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April 24, 2018

VIA EMAIL ONLY: alex@rizklaw.com

Rizk Law, P.C.
c/o Alexander Pletch
0434 Southwest Iowa Street
Portland, OR 97239

Re: Petition for Public Records Disclosure Order
Oregon Department of Human Services
DOJ File No.: 100101-GA0027-18

Dear Mr. Pletch:

This letter is the Attorney General's response to your petition for disclosure under the Oregon Public Records Law, ORS 192.311 to 192.478. Your petition, received by this office on April 18, 2018, asks the Attorney General to order the Department of Human Services (DHS) to produce child welfare records relating to one of your clients.

According to DHS, your initial records request was submitted on September 19, 2017. DHS denied your request on October 6, 2017, in a form letter that does not clearly explain the basis for denial in your case. DHS notes, however, that your initial request did not include the required authorization from your client permitting DHS to release her child welfare records to you. You replied to DHS' denial on February 26, 2018, renewing your records request and including the proper client authorization to release the records to you. DHS did not process your February 26, 2018 reply as a new public records request.

We contacted Elizabeth Hernandez-Cazares, DHS-Child Welfare Paralegal, who confirmed that DHS is now processing your request. Given the large volume of responsive records and potentially exempt information, they will be contacting you within the next week with a fee estimate.

Because DHS has agreed to process your request, we respectfully deny your petition as moot.

Sincerely,

FREDERICK M. BOSS
Deputy Attorney General

FMB:pjn/DM8907765
c via email only: Elizabeth Hernandez-Cazares, DHS