

OFFICE OF THE STATE'S ATTORNEY
CRIMINAL DIVISION
Rock Island County, Illinois
Fourteenth Judicial Circuit



1317 - 3rd Avenue, 2nd Floor
Rock Island, IL 61201
Phone: (309) 558-3250 Fax: (309) 786-5052
Website: www.rockislandcounty.org

March 2, 2020

Heather Wier Vaught
Office of the Speaker
Illinois House of Representatives
408 State Capitol Building
Springfield, IL 62706

RE: State's Attorney Authorized Eavesdropping report under 720 ILCS 5/14-3(q)(3.10)

Dear Ms. Vaught:

The states Attorney's Office had conducted significant training with all departments within the Rock Island County area that utilize overhear permission under 720 ILCS 5/14-3(q). We have set of a procedure to specifically outline the areas the statute is designed to cover and areas that are excluded. Further we utilize an informal phone request for permission for any request outside of the normal set of circumstances. Thereby reducing and eliminating requests to the office for overhear permission that was not intended by the statute.

Additionally, the office encourages regular use of overhear permission in narcotic transactions to reduce the inherent unreliability of confidential sources and to ensure both confidential sources and police officers are in minimal danger.

For the period of March 1, 2019 through February 29, 2020 31 overhears were requested formally in writing and 31 overhears were approved.

Sincerely,

Justin Umlah
Assistant State's Attorney

Dora Villarreal
State's Attorney