



Andrea Garcia <agarcia@norridge80.net>

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## Illinois Freedom of Information Act Request - 5 ILCS 140 / 1

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**Michael Ayele** <waacl13@gmail.com>  
To: agarcia@norridge80.net  
Cc: "Michael Ayele (W)" <waacl13@gmail.com>

Tue, Jul 15, 2025 at 4:54 AM

W (AACL) Date.: July 15<sup>th</sup> 2025  
Michael A. Ayele  
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### Request for Records

Hello,

This is Michael A. Ayele sending this message though I now go by W and I prefer to be referred to as such. I am writing this letter for the purpose of filing a request for records with your office.

[i] The basis for this records request is the tragic and preventable June 11<sup>th</sup> 2022 employment related murder of Riley Whitelaw at a Walgreens store located in Colorado Springs, Colorado. [ii]

Please find attached to this email the content of my records request as well as information explaining my request for a fee waiver and expedited processing.

Be well. Stay well. Take care. Keep yourselves at arms distance.

Michael A. Ayele (a.k.a) W  
Anti-Racist Human Rights Activist  
Audio-Visual Media Analyst  
Anti-Propaganda Journalist  
Gender Pronouns: He/Him/His

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### Work Cited

[i] Please be advised that I have previously disseminated a vast number of documents obtained through records request using the means of various digital publishing platforms. As a representative of the media, I would like to take this opportunity to inform you that the records

you disclose to me could be made available to the general public at no financial expense to them. This records request is being filed for non-commercial purposes to inform members of the general public / representatives of the media [who may be interested in the written content of Michael A. Ayele (a.k.a) W – Association for the Advancement of Civil Liberties (AACL)] about the activities, the engagements and the priorities of the U.S government at the local, state and federal level.

**[ii]** *A Walgreens employee from Colorado was arrested and charged with the murder of his 17-year-old coworker, who had previously rejected his advances and had complained about making her feel uncomfortable. Joshua Johnson, 28, was detained June 12 by state troopers about 100 miles outside Colorado Springs, a day after Riley Whitelaw's body was discovered in the break room of the Walgreens where they both worked. Johnson has been charged with one count of first-degree murder, police said. On June 11, a Walgreens manager in Colorado Springs found Whitelaw's body in the break room after the high school student never returned from her break, according to the arrest affidavit obtained by KKTV. (...)*

*Justin Zunino, the manager, told police that Johnson had been warned a year ago to keep his conduct professional after Whitelaw complained that he had made advances toward her that made her feel uncomfortable. Zunino said Johnson appeared to be receptive to the warning, according to the affidavit. However, several weeks ago, Whitelaw had asked for a change in her work shifts to avoid Johnson. Zunino told investigators that the teenager later requested additional hours and was made aware that the overtime would mean she and Johnson would cross paths. Johnson's interest in Whitelaw didn't seem to be deterred when her boyfriend joined the staff at Walgreens three months ago. Crystal Ishmael, another manager at the store, told police that Johnson began "acting jealous" instead.*

*On the day of Whitelaw's death, a customer at the Walgreens store heard a woman screaming and the sound of stalls slamming, she later told authorities. Zunino, the manager, told officers that he had seen Johnson on the store's surveillance video stacking bins in front of the camera to block its view. Ishmael told police that during the search for Whitelaw, she had checked outside by a dumpster area where she smelled a "strong odor of bleach" and attempted to gain entry, but walked away after hearing a male voice say he was changing. Johnson later told police that he was the person Ishmael had talked to by the dumpster and that he was trying to leave. He also admitted to being in the break room and told authorities that he fell in the blood, according to the affidavit. Johnson was found by Colorado State Patrol troopers walking along the interstate. He had scratches on his hands and face and claimed that he had been attacked at Walgreens. He was arrested soon after the troopers learned that he was a suspect in the incident, KKTV reported. Johnson admitted to police that he previously had a "crush" on Whitelaw but claimed that was no longer the case because he was now involved with Ishmael. Police noted that Ishmael did not mention being in a relationship with Johnson during her interview. Despite video evidence, Johnson denied attempting to obstruct surveillance cameras.*

