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STATE OF OREGON

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DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL

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

December 23, 1986

Clifford Latta
General Delivery
Remote, Oregon 97468

Re: Records of Oregon State Police Disciplinary Action

Dear Mr. Latta:

This letter responds to your request for copies of materials relating to an Oregon State Police disciplinary board hearing on your complaint against a state police officer. Your request, dated December 12, 1986, was received by the Attorney General's office on December 19, 1986. Because the materials you request are exempt from disclosure under the Public Records Law, we respectfully deny your request.

Oregon law (ORS 192.500(1)(m)) expressly exempts, from the general requirement of public disclosure, records of a "personnel discipline action, or materials or documents supporting that action," unless the public interest requires disclosure in the particular instance. One purpose of the exemption is to make it possible for a public body to agree, as part of an employe disciplinary action, to keep all or part of the basis for that action confidential. The public policies served by the exemption do not appear to us to be outweighed by the personal interests you express in your request.

For these reasons, we do not direct the Oregon State Police to disclose the materials you request.

Very truly yours,

James E. Mountain, Jr.

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

JEM/js
cc: Charles E. Pritchard
Major Lee R. Hyder
Ron Kelm