

**DATE**

By email and U.S. mail

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Re: John Doe  
\_\_\_\_\_ County File No. \_\_\_\_\_

Dear \_\_\_\_\_:

I am responding to your **email/letter** regarding \_\_\_\_\_ which was received \_\_\_\_\_.

The statute you reference in your letter does not apply to newspapers, nor could it, consistent with the First Amendment. The statute governs those entities “in the business of compiling and disseminating criminal history record information for compensation,” and specifically those businesses “licensed to access a State agency's criminal history record database.” G.S. § 15A-152(a) and (b). **[Newspaper]** is neither, and any legal action against the paper under the auspices of this statute would be wholly without merit.

Although the legal effect of an expungement is that an arrest or conviction has no legal effect, the information published by **[Newspaper]** was, and still is, accurate. For this reason, the paper does not intend to make any alteration of its website.