning your individual legal rights or responsibilities you should contact a private attorney.

III. Submit Your Complaint to the Public Body.
The complaint must be filed first with the public body. If you have any questions, please contact the Division of Open Government by calling (617) 963-2540 or by email to openmeeting@state.ma.us.

By signing below, I acknowledge that I have read and understood the provisions above and certify that the information I have provided is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signed: [Signature]

Date: 11/27/18
PUBLIC NOTICE POSTING REQUEST
TO OFFICE OF THE LEICESTER TOWN CLERK

ORGANIZATION: Leicester School Committee

MEETING PUBLIC HEARING (Please circle appropriately)

Day &
DATE: Monday, November 5, 2018 TIME: Workshop

LOCATION: Leicester High School - Media Center

REQUESTED BY: Marilyn Teseza - Superintendent of Schools

ALL MEETING NOTICES MUST BE FILED AND TIME STAMPED IN THE TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE AND POSTED ON THE MUNICIPAL BULLETIN BOARD 48 HOURS PRIOR TO THE MEETING, (in accordance with Chapter 582 Acts of 1978)

LIST OF TOPICS TO BE DISCUSSED

1. Call to order

2. Donation - Leicester High School - Bill Gordon

3. Policies
   • Facilities Usage & Application for Use of Facilities/Fields
   • Facilities Fees

4. Bus Routes Update

5. Superintendent Goals

6. School Committee Goals

7. Possible Attorney Visit - December 11, 2018

8. ALICE Training

9. Report/Record Workshop Minutes Secretary

10. FY20 Budget Update

11. Executive Session
   M.G.L. Chapter 30 (A) Section 21 (a) (2) to conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with union (Leicester Paraprofessionals Association) and nonunion personnel and not to reconvene in open session.

12. Adjournment
OPEN MEETING LAW COMPLAINT FORM

Instructions for completing the Open Meeting Law Complaint Form

The Attorney General's Division of Open Government Interprets and enforces the Open Meeting Law, Chapter 30A of the Massachusetts General Laws, Sections 18-25. Below is the procedure for filing and responding to an Open Meeting Law complaint.

Instructions for filing a complaint:

- Fill out the attached two-page form completely and sign it. File the complaint with the public body within 30 days of the alleged violation. If the violation was not reasonably discoverable at the time it occurred, you must file the complaint within 30 days of the date the violation was reasonably discoverable. A violation that occurs during an open session of a meeting is reasonably discoverable on the date of the meeting.
- To file the complaint:
  - For a local or municipal public body, you must submit a copy of the complaint to the chair of the public body AND to the municipal clerk.
  - For all other public bodies, you must submit a copy of the complaint to the chair of the public body.
  - Complaints may be filed by mail, email, or by hand. Please retain a copy for your records.
- If the public body does not respond within 14 business days and does not request an extension to respond, contact the Division for further assistance.

Instructions for a public body that receives a complaint:

- The chair must disseminate the complaint to the members of the public body.
- The public body must meet to review the complaint within 14 business days (usually 20-22 calendar days).
- After review, but within 14 business days, the public body must respond to the complaint in writing and must send the complainant a response and a description of any action the public body has taken to address it. At the same time, the body must send the Attorney General a copy of the response. The public body may delegate this responsibility to its counsel or a staff member, but only after it has met to review the complaint.
- If a public body requires more time to review the complaint and respond, it may request an extension of time for good cause by contacting the Division of Open Government.

Once the public body has responded to the complaint:

- If you are not satisfied with that the public body's response to your complaint, you may file a copy of the complaint with the Division by mail, e-mail, or by hand, but only once you have waited for 30 days after filing the complaint with the public body.
- When you file your complaint with the Division, please include the complaint form and all documentation relevant to the alleged violation. You may wish to attach a cover letter explaining why the public body's response does not adequately address your complaint.
- The Division will not review complaints filed with us more than 90 days after the violation, unless we granted an extension to the public body or you can demonstrate good cause for the delay.

