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26-ORD-492

October 30, 2026

In re: Jennifer Richmond/Simpson County School District

Summary: The Simpson County School District ("the District") violated the Open Records Act ("the Act") when it failed to timely respond to a request under the Act.

Open Records Decision

On May 28, 2026, Jennifer Richmond ("Appellant") submitted a request to the Fiscal Court seeking six categories of records related to District's interaction with nine outside entities. The same day, the District responded, asking the Appellant to complete a form before it would issue a response. Three months later, having received no response from the District, the Appellant initiated this appeal.

Under KRS 61.880(1), upon receiving a request for records under the Act, a public agency "shall determine within five (5) [business] days . . . after the receipt of any such request whether to comply with the request and shall notify in writing the person making the request, within the five (5) day period, of its decision." Here, the Appellant submitted a request to the District and had yet to receive a response three months later. On appeal, the District does not dispute that it did not respond timely to the Appellant's request. Therefore, the Office must conclude that the District violated the Act when it did not respond timely to a request for records.[1]

A party aggrieved by this decision may appeal it by initiating an action in the appropriate circuit court under KRS 61.880(5) and KRS 61.882 within 30 days from the date of this decision. Under 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

[1] On appeal, the District states that it has now provided the Appellant with records "pertaining to her open records request."

any subsequent proceedings. The Attorney General will accept notice of the complaint emailed to OAGAppeals@ky.gov.

Russell Coleman
Attorney General

/s/ Zachary M. Zimmerer
Zachary M. Zimmerer
Assistant Attorney General

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Distributed to:

Jennifer Richmond, Appellant
Tim Schlosser, Simpson County Schools, Superintendent
Shelina Smith, Simpson County Schools, Chief Academic Officer