

Deborah Gonzalez District Attorney

Chief Investigator Felicia Fortson

Director of Victim Services Tanya Wingfield

Exec Asst/Office Manager Jennie De la Vega STATE OF GEORGIA



OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY WESTERN JUDICIAL CIRCUIT Athens-Clarke & Oconee Counties Athens-Clarke County Office

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Writer's Email

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April 3, 2023

Kevin E. Epps Epps, Holloway, DeLoach & Hoipkemier, LLC 1220 Langford Drive Building 200 Suite 101 Watkinsville, GA 30677

VIA EMAIL: kevin@ehdhlaw.com

RE: Your Open Records Requests, dated March 29, 2023, addressed to Deborah Gonzalez and received by the Open Records Officer on March 29, 2023.

Dear Mr. Epps:

Request 1:

I am writing in response to your above-referenced open records request that was received by the Open Records Officer on March 29, 2023. You asked for the following records of the Athens-Clarke County Unified Government:

- 1. All emails sent to or from Jennie de la Vega from January 1, 2023 until such time the documents are produced in response to this request, to anyone with the email domain name "@uga.edu"
- 2. Since January 1, 2021, all emails sent to or from Jennie de la Vega or Deborah Gonzalez which contain any statement, account, complaint, grievance, evidence, or witness account of inappropriate contact of any nature (including but not limited to sexual statements or other content or actions) by a past or current employee of the District Attorney's Office with any undergraduate intern or law school intern working or volunteering in the District Attorney's Office. This request includes a request for any and all attachments to any responsive emails.

All documents that are releasable and responsive to your request that are maintained by the Athens-Clarke County Unified Government will be prepared for your review. The following information, to the extent that it exists, will be exempt from release pursuant to the following described provisions of the Open Records Act: O.C.G.A. § 50-18-72 (a) [with a summary of the type of exception]:

- (1) O.C.G.A. § 50-18-72 (a) (41) [attorney-client privilege]
- (2) O.C.G.A. § 50-18-72 (a) (42) [attorney work product]

- (3) O.C.G.A. § 50-18-72 (a) (20) [individual's social security number, personal email address or cellular phone number, etc.]
- (4) O.C.G.A. § 50-18-72 (a) (21) [public employee personal information]

To provide clarity, I have broken down our estimate of costs in the chart below.

Dept. / Gov't Body	Hourly Rate	Anticipated Length of Time	Cost Estimate:	Notes / Explanation:
Information Technology	\$35.58	15 minutes	\$8.89 - \$8.89 = \$0.00	Minus the first 15 minutes of work.
District Attorney's Office	\$27.26	5.10 hours	\$139.02	Search and Review of all potentially responsive records: documents, messages, etc.
		TOTAL:	\$139.02	

Request 2:

I am writing in response to your above-referenced open records request that was received by the Open Records Officer on March 29, 2023. You asked for the following records of the Athens-Clarke County Unified Government:

- All emails sent from Jennie de la Vega from January 1, 2023 until such time the documents are
 produced in response to this request, which contain the words "shred" or "shredded" or "shredding,"
 including but not limited to any emails which contain the phrase "We need some shredding done"
- 2. All emails sent from Jennie de la Vega from January 1, 2023 until such time the documents are produced in response to this request, which contain the words "notarized" or "notary" or "witnessed," including but not limited to any emails which contain the sentence, "You do not need to have the document notarized or witnessed, I will take care of that."

All documents that are releasable and responsive to your request that are maintained by the Athens-Clarke County Unified Government will be prepared for your review. The following information, to the extent that it exists, will be exempt from release pursuant to the following described provisions of the Open Records Act: O.C.G.A. § 50-18-72 (a) [with a summary of the type of exception]:

- (1) O.C.G.A. § 50-18-72 (a) (41) [attorney-client privilege]
- (2) O.C.G.A. § 50-18-72 (a) (42) [attorney work product]
- (3) O.C.G.A. § 50-18-72 (a) (20) [individual's social security number, personal email address or cellular phone number, etc.]
- (4) O.C.G.A. § 50-18-72 (a) (21) [public employee personal information]

To provide clarity, I have broken down our estimate of costs in the chart below.

Dept. / Gov't Body	Hourly Rate	Anticipated Length of Time	Cost Estimate:	Notes / Explanation:
Information Technology	\$35.58	15 minutes	\$8.89 - \$8.89 = \$0.00	Minus the first 15 minutes of work.
District Attorney's Office	\$27.26	.75 hour	\$20.44	Search and Review of all potentially responsive records: documents, messages, etc.
		TOTAL:	\$20.44	

Cost of 2 ORRs:

Request 1	\$ 139.02
Request 2	\$ 20.44
Total	\$ 159.46 *

^{*} These amounts are estimates. We will keep track of actual time spent on these numerous requests, and send you a modified estimate as we proceed.

Pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 50-18-71(d), an agency seeking costs in excess of \$500.00 shall notify the requestor of the estimate of the costs, and the agency may defer search and retrieval of the records until the requester sends payment in full for the estimate costs. The requester is not charged for the first fifteen (15) minutes of time. Charges for time are not to exceed the salary of the lowest paid full-time employee who, in the discretion of the custodian of the records, has the necessary skill and training to perform the request.

Within three (3) business days of retrieval and completed review of the records, I will notify you in writing of any further exemptions and the date that records will be available. Should you have any additional questions, please call me at 706-613-3035.

Sincerely,

Deborah Gonzalez
District Attorney, Western Judicial Circuit