If you have questions concerning the Open Meeting Law complaint process, we encourage you to contact the Division of Open Government by phone at (617) 727-2340 or by e-mail at openmeeting@state.ma.us.
December 11, 2018

Mr. Patrick Higgins  
P.O. Box 24  
Swansea, MA 02777  

Re: Response to Open Meeting Law Complaint #2

Dear Mr. Higgins:

This letter serves as the Leicester School Committee’s response to your Open Meeting Law complaint dated November 27, 2018 and received by the Town of Leicester\(^1\) on November 27, 2018 (“Complaint #2”, attached as Exhibit A). The Committee’s response to Complaint #2 is as follows:

I. **Alleged Violation of the Open Meeting Law and Requested Response:**

In your complaint, you allege that on November 13, 2018, the Committee violated the Open Meeting Law as follows:

*The Leicester School Committee violated the Open Meeting Law by not listing the names, or titles of the “nonunion personnel” they intended to discuss in Executive Session on the meeting notice for their November 5, 2018 meeting.*\(^2\)

Your complaint requests the following action by the Committee:

*Learn and comply with the Open Meeting Law.*

II. **Exhibit(s) to this Response:**

- Exhibit A: Complaint (#2) Dated November 27, 2018.
- Exhibit B: December 3, 2018 Agenda.

III. **School Committee Response:**

The School Committee reviewed Complaint #2 at its December 3, 2018 meeting and responds as follows.

\(^1\) The Town Clerk provided the Complaint to the School District.

\(^2\) Page 1 of your Complaint #2 references November 13, 2018 as the alleged date of violation, yet page 2 of the Complaint references the November 5, 2018 meeting notice as the subject of the Open Meeting Law violation. In other words, Complaint #2 alleges the same violation as Complaint #1.
The meeting notice for the November 5, 2018 School Committee meeting did not include the name or title of any non-union personnel because there was no discussion of (and no intent to discuss) non-union personnel at the November 5, 2018 meeting. The agenda item, as written for the November 5th meeting, tracks the language of the statute which states “To conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with nonunion personnel or to conduct collective bargaining sessions or contract negotiations with nonunion personnel.”

On November 5, 2018, the School Committee conducted a strategy session in preparation for negotiations with a union, and the agenda properly listed the Leicester Paraprofessional Association as the union which was the subject of the executive session. The School Committee only discussed strategy in preparation for negotiations with the Leicester Professional Association in executive session on November 5, 2018.

To the extent Complaint #2 was intended to reference the Agenda for the November 13, 2018 meeting, the School Committee reiterates its response above and notes that it did not end up entering executive session on November 13, 2018.

IV. Remedial Action

There is no remedial action required because the School Committee did not violate the Open Meeting Law. The School Committee did not discuss non-union personnel at its November 5, 2018 meeting (or at its November 13, 2018 meeting).

That said, going for forward, the agenda will list only the specific item(s) from section 21(a)(2) to be discussed in executive session. By way of example, see item 12 of the Agenda for December 3, 2018 (Exhibit B).

To satisfy the Open Meeting Law and the Attorney General’s regulations, the School Committee will submit a copy of your Complaint #2 to the Attorney General’s Division of Open Government along with a copy of this written response.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Tom Lauder, Chair
Leicester School Committee

Enclosures

cc: Division of Open Government, Attorney General’s Office (openmeeting@state.ma.us)
Office of the Attorney General
One Ashburton Place, Boston, MA02108
School Committee
Marilyn Tencza, Superintendent
Kimberly A. Rozak, Esq., District Counsel
PUBLIC NOTICE POSTING REQUEST
TO OFFICE OF THE LEICESTER TOWN CLERK

AMENDED

ORGANIZATION: Leicester School Committee

MEETING  PUBLIC HEARING (Please circle appropriately)

Day &
DATE: Monday, December 3, 2018

TIME: 5:00 PM Workshop

LOCATION: Leicester High School – Media Center
174 Paxton St, Leicester, MA 01524

REQUESTED BY: Marilyn Tencza – Superintendent of Schools

ALL MEETING NOTICES MUST BE FILED AND TIME STAMPED IN THE TOWN CLERK’S OFFICE AND POSTED ON THE MUNICIPAL BULLETIN BOARD 48 HOURS PRIOR TO THE MEETING. (In accordance with Chapter 30J Acts of 1975)

