To whom it may concern:

Under the Louisiana Public Records Act § 44:1 et seq., I am requesting an opportunity to inspect or obtain copies of public records that disclose the number of arrests Rep. Clay Higgins made while he worked as an officer for the St. Landry Parish Sheriff’s Office. We are only seeking the number of arrests Higgins himself made as an officer in the department.

During a House Oversight Committee hearing on Feb. 27, 2019, Rep. Higgins said he arrested “several thousand men” in Louisiana. I believe that this claim is either a gross overstatement that he made to the American people or, if accurate, is an unsettling abuse of his power.

If there are fees for searching or copying these records, please inform me if the cost will exceed $50.

Section 44:32(D) of the Louisiana Public Records Act requires a response within three business days. If access to the records I am requesting will take longer than that time period, please contact me with information about when I might expect copies or the ability to inspect the requested records.

If you deny any or all of this request, please cite each specific exemption you feel justifies the refusal to release the information and notify me of the appeal procedures available to me under the law.

Thank you for considering my request.

Sincerely,

Stephen Handwerk
(225) 336-4155