



THE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS

July 7, 2023

Mr. Stuart Martin
MuckRock News
147288-70449197@requests.muckrock.com
VIA E-MAIL ONLY

RE: Public Information Request No. R018507

Dear Mr. Martin:

This letter is in response to your modified public information request to the Office of the Attorney General ("OAG"), received by the OAG on June 22, 2023.¹

The Open Records Division has identified the records responsive to your modified request. That information, however, consists of approximately 600 releasable pages. Many of the responsive records contain confidential information that must be redacted before the records can be released to you.² Under the current OAG Cost Rules, the estimated personnel time to compile, redact, and reproduce the non-privileged information is \$15 per hour for 7 hours (\$105.00). The overhead charges are 20% of the personnel charges (\$21.00). Because this information will be produced electronically, there are no postage or materials charges. The total estimated cost due for this information is \$126.00. Thus, your request triggers section 552.2615 of the Government Code, as well as section 552.263 of the Government Code.

Pursuant to section 552.2615 of the Government Code, you are required to take certain steps to avoid the withdrawal of this request for information. This section of the Public Information Act requires:

- (1) the requestor to provide the [OAG] with a mailing, facsimile transmission, or electronic mail address to receive the itemized statement (it is the requestor's choice which type of address to provide);
- (2) the [OAG] to inform the requestor that the request is considered automatically withdrawn if the requestor does not respond in writing to the itemized statement within 10 business days after the date the statement is sent to the requestor. This response is limited by law to a response that the requestor will accept the estimated charges, will modify the

¹ The OAG was closed on June 23, 2023. The OAG was also closed July 3, 2023, and July 4, 2023. The agency observed a skeleton-crew holiday on July 5, 2023.

² Upon receipt of payment, the OAG will request a ruling to withhold the privileged communications.

request in response to the itemized statement, or notification to the [OAG] that the requestor has sent to the Cost Rules Administrator at the Office of the Attorney General a complaint alleging that the requestor has been overcharged for being provided with a copy of the public information; and

(3) the requestor to respond to the statement by delivering the written response to the [OAG] either by mail, in person, by facsimile transmission, or by electronic mail.

Gov't Code § 552.2615. In consideration of the above, if you agree to accept these charges, please do so in writing as detailed above. You may send a copy of this letter with a check or money order in the amount of \$126.00, payable to: "Office of the Attorney General of Texas" with the Request No. R018507 appearing on the check or money order. Please address the envelope to Office of the Attorney General, PIC Payments-Mail Code 070, P.O. Box 12039, Capitol Station, Austin, Texas 78711. If you decide to send your check via overnight delivery, the physical address is Office of the Attorney General, 300 West 15th Street, Mail Code 070, Austin, Texas 78701.

Please note that pursuant to section 552.263(f) of the Government Code, your information request will be withdrawn by operation of law if this office does not receive payment by July 21, 2023. Due to the amount, the OAG requires a bond for the full amount listed above and will begin processing your request once payment is received. *See id.* § 552.263(e); *see also* 1 T.A.C. § 70.7. This letter details the procedures for charges of copies of the material you requested. Inspection may be a less costly alternative. If you wish to seek a less costly alternative or to narrow your request, contact me via email at publicrecords@texasattorneygeneral.gov.

Sincerely,

June B. Harden
Assistant Attorney General
Assistant Public Information Coordinator
Office of the Attorney General