*Whitelaw, a straight-A student at Air Academy High School, was an art enthusiast with a passion*

*for genetics research, according to her friends and family. She was someone filled with “empathy, patience and compassion” who “allowed others to be seen, heard or recognized,” her obituary said. She was “wise beyond her years” and would be equally at ease in a room full of adults having conversations or kicking back with her friends to make goofy videos. “If you were having a bad day, she had the innate ability to lift you up. She was dedicated, persistent, and passionate about everything she endeavored to try,” the obituary said. The teenager's funeral will be held next week as the investigation into her murder is ongoing. In a statement to BuzzFeed News, Fraser Engerman, a senior director for Walgreens, said that the company was “saddened” by the incident. “The safety of our customers and team members is top priority, and we are working with local authorities in their investigation,” Engerman said. “We are making counseling and other resources available to our store team members at this location,” he added.* A Walgreens Employee Was Accused of Killing a Teenage Coworker Who Had Rejected His Advances. BuzzFeed on Yahoo.: <https://www.yahoo.com/news/walgreens-employee-accused-killing-teenage-194707985.html>

Michael A. Ayele (a.k.a) W Statement on the June 11<sup>th</sup> 2022 Employment Related Murder of Riley Whitelaw

Even though Michael A. Ayele (a.k.a) W has never sought nor ever solicited nor ever contacted anyone to have his written publications listed and featured prominently on the AOL, Bing/MSN, Google and Yahoo internet search engines (ISE); Michael A. Ayele (a.k.a) W has uncovered many instances where his written content were filtered, distorted, misused and misattributed. At the time Michael A. Ayele (a.k.a) W started to publish some of his written content about the June 11<sup>th</sup> 2022 employment related murder of Riley Whitelaw in Colorado Springs, Colorado; Michael A. Ayele (a.k.a) W had not signed any binding agreement that subjected his correspondence with the United States government to evaluation, examination and unsolicited comments on the AOL and Bing/MSN ISE. In other words, Michael A. Ayele (a.k.a) W has never agreed to take on the role of the “Student” for his published works while the AOL ISE took on the role of “Professor.” Likewise, Michael A. Ayele (a.k.a) W has never agreed to take on the role of “Plaintiff” and/or “Defendant” for his published works while the AOL ISE took on the role of “Judge, Jury and Executioner.” More importantly, Michael A. Ayele (a.k.a) W had started to publish some of his correspondence with agents of the United States government about the June 11<sup>th</sup> 2022 employment related murder of Riley Whitelaw because of a commitment he had made that he would disseminate any and all responsive U.S government records within their possession to members of the general public and representatives of the media at no financial expense to them. To the best of his ability, Michael A. Ayele (a.k.a) W has fulfilled this commitment by disseminating (at no financial expense to representatives of the media and members of the general public) the most pertinent records in his possession about the June 11<sup>th</sup> 2022 employment related murder of Riley Whitelaw.

Michael A. Ayele (a.k.a) W would like to take this opportunity to affirm that he has previously corresponded with the Colorado Civil Rights Division, the Department of Labor and the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) about the June 11<sup>th</sup> 2022 employment related

murder of Riley Whitelaw in Colorado Springs, Colorado. However, he has only opted to publish his correspondence with the Colorado Civil Rights Division and the Department of Labor. Michael A. Ayele (a.k.a) W has intentionally omitted to include his correspondence with the EEOC about the June 11<sup>th</sup> 2022 employment related murder of Riley Whitelaw because he was thoroughly convinced that the EEOC processing of the FOIA request, which was assigned Case # 820 – 2022 – 009924 violated Title VII of the 1964 and 1991 Civil Rights Act.

