

Deborah Gonzalez District Attorney

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STATE OF GEORGIA



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

Athens-Clarke County Courthouse 325 E. Washington Street, Rm 370 Athens, Georgia 30601 Telephone: (706) 613-3240 Telefax: (706) 613-3247

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March 6, 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 Request, dated Marc 1, 2023, addressed to DA Office and received by the Open Records Officer March 1, 2023 via Email.

Dear Mr. Epps:

I am writing in response to your above-referenced open records request that was received by the Open Records Officer on March 1, 2023. You asked for the following records of the Athens-Clarke County Unified Government:

A copy of any and all communications including e-mails, letters, voicemails, correspondence, memoranda, faxes and SMS/MMS text message correspondence from District Attorney Deborah Gonzalez with the term "white male" from January 1, 2021-Present.

A copy of any and all communications including e-mails, letters, voicemails, correspondence, memoranda, faxes and SMS/MMS text message correspondence regarding any political action committee(s) from January 1, 2021-Present.

A copy of any and all communications including e-mails, letters, voicemails, correspondence, memoranda, faxes and SMS/MMS text message correspondence from former Assistant District Attomey Robert Schollmeyer with the term "animal" from January 1, 2021-Present.

All documents that are releasable and responsive to your request that are maintained by the Athens-Clarke County Unified Government are attached for your review.

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	30 minutes	\$17.79 - \$8.89 = \$8.90	Minus the first 15 minutes of work.
District Attorney's Office	\$27.26	15 hours	\$408.90	Search and Review of all potentially responsive records: documents, messages, etc. Apprx. 1,771 emails + other records
		TOTAL:	\$417.80	

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.

We have another outstanding ORR from you, that we are still working on an estimate to give to you.

Any payments should be mailed for estimated costs of \$417.80 for search, retrieval, review, and redaction costs made payable to the Unified Government of Athens-Clarke County and addressed to me at District Attorney Office, 325 E Washington Street, Room 370, Athens, GA 30601. 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.

It would also be helpful, as we have another outstanding

Sincerely,

Deborah Gonzalez
District Attorney, Western Judicial Circuit