



OFFICE OF THE
ATTORNEY GENERAL

Traci N.W. Ballard
Assistant Attorney General

February 7, 2023

Zachery Morris
American Oversight

Sent via electronic mail to records@americanoversight.org

Re: Open Records Act request, OAG internal number 22 ORA 16

Dear Mr. Morris:

This letter is to acknowledge your Open Records Act request, dated 26 January 2022 in which you seek the following information:

American Oversight requests that your office produce the following records within five business days:

1. Records sufficient to identify the names and job titles of each Office of the Attorney General employee (a) temporarily or permanently assigned to cases concerning mask mandates or (b) temporarily or permanently working in support of those employees assigned to cases concerning mask mandates.
2. Records sufficient to identify the total number of pending cases concerning mask mandates.
3. Records sufficient to identify the total number of resolved cases (including, but not limited to, cases resulting in a finding of guilt or liability, cases resolved by plea or stipulation, or dismissed cases) concerning mask mandates.
4. Records sufficient to identify all costs and expenses incurred for cases concerning mask mandates, including but not limited to legal billing statements.

Please provide all responsive records for each month from July 2021 through January 2022. (*i.e.*, July 2021, August 2021, September 2021, October 2021, November 2021, December 2021, and January 2022).

Oklahoma's Open Records Act, 51 O.S.2021 §§ 24A.1–24A.30, provides individuals with “prompt, reasonable access” to records. Records are defined by the Act and by Oklahoma case law to include “any method of memorializing information” which has been created or received by public bodies as defined in the Act, such as books, papers, or photographs. *Fabian & Associates, P.C. v. State ex rel. Dep't of Pub. Safety*, 2004 OK 67, ¶ 10, 100 P.3d 703, 705; 51 O.S. § 24A.3(1).

We are happy to produce open records in our possession, however, we do not have the capacity to compile and/or synthesize data contained within these records for patrons, as these services fall outside the scope and intent of the Open Records Act. Since your request does not seek records, but instead asks for information, we are unable to fully process your request. However, our team was able to put together the enclosed information. I hope it is helpful.

When members of the press seek this type of information (rather than records), our media relations team is often able to find solutions outside the Open Meetings Act. Should you need such assistance in the future, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Phil Bacharach, Communications Director

Office: 405-522-3116

Email: phil.bacharach@oag.ok.gov

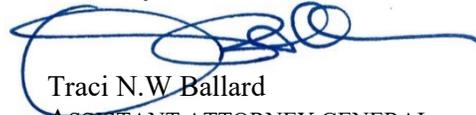
Leslie Berger, Press Secretary

Office: 405-522-1863

Email: leslie.berger@oag.ok.gov

If you wish to modify your request to one for records, please contact our office to clarify which records you seek. Otherwise, this response completes your Open Records Act request to the Oklahoma Attorney General's Office and closes your file.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Traci N.W. Ballard", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Traci N.W. Ballard

ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL