



ALL PUBLIC RECORDS REQUESTS MUST BE SUBMITTED IN WRITING TO THE CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

Reason denied:

Wonder Martell, Deputy City Clerk

From: records@bluesurveillance.org on behalf of Blue Surveillance
<records@bluesurveillance.org>
Sent: Thursday, July 2, 2026 10:20 AM
To: Wonder Martell, Deputy City Clerk
Subject: CORA Request – Richard Sonnenberg
Attachments: Idaho Springs Records Request_Filled.pdf

Good afternoon,

Pursuant to the Colorado Open Records Act § 24-72-201 et seq., I request that you make available for inspection and copying the following public records:

- - The resume, job application, and termination letter of Richard Sonnenberg

If you are not the custodian of records for this request, please forward this letter to the appropriate person or let me know which person(s) has custody of these records. Please set a date and hour, within three working days following receipt of this letter, at which time the records will be made available. If access to these records will take longer, please cite the extenuating circumstances and let me know when I should expect copies or the ability to inspect the requested records.

I ask that records available in their native format and be transmitted electronically by email to me at this email address.

Job applications are not personnel files as per C.R.S. 24-72-202(4.5) which specifically states: "'Personnel files' does not include applications of past or current employees [or] employment agreements..." Termination or Resignation letters are also not personnel files per Daniels v. City of Commerce City, Colorado Court of Appeals, 1999 which states that "information must be of the same general nature as an employee's home address and telephone number or personal financial information" to be a personnel file, and that information can be redacted. Additionally, in 2024 Elbert County Court found that the Town of Elizabeth wrongly denied release of a termination letter under the guise of it being a personnel file (<https://www.documentcloud.org/documents/27433008-order/>).

If you deny any portion, or all, of this request, please provide me with a written explanation of the reason(s) for your denial, including a citation to each specific statutory exemption you feel justifies the refusal to release the information and notify me of the appeal procedures available to me under the law.

If you conclude that portions of the records that I request are exempt from disclosure, please release the remainder of such records for inspection and copying, redacting only the portion or portions that you claim are exempt.

Please contact me with any questions about my request by email or at [REDACTED] Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Andrew Fraieli

To the Accused:

Dear Sergeant Sonnenberg:

We are writing to inform you of the outcome of the investigation regarding your conduct, and to provide formal notice that your employment with the Department will be terminated, effective June 17, 2026.

On February 9, 2026, the Idaho Springs Police Department received a formal complaint that you violated the Department's policies against [REDACTED] and retaliation, supervisor responsibilities, and administrative investigation procedures.

Following receipt of the complaint, the Department retained an independent, third party investigator to conduct the investigation. The investigator conducted a thorough investigation, which included reviewing the complaint, speaking with relevant parties and witnesses, and evaluating all relevant documentation.

Based on the findings from the investigation, the Department has determined that you engaged in conduct that violates Department and City policies and expectations, including, but not limited to:

- Making derogatory comments towards [REDACTED] based on [REDACTED]
- Engaging in [REDACTED] towards [REDACTED] based on [REDACTED]
- Making defamatory remarks to [REDACTED]
- Obtaining unauthorized access to [REDACTED] cell phone, sending a resignation email from [REDACTED] account without authorization, and later admitting that the act was a "prank"

Due to the severity of the misconduct and violations, the Department has decided that termination of your employment is warranted.

The Department and City strictly prohibit retaliation of any kind against an employee for reporting workplace concerns and/or for participating in a workplace investigation. All parties have been instructed that retaliation will not be tolerated.

