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26-ORD-467

October 16, 2026

In re: Laurie Worthington/Bourbon County School District

Summary: The Bourbon County School District ("the District") violated the Open Records Act ("the Act") when it failed to respond to a request for records within five business days.

Open Records Decision

On August 9, 2026, Laurie Worthington ("the Appellant") submitted a request to the District seeking records related to its budget for fiscal year 2026. On September 18, 2026, having received no response to her request, the Appellant initiated this appeal.

Under KRS 61.878(1), a public agency has five business days after receiving a request for records in which to issue a response either granting or denying the request. Here, the District does not dispute that it did not timely respond to the August 9 request.[1] Therefore, the District violated the Act by failing to timely respond to the Appellant's request.

A party aggrieved by this decision may appeal it by initiating an action in the appropriate circuit court pursuant to KRS 61.880(5) and KRS 61.882 within 30 days from the date of this decision. Pursuant to KRS 61.880(3), the Attorney General shall be notified of any action in circuit court but shall not be named as a party in that action or in any subsequent proceedings. The Attorney General will accept notice of the complaint emailed to OAGAppeals@ky.gov.

[1] Rather, the District explains that the Appellant had submitted 46 different records requests between July 20 and August 3, 2026, as an explanation for its failure to timely respond. Although the large number of requests from a single requester in a short period of time might have supported an invocation of KRS 61.872(5) to delay its final response, the District did not attempt to do so. Instead, it did not respond at all within five business days.

Russell Coleman
Attorney General

/s/ Zachary M. Zimmerer
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Distributed to:

Laurie Worthington, Appellant
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Larry Begley, Bourbon County Schools, Superintendent
Timothy Crawford, Bourbon County Schools, Counsel