LIST OF TOPICS TO BE DISCUSSED

1. Call to order

2. Interview of Director of Finance and Operations

3. Develop Questions for Attorney Visit on December 11, 2018

4. M.G. L. Open Meeting Law - Two Complaints from Complainant (Patrick Higgins and Associates)

5. Field Trip Transportation
   - (LPS Van Usage)
   - Trips that Extend Overnight

6. School Committee Policies
   - IJNDD - Social Media – Policy of Facebook and Social Networking Sites
   - DD-A - Crowdsourcing Proposals

7. MASC Conference Report – Stella Richard and Marilyn Tencza

8. COSCAP Conference Report – Lisa Martinelli

9. Jan/Feb Early Release Day Discussion

10. FY19 Budget Journal Entry

11. FY20 Budget Update

12. Executive Session
   M.G.L. Chapter 30 (A) Section 21 (a) (2) to conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with a nonunion personnel (Director of Finance and Operations) and not to reconvene in open session.

13. Adjournment
OPEN MEETING LAW COMPLAINT FORM
Office of the Attorney General
One Ashburton Place
Boston, MA 02108

Please note that all fields are required unless otherwise noted.

Your Contact Information:
First Name: Patrick
Last Name: Higgins
Address: P.O. Box 24
City: Swansea
State: MA
Zip Code: 02777
Phone Number: +1 (508) 674-3140
Email: patrick@patrickhiggins.co

Organization or Media Affiliation (if any): Patrick Higgins and Associates

Are you filing the complaint in your capacity as an individual, representative of an organization, or media?
(For statistical purposes only)

☐ Individual  ☒ Organization  ☐ Media

Public Body that is the subject of this complaint:

☒ City/Town  ☐ County  ☐ Regional/District  ☐ State

Name of Public Body (including city/town, county or region, if applicable): Leicester School Committee

Specific person(s), if any, you allege committed the violation: All Members

Date of alleged violation: Nov 13, 2018
Description of alleged violation:
Describe the alleged violation that this complaint is about. If you believe the alleged violation was intentional, please say so and include the reasons supporting your belief.

Note: This text field has a maximum of 3000 characters.

The Leicester School Committee violated the Open Meeting Law by not listing the names, or titles of the "nonunion personnel" they intended to discuss in Executive Session on the meeting notice for their November 5, 2018 meeting.

What action do you want the public body to take in response to your complaint?

Note: This text field has a maximum of 500 characters.

Learn and comply with the Open Meeting Law.

Review, sign, and submit your complaint

I. Disclosure of Your Complaint
Public Record. Under most circumstances, your complaint, and any documents submitted with your complaint, is considered a public record and will be available to any member of the public upon request.

Publication to Website. As part of the Open Data Initiative, the AGO will publish to its website certain information regarding your complaint, including your name and the name of the public body. The AGO will not publish your contact information.

II. Consulting With a Private Attorney
The AGO cannot give you legal advice and is not able to be your private attorney, but represents the public interest. If you have any questions concerning your individual legal rights or responsibilities you should contact a private attorney.

III. Submit Your Complaint to the Public Body
The complaint must be filed first with the public body. If you have any questions, please contact the Division of Open Government by calling (617) 660-3540 or by email to openmeeting@state.ma.us.

By signing below, I acknowledge that I have read and understand the provisions above and certify that the information I have provided is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signed: [Signature]

Date: 11/27/18

Page 2
PUBLIC NOTICE POSTING REQUEST
TO OFFICE OF THE LEICESTER TOWN CLERK

2018 NOV - 8

ORGANIZATION:
Leicester School Committee

MEETING

PUBLIC HEARING (Please circle appropriately)

Day & Date:
Tuesday, November 13, 2018

Location:
Leicester Town Hall – Select Board Meeting Room

Requested By:
Marilyn Tencza – Superintendent of Schools

ALL MEETING NOTICES MUST BE FILED AND TIME STAMPED IN THE TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE AND PROMINENTLY POSTED ON THE MUNICIPAL BULLETIN BOARD 48 HOURS PRIOR TO THE MEETING (IN ACCORDANCE WITH CHAPTER 393 ART 8 OF 1973)