Sincerely,

Nathan Buseck

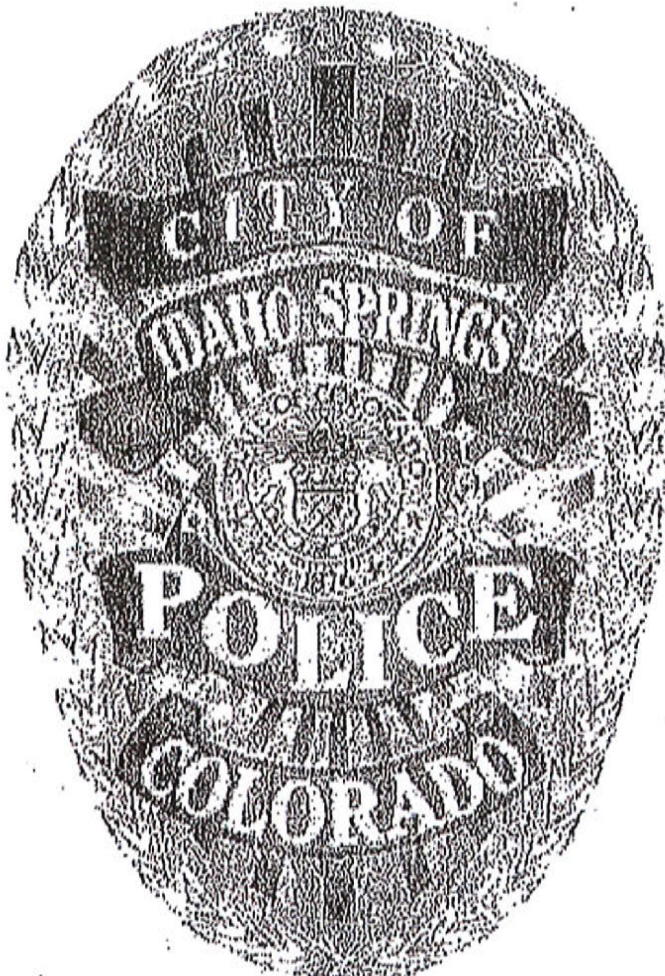


Chief of Police

IDAHO SPRINGS POLICE DEPARTMENT

An Equal Opportunity Employer

We do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age or disability. It is our intention that all qualified applicants be given equal opportunity and that selection decisions be based on job-related factors.



General Instructions

1. Print all information so that it is legible. Do Not Type.
2. If an item doesn't apply to you, write "N/A".
3. A completed application is required.
4. Any misstatements, misrepresentations, or omissions by you are cause for disqualification from employment consideration.
5. All information is subject to verification.
6. Answer every question.

Documentation

Please enclose the following documentation with your application:

1. Photocopy of your certified birth certificate.
2. Photocopy of your social security card.
3. Photocopy of your Colorado driver's license.
4. Photocopy of your high school diploma or G.E.D.
5. Photocopy of your college transcripts or diploma.
6. Photocopy of your Colorado P.O.S.T. certificate.
7. All other applicable special or professional certificates or licenses (please do not enclose photocopies of original certificates, a listing or a resume would be fine).

Personal Information

Position for which you are applying: Patrol Officer

Last Name: Sennerberg First Name: Richard Middle Name: Allen

Alias(es), Nicknames, Maiden Name: N/A

Street Address: [REDACTED]

City: [REDACTED] State: [REDACTED] Zip Code: [REDACTED]

Home Phone: N/A Work Phone: [REDACTED] Cell Phone: [REDACTED]

E mail Address: [REDACTED]

General Information

*Answer each question, write "N/A" if the question does not apply to you.

*If you answer yes to any question, provide a detailed account of the incident(s) on the back of this sheet or attach additional sheets if necessary.

1. Do you have any relatives or friends that are employed by the Idaho Springs Police Department? Yes
Who? Relationship to you: Glenn Hardley - Friend
2. Have you ever applied for any position with the Idaho Springs Police Department? NO
Position/Dates: N/A
3. Have you ever been convicted of a crime or received a suspended sentence, deferred sentence, or forfeited bail for any offense in criminal or military court or do you have charges pending against you? Yes
4. Do you have a valid driver's license? Yes D.L. # [REDACTED] State: CO
5. Have you ever had your driver's license suspended, denied, or revoked? NO
6. Are you a Certified Peace Officer? NO
State: CO Certificate #: Date of Issue: 6-2003
7. Are you able willing to perform the essential functions of the position for which you have applied? Yes
8. Are you able and willing to work varying shifts including weekends, holidays, and overtime? Yes
9. Are you willing to submit to a credit check? Yes
10. If required, do you consent to the following: Polygraph? Yes Background Investigation? Yes Drug Screening? Yes
Physical Examination? Yes and Psychological Examination? Yes
11. Have you ever been the subject of a civil suit? NO
12. Have you ever taken a polygraph examination? NO
Date: 10/2003 Agency/Examiner: Park County S.O.
Date: Agency/Examiner:
13. Are you presently an applicant or on an eligibility list for any other agency? NO
Agency: Position:
Agency: Position:
Agency: Position:
14. Are there any incidents in your life which might be discovered by subsequent investigation that might disqualify you as an applicant; whether or not you were directly involved? NO
15. Have you ever been fired from a job or asked to resign? Yes
Reason: Deflated beer keg with 12ga shotgun round
16. How many days or work have you missed during the past year (Excluding absences due to disability or those covered by FMLA)? 2

Education

What is the highest level of education that you have received? 12

<u>High School:</u>	<u>Riverview Christian Academy</u>	<u>Graduation Year:</u> <u>1997</u>
<u>Location:</u>	<u>Greenwood Village, CO</u>	<u>Dates Attended:</u> <u>1994-97</u>

<u>GED Number:</u>	<u>Location:</u>	<u>Date:</u>
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<u>College or University:</u>		<u>Graduation Year:</u>
<u>Location:</u>		<u>Dates Attended:</u>
<u>Did You Obtain a Degree?</u>		<u>Degree:</u>
<u>If No Degree, List Major Course of Study:</u>		

<u>Vocational School:</u>		<u>Graduation Year:</u>
<u>Location:</u>		<u>Dates Attended:</u>

<u>Law Enforcement Academy:</u>	<u>Highlands Ranch Public Safety Training Institute</u>	<u>Graduation Year:</u>
<u>Location:</u>	<u>Littleton, CO</u>	<u>2003</u>
		<u>Dates Attended:</u> <u>1/03 - 6/03</u>

Special Skills or Qualifications

Please check all that apply.

Yes Typing? 60 wpm

Yes Word Processing

☒ Teletype/CCIC

☒ MDT

☐ Laser

☒ Radar

☒ In Car Video

☒ SFST/HGN

Other Relevant Training not Listed: SWAT, TASER Instructor, Interpreter

Please list all volunteer service or reserve service with law enforcement agencies.

None

Narcotics

- Have you ever used any illegal drugs, including but not limited to, marijuana, hashish, cocaine, depressants, amphetamines, tranquilizers, hallucinogens, etc? Yes

If yes, what drug(s) did you use? Marijuana

How many times? 2-3 When was the last time? 1993

- Have you ever sold or given any illegal drugs, narcotics, marijuana, hashish, etc. to anyone? NO

If yes, what drugs? _____

How many times? _____ When was the last time? _____

- Do you associate with any person or persons who use illegal drugs, narcotics, marijuana, hashish, etc.? NO

If yes, please explain: _____

Traffic

Complete the following for each occurrence. Include all traffic citations regardless of dispositions.

- ✓ Offense: Speeding Agency Issuing Citation: Denver, Police
Date: 9-2012 Disposition: Def Vch Accident? NO
- ✓ Offense: Careless Driving Agency Issuing Citation: State Patrol
Date: 3/1997 Disposition: Def Vch Accident? yes, no
- ✓ Offense: _____ Agency Issuing Citation: _____
Date: _____ Disposition: _____ Accident? _____
- ✓ Offense: _____ Agency Issuing Citation: _____
Date: _____ Disposition: _____ Accident? _____
- ✓ Offense: _____ Agency Issuing Citation: _____
Date: _____ Disposition: _____ Accident? _____

List all motor vehicle accident that you have been involved in not listed above (give dates, locations, injuries, and agency handling accident).

10/2012 - Rear end crash not at fault, Denver, CO
minor back injuries, DPD

3/1997 - T-bone crash, Wadsworth & Bowler, No injuries
not at fault, Denver Police

Employment History

List names of employers in consecutive order with present or last employer listed first. Account for all periods of time including military service and any periods of unemployment. If Self-employed, give firm name and supply business references. List all jobs held for the last ten years or until after high school.

Note: a job offer may be contingent upon acceptable reference from current and former employers.

COMPLETE ALL INFORMATION REQUESTED; AN INCOMPLETE APPLICATION WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED.

Employer: <u>Wal-mart</u>	Dates, From: <u>5/2012</u>	To: <u>Present</u>	
Address: <u>2253 S Monaco Pkwy</u>	Phone Number(s): <u>303-323-4409</u>		
Supervisor: <u>Mike McLane</u>	Hours Worked Weekly: <u>50-55</u>		
Duties: <u>HR duties, schedule working</u>			
Support manager - personnel manager - payroll, supervising employees			
Co-worker(s): <u>Liza Boyle, Randell Collier</u>			
Reason for Leaving or Wanting to Leave: <u>Still employed</u>			

Employer: <u>Unemployed</u>	Dates, From: <u>4-16-12</u>	To: <u>5-8-12</u>	
Address:	Phone Number(s):		
Supervisor:	Hours Worked Weekly:		
Duties:			
Co-worker(s):			
Reason for Leaving or Wanting to Leave:			

Employer: <u>Park County Sheriff</u>	Dates, From: <u>10-30-03</u>	To: <u>4-16-12</u>	
Address: <u>1180 CR 16 Fairplay, CO 80440</u>	Phone Number(s): <u>719-836-2494</u>		
Supervisor: <u>Glenn Hardey</u>	Hours Worked Weekly: <u>40-60</u>		
Duties: <u>Patrol assigned areas, SWAT, Emergency response, Training reserve deputies</u>			
Co-worker(s): <u>Kelley Marton, Tyson Kinzle, Jeff DeBerry</u>			
Reason for Leaving: <u>Terminated for shooting beer keg</u>			