When a female employee (similarly situated to Riley Whitelaw) is murdered after having filed a sexual harassment complaint against the person who would go on to murder her, it is the judgment of Michael A. Ayele (a.k.a) W that this triggers' certain obligations upon Fair Employment Practice Agencies (such as the Colorado Civil Rights Division), the EEOC and the Department of Labor because of the rules and regulations governing the provisions of Title VII of the 1964 and 1991 Civil Rights Act. At the very least, the Colorado Civil Rights Division and the EEOC have an obligation to examine if Riley Whitelaw had previously filed a sexual harassment complaint against the person who would go on to murder her in order to make an objective assessment on whether there exists within Walgreens a hostile and sexist work environment for girls and women. The Colorado Civil Rights Division and the EEOC have also an obligation to examine how the sexual harassment complaint filed by Riley Whitelaw in Calendar Year 2021 was handled (and if Walgreens handled it in accordance with Title VII of the 1964 and 1991 Civil Rights Act). However, both of these things didn't happen. Indeed, the Colorado Civil Rights Division and the EEOC have opted not to launch an honest inquiry on whether Riley Whitelaw had indeed filed in Calendar Year 2021 a sexual harassment complaint against Joshua Taylor Johnson. The Colorado Civil Rights Division and the EEOC have also opted not to launch an honest inquiry to examine if the sexual harassment filed by Riley Whitelaw in Calendar Year 2021 was handled in accordance with Title VII of the 1964 and 1991 Civil Rights Act. Overall, the actions (or in this instance, the inactions) of the EEOC and the Colorado Civil Rights Division severely compromises their credibility in any assessments they have made (and might make in the future) on whether there exists within Walgreens a hostile and sexist work environment for women. As a former Missouri healthcare worker who has filed a charge of employment discrimination pursuant to the provisions of Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Michael A. Ayele (a.k.a) W does find it regrettable that the Colorado Civil Rights Division and the EEOC have opted to ignore whether Riley Whitelaw had previously filed a sexual harassment complaint against the person who would go on to murder her. Michael A. Ayele (a.k.a) W also regrets that the Colorado Civil Rights Division and the EEOC have failed to conduct a thorough and honest investigation to determine whether the complaint filed by Riley Whitelaw against Joshua Johnson was processed in accordance with Title VII of the 1964 and 1991 Civil Rights Act.

In truth, Michael A. Ayele (a.k.a) W was a little bit shocked by several aspects of the gruesome murder Riley Whitelaw was victim of on June 11<sup>th</sup> 2022. After thoroughly examining all the evidence that is in the public domain with regards to the June 11<sup>th</sup> 2022 employment related murder of Riley Whitelaw, Michael A. Ayele (a.k.a) W has determined that the June 11<sup>th</sup> 2022 employment related murder of Riley Whitelaw could have been prevented if management personnel at Walgreens [1] had taken the concerns of Riley Whitelaw seriously at the time she told them that she was being sexually harassed by Joshua Taylor Johnson (in Calendar Year

2021); [2] didn't make Riley Whitelaw choose between extra-shifts with Joshua Taylor Johnson or limited amount of shifts at Walgreens in the absence of Joshua Taylor Johnson; [3] didn't make Riley Whitelaw choose between extra-money while working with Joshua Taylor Johnson or a cut in her paycheck; [4] had in good-faith improved the working conditions of Riley Whitelaw by terminating the employment of Joshua Taylor Johnson; [5] were in good faith engaged in "*proactively combatting workplace harassment*."

As a matter of principle, Michael A. Ayele (a.k.a) W unequivocally denounces violence committed against girls and women irrespective of their racial backgrounds, their sexual orientations, their national origins, their religious affiliations, their disability status and/or their age groups. Michael A. Ayele (a.k.a) W regrets the fact that more was not done to prevent the tragic June 11<sup>th</sup> 2022 murder of Riley Whitelaw at the Walgreens store in Colorado Springs, Colorado. Michael A. Ayele (a.k.a) W also regrets the fact that more is not being done to prevent (in the future) similar tragedies to the one that transpired on June 11<sup>th</sup> 2022 at the Walgreens store in Colorado Springs, Colorado. It is the opinion of the Michael A. Ayele (a.k.a) W that Walgreens, the Colorado Civil Rights Division and the EEOC should bear some responsibility for the June 11<sup>th</sup> 2022 murder of Riley Whitelaw. For your information (FYI), the Colorado Civil Rights Division has concluded a work-sharing agreement with the EEOC.

