DAN RAYFIELD
ATTORNEY GENERAL

BENJAMIN GUTMAN
DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Justice Building
1162 Court Street NE
Salem, Oregon 97301-4096
Telephone: (503) 378-6002

February 26, 2026

VIA E-MAIL ONLY: loveovergod@gmail.com

Lacey Castleberry
loveovergod@gmail.com

Re: Petition for Public Records Disclosure Order
Oregon Department of Justice
DOJ File No.: 1370001-GA0001-26

Dear Ms. Castleberry:

This letter is the Attorney General's response to your February 19, 2026, petition for disclosure under the Oregon Public Records Law, ORS 192.311 to 192.478. Your petition challenges the Oregon Department of Justice's response to your public records request.

Any person who has been denied the right to inspect or to receive a copy of any public records of a state agency may petition the Attorney General to determine whether the records may be withheld from public disclosure. *See* ORS 192.411(1). However, if the public records at issue are in the custody of an elected official, then "no petition to require disclosure may be filed with the Attorney General," and if a petition is filed, "it shall not be considered by the Attorney General * * *." ORS 192.427.

The Attorney General heads the Department of Justice.[1] Because your petition seeks records in the custody of the Attorney General, an elected official, we lack jurisdiction to consider your appeal and must respectfully dismiss your petition.

Sincerely,

BENJAMIN GUTMAN
Deputy Attorney General

DEP:pjn

[1] ORS 180.210