DAVE FROHNMAYER
ATTORNEY GENERAL
STATE OF OREGON

WILLIAM F. GARY
DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
Justice Building
Salem, Oregon 97310
Telephone: (503) 378-4400

August 19, 1988

William Street
Director of Research
Oregon Public Employees Union
1127 Twenty-fifth Street SE
P.O. Box 12159
Salem, Oregon 97309

Freddye Webb-Petett, Administrator
Adult and Family Services Division
417 Public Service Building
Salem, Oregon 97310

Re: Request for Public Records Disclosure Order
Adult and Family Services Division

Dear Mr. Street and Ms. Webb-Petett:

This letter constitutes the Attorney General's order on Mr. Street's August 15, 1988 petition for disclosure of records of the Adult and Family Services Division (AFS). Specifically, Mr. Street asks the Attorney General to order AFS to disclose "Regional Office vendor voucher[s] . . . from January 1, 1987 to March 1, 1988." We understand the petition as being limited to AFS vouchers that relate to purchases of items and services for the regional offices themselves and not to AFS vouchers that relate to payments for services for AFS clients. We allow the petition to this limited extent. If our understanding is incorrect, and if the petition seeks access to all AFS regional office vouchers, including those for purchase of services and supplies for individual clients served by AFS, Mr. Street should so inform us. We will then consider whether any statute restricts his right to inspect those additional records.

AFS evidently has been willing to make the more limited type of information available for Mr. Street's inspection, but his original inspection request to AFS required further clarification. His original request was for copies of "voucher log[s]," but no such logs apparently exist. He then evidently

limited the types of vouchers he wished to inspect in phone conversations with Executive Department's chief labor relations negotiator.

AFS informs us that it will afford Mr. Street, at each of its regional offices, a reasonable opportunity to inspect vouchers related to purchase of items and services for those offices. We thereby direct AFS to do so, pursuant to ORS 192.450. We note, however, that AFS may require Mr. Street to pay for its actual costs in identifying, gathering and copying the requested records prior to supplying him with copies of those records. See ORS 192.440(2); Attorney General's Public Records and Meetings Manual at I-2 (1985). The records are quite voluminous, so we suggest that Mr. Street first inspect the vouchers and then identify the vouchers he wishes to be copied.

Respectfully submitted,

James E. Mountain Jr.

JAMES E. MOUNTAIN, JR.
Special Counsel to the
Attorney General

JEM:cm
cc: Don Arnold, Chief Counsel, General Counsel Division
Larry Young, Assistant Attorney General
Darlene Livermore, Labor Relations Specialist, Personnel and Labor Relations Division
Carol Sutcliff, Manager, Business Services Section, Adult and Family Services Division
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