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

May 1, 2026

VIA E-MAIL ONLY: write2malone@gmail.com

Aaron Malone
6945 SW 36th Ave
Portland, OR 97202

Re: Petition for Public Records Disclosure Order
Oregon State Bar
DOJ File No.: 993001-GA0083-26

Dear Mr. Malone:

This letter is the Attorney General's response to your petition under the Oregon Public Records Law, ORS 192.311 to 192.478. Your petition seeks assistance from the Attorney General in obtaining records you requested from the Oregon State Bar (OSB). Your petition states that OSB failed to respond to a records request made by you.

In connection with your petition, we reviewed the correspondence between you and OSB. You sent an email on March 31, 2026, to OSB's client assistance office seeking "a copy of the appeals as submitted to the General Counsel." On April 22, 2026, you sent a follow-up email stating that OSB had exceeded the statutory time permitted for a public records response. OSB responded to you and explained that you had not made a public records request. OSB directed you to submit a request via its publicly available portal.

///

///

///

///

///

OSB has complied with Public Records law by publishing a written procedure for making records requests. ORS 192.324(7).[1] Your request to OSB, sent to its client assistance office, was not submitted in accordance with this procedure. Therefore, OSB had no obligation to respond. *See* ORS 192.324(2). Under these circumstances, we cannot conclude that OSB denied a public records request for the records you seek. Because OSB has not denied a public records request from you, we respectfully deny your petition. ORS 192.411(1) (in general, the Attorney General may order disclosure only when a records request has been denied).

Sincerely,

BENJAMIN GUTMAN
Deputy Attorney General

DEP:pjn
c via e-mail only: Nik Chourey (Oregon State Bar)

[1] Starting from its public homepage (https://www.osbar.org/index.html), the OSB's "For the Public" tab directs visitors to key services related to the regulation of legal services. Under the "Client Services" section, OSB includes a link for submitting a Public Records Request, available at: https://www.osbar.org/publicrecords. The webpage provides the public with OSB's written, comprehensive information about its public records process. OSB also offers specific, detailed answers to frequently asked questions about its public records procedures at: https://osbar.govqa.us/WEBAPP/_rs/(S(pp3espycrmxbzmjpfmzlbcgo))/FindAnswers.aspx. This information clearly explains the centralized process the Oregon State Bar uses for receiving and responding to public records requests. OSB's website also identifies its Public Records Coordinator—Liza Arellano Boudon—as the designated contact for public records matters and provides a physical mailing address for those requesters seeking to submit a request via mail.