



STATE OF WISCONSIN
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

BRAD D. SCHIMEL
ATTORNEY GENERAL

Paul W. Connell
Deputy Attorney General

Delanie M. Breuer
Chief of Staff

17 W. Main Street
P.O. Box 7857
Madison, WI 53707-7857
www.doj.state.wi.us

Paul M. Ferguson
Assistant Attorney General
fergusonpm@doj.state.wi.us
608/266-1221
TTY 1-800-947-3529
FAX 608/267-2779

June 19, 2018

Joanne Beilman-Dulin
One Wisconsin Now
own@onewisconsinnow.org

Dear Ms. Beilman-Dulin:

This is in response to your correspondence, received on June 7, 2018, in which you requested "any lists or catalogues of challenge coin recipients from January 5, 2015 through today's date." The Wisconsin Department of Justice (DOJ) construes your correspondence as a public records request pursuant to the Wisconsin Public Records Law, Wis. Stat. §§ 19.31 to 19.39.

We searched our files and determined we do not have records responsive to your request. The public records law "does not require an authority to provide requested information if no record exists, or to simply answer questions about a topic of interest to the requester." *Journal Times v. City of Racine Bd. of Police and Fire Comm'rs*, 2015 WI 56, ¶ 55, 362 Wis. 2d 577, 866 N.W.2d 563; see also *State ex rel. Zinngrabe v. Sch. Dist. of Sevastopol*, 146 Wis. 2d 629, 431 N.W.2d 734 (Ct. App. 1988).

Pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 19.35(4)(b), if a determination denies a request, in whole or in part, it is subject to review by mandamus under Wis. Stat. § 19.37(1) or upon application to a district attorney or the Attorney General.

Sincerely,

Paul M. Ferguson
Assistant Attorney General
Office of Open Government

PMF:pjm