LIST OF TOPICS TO BE DISCUSSED

1. Call to order
2. Showcase – LMS STEM Program
3. Public Comment Period
4. Approval of Minutes
   4.1 Open Session Minutes 09-11-18
   4.2 Open Session Minutes of 10-09-18
   4.3 Executive Session Minutes of 10-09-18
   4.4 Open Workshop Session Minutes 11-05-18
5. Reports
   5.1 Report from Student Liaisons
   5.2 Report from School Committee Chairperson
   5.3 Superintendent’s Report
      a. Snow Removal Vendor
      b. Bus Update
      c. Memorial Temporary Boiler Update
   5.4 Other Reports from Committees or Liaisons
   5.5 Report from Safety Committee
6. Reading of Policies
   6.1 Second Readings – KF & KF-R Community Use of School Facilities & Facility Fees
7. Finance Items
   7.1 FY19 Monthly Financial Report [vote to approve]
   7.2 Warrant Signing - [vote to approve]
      • 1B [Submit Date: 10/23/18, Warrant Due Date: 11/01/08]
      • 2A [(Submit Date: 11/06/18, Warrant Due Date: 11/15/18]
   7.3 FY20 Budget Info
8. Business Items
   8.1 Superintendent SY18-19 Goals [vote to approve]
   8.2 School Committee SY18-19 Goals [vote to approve]
   8.3 SY18-19 Overnight Field Trips
   8.4 Early Release Day Change [vote to approve]
   8.5 New Student Activity Account – LMS Dance Team [vote to approve]
9. New Business

10. Items for Next School Committee Workshop December 3, 2018, and Open Session Meeting December 11, 2018.

11. Executive Session

M.G.L. Chapter 30 (A) Section 21 (a) (2) to conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with union (Leicester Paraprofessionals Association) and nonunion personnel and not to reconvene in open session.

11. Adjournment
OPEN MEETING LAW COMPLAINT FORM

Instructions for completing the Open Meeting Law Complaint Form

The Attorney General's Division of Open Government interprets and enforces the Open Meeting Law, Chapter 30A of the Massachusetts General Laws, Sections 18-25. Below is the procedure for filing and responding to an Open Meeting Law complaint.

Instructions for filing a complaint:

- Fill out the attached two-page form completely and sign it. File the complaint with the public body within 30 days of the alleged violation. If the violation was not reasonably discoverable at the time it occurred, you must file the complaint within 30 days of the date the violation was reasonably discoverable. A violation that occurs during an open session of a meeting is reasonably discoverable on the date of the meeting.
- To file the complaint:
  - For a local or municipal public body, you must submit a copy of the complaint to the chair of the public body and to the municipal clerk.
  - For all other public bodies, you must submit a copy of the complaint to the chair of the public body.
  - Complaints may be filed by mail, email, or by hand. Please retain a copy for your records.
- If the public body does not respond within 14 business days and does not request an extension to respond, contact the Division for further assistance.

Instructions for a public body that receives a complaint:

- The chair must disseminate the complaint to the members of the public body.
- The public body must meet to review the complaint within 14 business days (usually 20-22 calendar days).
- After review, but within 14 business days, the public body must respond to the complaint in writing and must send the complainant a response and a description of any action the public body has taken to address it. At the same time, the body must send the Attorney General a copy of the response. The public body may delegate this responsibility to its counsel or a staff member, but only after it has met to review the complaint.
- If a public body requires more time to review the complaint and respond, it may request an extension of time for good cause by contacting the Division of Open Government.

Once the public body has responded to the complaint:

- If you are not satisfied with the public body's response to your complaint, you may file a copy of the complaint with the Division by mail, e-mail, or by hand, but only once you have waited for 30 days after filing the complaint with the public body.
- When you file your complaint with the Division, please include the complaint form and all documentation relevant to the alleged violation. You may wish to attach a cover letter explaining why the public body's response does not adequately address your complaint.
- The Division will not review complaints filed with us more than 90 days after the violation, unless we granted an extension to the public body or you can demonstrate good cause for the delay.

If you have questions concerning the Open Meeting Law complaint process, we encourage you to contact the Division of Open Government by phone at (617) 963-2540 or by e-mail at openmeeting@state.ma.us.