

From: **Peter J Thomas** <peter.thomas@jud.state.ma.us>

Date: Tue, Jan 30, 2024 at 4:09 PM

Subject: RE: Request to attend magistrate hearing on Feb. 2

To: Arthur Hirsch <ahirsch@newbedfordlight.org>

Mr. Hirsch,

Request denied. Peter J. Thomas

From: Arthur Hirsch <ahirsch@newbedfordlight.org>

Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2024 9:05 AM

To: Peter J Thomas <peter.thomas@jud.state.ma.us>

Subject: Request to attend magistrate hearing on Feb. 2

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Mr. Thomas,

I write as a reporter for the New Bedford Light to request that I be allowed to attend magistrate hearings scheduled to open Friday, Feb. 2 at 10:30 am in matters brought by members of the New Bedford City Council, with counter claims made by two citizens, Craig Ptaszenski and Carlos Felix.

I ask because these proceedings relate to questions of security surrounding City Council meetings that have emerged recently as matters of public concern. In early December, days after the events on Nov. 4 that prompted the Feb. 2 proceedings, the council held a meeting and went into executive session to discuss security in and around City Hall with the City Solicitor and the Chief of Police.

Thank you for your attention to this request. I will watch this space for your word.

Respectfully,

-Arthur Hirsch