Employer:	Dates, From:	To:
Address:	Phone Number(s):	
Supervisor:	Hours Worked Weekly:	
Duties:		
Co-worker(s):		
Reason for Leaving:		

Employer:	Dates, From:	To:
Address:	Phone Number(s):	
Supervisor:	Hours Worked Weekly:	
Duties:		
Co-Worker(s):		
Reason for Leaving:		

Employer:	Dates, From:	To:
Address:	Phone Number(s):	
Supervisor:	Hours Worked Weekly:	
Duties:		
Co-worker(s):		
Reason for Leaving:		

Employer:	Dates, From:	To:
Address:	Phone Number(s):	
Supervisor:	Hours Worked Weekly:	
Duties:		
Co-worker(s):		
Reason for Leaving:		

References

List three people who know you well enough to provide current and past information about you. Do not list relatives or former employers.

1. Name: Ron Thornton Years Known: 8
Address: 132 North Fork Rd, Grant, CO 80448
Home Phone: 303 816 2315 Other Phone: 720 289 5657
2. Name: Steve Materkowski Years Known: 9
Address: 9571 Aspen Ln, Conifer, CO 80433
Home Phone: 720-480-1353 Other Phone: _____
3. Name: Q Connel Years Known: 11
Address: 185 Bounty Hunter Ln, Bailey CO 80421
Home Phone: 303 816 1086 Other Phone: 303 903 7494

Miscellaneous

Tell us why you are seeking employment with the Idaho Springs Police Department and why you feel qualified for the position for which you are applying.

I am seeking employment with the Idaho Springs Police Department because of its long standing history of excellent service & dedication to its community.
I have over 9 years of law enforcement experience, both as a patrol officer and a detention deputy. I have over 5 years as a SWAT operator. I have been a TLES instructor & supervised reserve deputy training. I have experience in investigation to include writing and applying for search & arrest warrants, evidence collection & processing. I am dedicated to the team and always work with diligence & integrity.

AFFIDAVIT

PLEASE READ EACH STATEMENT CAREFULLY BEFORE SIGNING

I certify that all information provided in this employment application is true and complete. I understand that any false information or omission may disqualify me from further consideration for employment and may result in my dismissal if discovered at a later date.

I understand that the employer may request an investigative consumer report from a consumer-reporting agency. This report may include information as to my character, reputation, personal characteristics and mode of living obtained from interviews with neighbors, friends, former employers, schools and others. I understand I have a right to make a written request within a reasonable time for the disclosure of the name and address of the consumer-reporting agency so that I may obtain a complete disclosure of the nature and scope of the investigation.

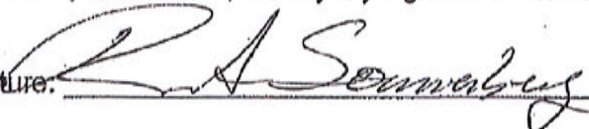
I authorize the investigation of any or all statements contained in this application. I also authorize, whether listed or not, any person school, current employer, past employers and organizations to provide relevant information and opinions that may be useful in making a hiring decision. I release such persons and organizations from any legal liability in making such statements.

I understand that if I am extended an offer of employment it may be conditioned upon by successfully passing a complete pre-employment physical examination. I consent to the release of any or all medical information as may be deemed necessary to judge my capability to do the work for which I am applying.

I understand I may be required to successfully pass a drug screening examination. I hereby consent to a pre- and/or post-employment drug screen as a condition of employment, if required.

I UNDERSTAND THAT THIS APPLICATION OR SUBSEQUENT EMPLOYMENT DOES NOT CREATE A CONTRACT OF EMPLOYMENT NOR GUARANTEE EMPLOYMENT FOR ANY DEFINITE PERIOD OF TIME. IF EMPLOYED, I UNDERSTAND THAT I HAVE BEEN HIRED AT THE WILL OF THE EMPLOYER AND MY EMPLOYMENT MAY BE TERMINATED AT ANY TIME, WITH OR WITHOUT CAUSE AND WITH OR WITHOUT NOTICE.

I have read, understand, and by my signature consent to these statements.

Signature:  Date: 7-18-14

This application for employment will remain active for a limited time. Ask the organization representative for details.

Idaho Springs Police Department
1711 Miner St.
P.O. Box 907
Idaho Springs, CO. 80452
303-567-4291
Fax 303-567-1014