



OFFICE OF ATTORNEY GENERAL  
STATE OF OKLAHOMA

January 17, 2017

Jamie Corey  
Center for Media and Democracy  
P.O. Box 259010  
Madison, Wisconsin 53725

**Re: Open Records Act Requests**

Dear Ms. Corey,

This letter is in response to your email, dated January 10, 2017, in which you request an update on a number of Open Records Act requests filed by yourself and Nick Surgey. Before I address the substance of that email, please note that any future correspondence regarding your requests should be addressed to myself and Karen Bray, our Open Records Act Coordinator.

As you are aware, the Office of Attorney General is working on a considerable number of requests from media, law firms, public interest groups, and others, many of which request thousands of pages of records. We process these requests in the order in which they are received, ensuring fairness to all who make requests. In your email, you express concern that you have lost your place in the queue. Let me assure you that you have not.

Neither has Mr. Surgey lost his place in the queue. Currently, Mr. Surgey's request is second from the top and will be reviewed and subsequently released after the request in front of him has been released. The request ahead of him is comprised of over 10,000 documents and is therefore taking a considerable amount of time to review. Similarly, the number of documents currently in Mr. Surgey's response is over 3,000. As you are aware, there are many exemptions and exceptions that exist under Oklahoma's Open Records Act. We therefore give each document a careful review to make sure that we are not required by law to keep it confidential and that one of the many exemptions and exceptions under the Act does not apply.

Oklahoma's Open Records Act requires an agency to provide "prompt, reasonable access" to records while employing reasonable procedures to protect the integrity and organization of the records and to prevent excessive disruption of the agency's essential functions. 51 O.S.Supp.2016, § 24A.5(5). This means that review of these thousands of pages of documents occur amidst the

many other duties and obligations this office has, which at this time of year includes end-of-the-year reports, budget proposals and hearings before the Legislature, and the like.

As I mentioned in my email to you dated January 3, 2017, I unfortunately do not have an expected response date to give to you at this time, but am happy to give you an update when I have one. Reiterating what I said in that email, I can tell you that Mr. Surgey's request (along with the request in front of his request) is in front of the final reviewer and we continue to work diligently to review and release these records as soon as we can.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sarah Greenwalt".

Sarah A. Greenwalt  
GENERAL COUNSEL TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL  
Sarah.greenwalt@oag.ok.gov