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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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October 20, 2010

Christian Wihtol
Senior Editor, The Register-Guard
3500 Chad Drive
Eugene, Oregon 97408

Re: Petition for Public Record Disclosure Order
University of Oregon Documents - Response to Fee Waiver Request

Dear Mr. Wihtol:

You requested certain public records from the University of Oregon regarding the Oregon Bach Festival. The university advised you that the cost of producing those documents would be $1,008.54. You then emailed the university's public-records office, asking for a fee waiver or reduction. Despite two follow-up emails, the university did not respond. On October 13, 2010, you petitioned our office for review, asking the Attorney General to either: (1) direct the university to release the records at no charge, (2) direct the university to conduct a formal evaluation of the fee waiver or reduction request, or (3) take other appropriate steps.

On October 15, 2010, our office was sent a copy of an email sent to you by Elizabeth Denecke, from the university's public-records office. (Attachment) Ms. Denecke explained that the university has considered your request for a fee waiver or reduction and that it is willing to reduce the fees by 20%, making the cost an estimated $806.83. In light of the university's evaluation of, and response to, your request for a fee waiver or reduction, it appears that your October 13 petition for review is moot. If you believe that the university's proposed reduction is unreasonable, you are free to petition our office for review of that decision.

Sincerely,

Mary H. Williams
Deputy Attorney General

cc: Bob Keefer, Elizabeth Denecke