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February 28, 1996

Robert L. Ackerman
Attorney at Law
870 West Centennial Boulevard
Springfield, OR 97477-5298

Re: ***Petition for Public Records Disclosure Order: Shangri La Water District Records***

Dear Mr. Ackerman:

This letter is the Attorney General's order on your petition for disclosure of records under the Oregon Public Records Law, ORS 192.410 to 192.505. Your petition,[1/] which we received on February 26, 1996, asks the Attorney General to direct the Shangri La Water District to make available for inspection copies of certain of its records. For the reasons that follow, we respectfully deny your petition.

Under the Public Records Law, the Attorney General has authority to issue a public records order only to "any person denied the right to inspect or to receive a copy of any public record of a ***state agency***." ORS 192.450(1) (emphasis added). The Shangri La Water District is not a state agency. Therefore, the Attorney General has no jurisdiction over this matter.

If the Shangri La Water District is a "public body," as defined in ORS 192.410(3), other than a state agency, the district attorney of the county in which the District is located would have jurisdiction. *See* ORS 192.460.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth S. Harchenko

ELIZABETH S. HARCHENKO
Special Counsel to the Attorney General

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[1/] The petition was filed on behalf of your clients, John and Kamala Bright.