Preservation Notice — September 12, 2025 Berwick Police Department Surveillance Recording and Related Records

2 messages

The Maine Mirror editor@themainemirror.com Tue, Sep 22, 2026 at 6:03 PM
<editor@themainemirror.com>
To: "Matt Tarasevich" <mtarasevich@bernsteinshur.com>, "Arthur Capello - Berwick Town Manager" <townmanager@berwickmaine.gov>, "Timothy Towne" <chief@berwickmainepolice.gov>, "townclerk@berwickmaine.gov" <townclerk@berwickmaine.gov>, "mlaterreura@berwickmaine.gov" <mlaterreura@berwickmaine.gov>, "mlatterreur@berwickmaine.gov" <mlatterreur@berwickmaine.gov>

This email constitutes a preservation notice concerning the Berwick Police Department surveillance recording of my September 12, 2025 interaction at the Department and records related to that incident, the subsequent investigation, and the production of the recording to me.

Today, September 22, 2026, I successfully accessed the recording provided to me by the Town. After returning home, I conducted a detailed comparison between that recording and my own contemporaneous recording of the September 12, 2025 encounter.

That comparison revealed apparent discrepancies. Specifically, portions of dialogue captured by my contemporaneous recording during the encounter appear to be absent from the recording provided to me by the Town, while surrounding portions of the same interaction are present.

I want to be precise about the purpose of this notice.

I am not presently alleging why these discrepancies exist, who caused them, or whether they resulted from editing, redaction, export, conversion, technical processing, or some other circumstance. I am seeking to establish the underlying facts while ensuring that potentially relevant original records and associated information are preserved in their existing form.

Accordingly, please preserve, and suspend any routine destruction, deletion, overwriting, alteration, or disposition of, the following records and electronically stored information to the extent they presently exist:

1. The original/native September 12, 2025 Berwick Police Department surveillance recording containing my interaction with Administrative Assistant Denise Dunn.
2. All copies, exports, derivatives, converted versions, working copies, redacted versions, or other versions of that recording.
3. Available metadata associated with the original recording and any copies or exports.
4. Available audit logs, access logs, export logs, system logs, file-history information, or other records capable of documenting access to, playback of, export of, copying of, modification of, processing of, or deletion involving the recording.
5. Records documenting the creation, preparation, copying, export, testing, or processing of the disc ultimately provided to me on September 22, 2026.
6. Records concerning any editing, clipping, trimming, redaction, muting, removal, withholding, conversion, alteration, or other processing of the recording or any copy of it.
7. Records concerning the testing or viewing of the recording or disc at the Berwick Public Library, including records concerning who performed that testing or viewing and any communications concerning it.

8. Records concerning my September 12, 2025 complaint regarding Denise Dunn and Chief Timothy Towne's subsequent investigation and September 23, 2025 determination that my complaints were unfounded.
9. Records reflecting what evidence was obtained, accessed, reviewed, or considered as part of that investigation.
10. Records concerning the preservation, retention, access, review, copying, or production of the September 12, 2025 surveillance footage from the date of the incident through the present.
11. Records concerning any instruction, direction, request, or communication that a Berwick Police Department employee or officer not view, review, or access the recording, including the instruction referenced by the responding officer during my September 22, 2026 interaction.
12. Records concerning my requests for, attempted access to, inspection of, or production of this recording, including communications concerning how the Town or Police Department would respond to those requests.

This preservation notice includes responsive electronic records, emails, text messages, internal communications, attachments, system-generated information, and other records maintained on Town or Police Department systems or devices to the extent such records presently exist and are within the Town's possession, custody, or control.

I am not asking through this preservation notice that the Town create records that do not presently exist, provide legal conclusions, or respond to the substantive questions raised by the apparent discrepancies.

I am separately preparing a narrowly tailored request under Maine's Freedom of Access Act for existing records relevant to establishing the provenance, preservation, processing, and production of the recording.

The purpose of this notice is simply to ensure that potentially relevant records are preserved in their existing form while those questions are being addressed.

Please confirm receipt of this preservation notice and that appropriate steps will be taken to preserve potentially responsive records.

Thank you,
Ryan Michaels
Editor-in-Chief
The Maine Mirror

Titan Mail Delivery <notifications@titan.email> Tue, Sep 22, 2026 at 6:03 PM
To: "editor" <editor@themainemirror.com>

Flock

TITAN

Email could not be sent to [mlaterreura@berwickmaine.gov]

We were not able to send this mail to [mlaterreura@berwickmaine.gov] as the recipient(s') email address seems to be invalid. Please check if there are any typos in the email id before trying to send it again.
In case you need any clarifications or assistance, feel free to reach out to our support team.

Best Regards,
Team Titan