DAVE FROHNMAYER
ATTORNEY GENERAL
STATE OF OREGON

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

100 State Office Building
Salem, Oregon 97310
Telephone: (503) 378-4400

September 1, 1982

Mark W. Nelson
Campaign Director
The Oregon Committee
875 High Street, N.E.
Salem, Oregon 97301

Dear Mr. Nelson:

This constitutes the order of the Attorney General in response to your public records petition dated August 31, 1982, in which you request an order requiring the Department of Veterans' Affairs to make available the following records:

> "A listing by name and address of all mortgage holders within the State of Oregon, in label form."

The only exemption relevant under the Public Records Law is ORS 192.500(2)(b), which exempts from disclosure

> "Information of a personal nature such as but not limited to that kept in a personal, medical or similar file, if the public disclosure thereof would constitute an unreasonable invasion of privacy . . ."

Names and addresses are personal information, but disclosure cannot be said to be an unreasonable invasion of privacy. The same information is freely available in any telephone book or city directory. In Opinion No. 8121 dated May 26, 1982, the Attorney General held that the Board of Nursing Examiners, on request, must disclose names, business and home addresses of its licensees. We are unable to see any distinction in this case.

The Department of Veterans' Affairs is accordingly ordered to allow you to examine and copy or to furnish you with a list of names and addresses of its mortgagors. (The term "mortgage holders" would refer to mortgagees rather than mortgagors, but we presume that it is the mortgagor list in which you are interested.) The department cannot be required to furnish the list in label form, but of course it may do so if that is convenient. The requirement is, of course, subject to your payment of the department's cost of allowing inspection or furnishing of the list.

Yours very truly,

JOHN A. REULING, JR.
Special Counsel to the
Attorney General

JAR/js

cc: Staryl Austin, Director
(Attention: Clint Gruber)

John H. Socolofsky