



**KEN PAXTON**  
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS

August 21, 2024

Mr. Blake Watson  
Assistant County Attorney  
Fayette County Attorney's Office  
151 North Washington  
La Grange, Texas 78945  
Sent via e-mail.

Dear Mr. Watson:

The Office of the Attorney General received several complaints from multiple requestors alleging Fayette County, including the Fayette County Attorney's Office and Fayette County Sheriff's Office (collectively, the "county"), has failed to respond appropriately to various requests for information under the Public Information Act (the "Act"), chapter 552 of the Government Code. The complaints were assigned ID Nos. 964043, OR-23-000262-IC, OR-23-000263-IC, OR-23-000471-IC, OR-23-000479-IC, OR-23-086088-IC, OR-23-086099-IC, OR-23-086102-IC, OR-23-0088981-IC, OR-23-0088986-IC, OR-23-10071-IC, OR-23-104198-IC, OR-23-104346-IC, OR-23-104347-IC, OR-23-104348-IC, OR-24-015316-IC, OR-24-015334-IC, OR-24-015339-IC, OR-24-016027-IC, OR-24-016035-IC, OR-24-016037-IC, OR-24-016046-IC, OR-24-017493-IC, OR-24-017496-IC, OR-24-017498-IC, OR-24-018691-IC, OR-24-018813-IC, OR-24-019685-IC, OR-24-019686-IC, OR-24-019689-IC, OR-24-019690-IC, OR-24-019691-IC, OR-24-019692-IC, OR-24-020811-IC, OR-24-021444-IC, OR-24-021449-IC, OR-24-021450-IC, OR-24-022108-IC, OR-24-022671-IC, OR-24-022687-IC, OR-24-022689-IC, OR-24-022745-IC, and OR-24-022843-IC.

This office sent letters to the county by mail and/or electronic mail informing the county of the complaints and requesting a response to assist us in resolving these matters. This office has also contacted the county by telephone on several occasions to inform the county of the complaints and requested a response. As of the date of this letter, we have not received a response stating the county will comply with the requests at issue.

Due to the county's pattern of non-response, this office has determined the county failed to comply with the requirements of the Act in relation to the requests at issue. Accordingly, pursuant to section 552.012(b-1) of the Government Code, this office now requires the public officials of the county listed, or their designees, to complete an open records training course approved under

section 552.012(d) of the Government Code. *See* Gov't Code § 552.012(b-1). The public officials, or their designees, that must complete the open records training pursuant to section 552.012 consist of the following:

Dan Mueller  
Fayette County Judge

Blake Watson  
Assistant County Attorney  
Fayette County Attorney's Office

Sheriff Keith Korenek  
Fayette County Sheriff

We note this training must be completed not later than the 60th day after the date of receipt of this letter. *Id.* We will close our files on these matters. You are also required to send this office a copy of the certificate of course completion. However, this office will also consider the initiation other remedies as allowed by the Act. *See id.* § 552.321(a) (attorney general may file suit for writ of mandamus compelling governmental body to make information available for public inspection if governmental body refuses to supply public information under the Act).

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter. If you have any questions regarding this letter, please call the Open Government Hotline at (877) 673-6839.

Sincerely,

Tamara R. Smith  
Division Chief  
Open Records Division

c: Sheriff Keith Korenek  
Fayette County  
1646 North Jefferson  
La Grange, Texas 78945  
Sent via e-mail.

Judge Dan Mueller  
Fayette County Judge  
151 North Washington Street, Room 301  
La Grange, Texas 78945

Requestors