Michael Ayele (a.k.a) W was an employee of the Missouri Department of Mental Health (MODMH) Fulton State Hospital (FSH) during the second half of Calendar Year 2013. He has towards the end of Calendar Year 2013 filed a charge of employment discrimination pursuant to Title VII of the 1964 and 1991 Civil Rights Act against the MODMH (FSH). The charge of employment discrimination filed by Michael Ayele (a.k.a) W with the EEOC was previously assigned Case No.: 28E – 2014 – 00485C and has been subject of intense U.S government scrutiny for various reasons. In e-mail conversations he has had with his former employers, Michael Ayele (a.k.a) W has been informed that 9 (nine) charges of employment discrimination were filed against the MODMH between January 01<sup>st</sup> 2010 and December 17<sup>th</sup> 2021. Of those, the MODMH opted to engage in the alternative dispute resolution (ADR) program offered by the EEOC on 4 (four) occasions. They also declined to engage in the ADR program offered by the EEOC on 5 (five) occasions.

As of this writing, it remains unclear to Michael A. Ayele (a.k.a) W why the MODMH opted to engage in certain ADR sessions offered by the EEOC while refusing to do so for others. As a matter of principle, Michael A. Ayele (a.k.a) W unequivocally condemns discrimination on the bases of gender, racial background, sexual orientation, national origin, religious affiliation and/or disability status. Michael A. Ayele (a.k.a) W has effectively put the EEOC on notice that given their processing of Charge No.: 28E – 2014 – 00485C, they have forfeited their rights to legally represent Missouri state employees (in the judicial branch of the U.S government: the courts), who [1] have opposed discriminatory practices in the service of healthcare pursuant to the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA); [2] have been subjected to racially motivated internal investigation (and were afterwards cleared of that investigation); [3] have been fired from their jobs as retaliation for opposing discrimination in the service of healthcare; [4] have been arrested for demanding the payment of their salary for the job they have performed.

Given the frequent unsavory dealings of Michael A. Ayele (a.k.a) W with the EEOC, Michael A. Ayele (a.k.a) W strongly advises people who are filing charges of employment discrimination pursuant to Title VII of the 1964 and 1991 Civil Rights Act to ask the following questions to their Fair Employment Practice Agency(ies) (FEPA) and the EEOC. 1) Has my current/former employer previously faced a charge of employment discrimination pursuant to some state and/or federal law? 2) Have the EEOC and/or the FEPA become aware of the charge of employment discrimination my current/previous employer has faced? 3) Were the EEOC and/or the FEPA responsible for the processing of the charge of employment discrimination filed pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), the Genetics Information Nondiscrimination Act (GINA), Section 504 of the 1973 Rehabilitation Act and/or Title VII of the 1964 and 1991 Civil Rights Act against my current/former employer? 4) Have the EEOC and/or the FEPA previously processed a charge of discrimination against my current/former employer that presented similar issues to mine? If yes, what was the outcome of the charge of discrimination that presented similar issues to mine? 5) What were the exact circumstances, which ultimately convinced the EEOC and the FEPA to ask my current/former employer to engage in the ADR program? Why has my current/former employer opted to engage in certain ADR program offered by the EEOC but not others? 6) If the EEOC opts not to legally represent the charge of discrimination (I have filed with them) in the judicial branch of the U.S government (the courts), should I file a *Civil Complaint* with an EEOC "Right to Sue" letter? Do the EEOC and/or the FEPA have an obligation to make clear to the judicial branch of the U.S government (the courts) that a charge of employment discrimination does not have "*less merit*" because it doesn't have their backing and/or their recommendation for the Department of Justice (DOJ) to prosecute? Do the EEOC and/or the FEPA have an obligation to make clear to the general public and representatives of the media the specific charges of employment discrimination they will not back and/or recommend for the DOJ not to prosecute?

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### 3 attachments



**W (AACL) Rev July 15th 2025 Records Request on Riley Whitelaw June 11th 2022 Murder - Title VII.pdf**  
6008K



**APA Apology.pdf**  
285K



**Colorado Springs Police Dept and Michael Ayele (a.k.a) W Correspondence - Riley Whitelaw.pdf**  
258K