



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Office of the Inspector General

GREGORY W. SULLIVAN
INSPECTOR GENERAL

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December 27, 2007

Kelly Downs, Esquire
Cambridge Police Department
5 Western Avenue
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139

RE: Municipal Fees for Licenses to carry Firearms & Restricted
Firearms Identification Cards

Dear Ms. Downs:

You are aware from conversations with this office that I received a complaint from the Massachusetts Gun Owners' Action League (GOAL) dated November 19, 2007, in which it was alleged that the City of Cambridge Police Department (CPD) assesses amounts for the above fees in excess of what is permitted by law. A copy of the GOAL complaint is enclosed.

This office has discussed the matter with you, and reviewed the relevant sections of M.G.L. c. 140, *MacNutt v. Police Commissioner of Boston*, 30 Mass. App. Ct. 632 (1991), and the City of Boston special legislation with respect to assessment to fees (Acts of 1949, c. 222, § 1), and believes that the authority for the CPD to charge fees in excess of those set forth in the statute is dubious.

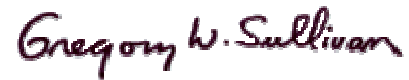
You have advised this office that you have recommended that the CPD cease charging

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fees that are the subject of the complaint, and that the CPD has done so.

I consider this matter closed and thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Gregory W. Sullivan". The signature is written in a cursive style with a prominent "G" and "S".

Gregory W. Sullivan
Inspector General

cc: James L. Wallace, Executive Director
Massachusetts Gun Owners' Action League