

MIKE SCHMIDT, District Attorney for Multnomah County

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November 4, 2022

VIA EMAIL ONLY

Liani Reyna cougar1225@yahoo.com

Re: <u>Petition of Liani Reyna seeking</u>

Dear Ms. Reyna:

You submitted a petition to this office on October 26, 2022, seeking an order compelling the Portland Police Bureau (PPB) to respond to a public records request you had made on June 25, 2022. PPB provided an initial fee estimate at the end of August, which it appears you paid.

Subsequent to you submitting your petition, it appears that PPB has begun work on processing your request, communicated with you about certain categories of records that do not exist, clarified the scope of what you are seeking, and provided you with a fee estimate to proceed with collection and review of the requested records based on that clarified scope. I agree that 17 weeks between making your request and PPB commencing substantive work does not comport with the requirement that a public body complete its response "as soon as practicable and without unreasonable delay." ORS 192.329(1); *Petition of Kessler*, MCDA PRO 22-45 (noting this office would likely conclude "a delay of twelve weeks to *begin* to process [a] public records request is not objectively reasonable.")

However, given the current posture of this case there is no relief that this office can order. A public body's provision of a fee estimate suspends any further obligation to respond pending payment or waiver of that fee. ORS 192.329(3). If upon payment of the estimated fee, PPB does not complete its response within a reasonable time, you may petition this office for further relief.¹

Accordingly, the petition is denied at this time as moot.

Regards.

MIKE SCHMIDT District Attorney Multnomah County, Oregon

Cc: Jenifer Johnston, City of Portland

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¹ A routine request should take no more than 10 business days to gather, review, and provide responsive records. Attorney General's Public Records and Meetings Manual (2019) at p. 13.