

STATE OF NEBRASKA

Office of the Attorney General

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MIKE HILGERS ATTORNEY GENERAL

RYAN D. BAKER ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL

December 11, 2024

Via email: Omid T. Moghadam

RE: Public Records Matter Involving the Nebraska State Patrol

Our File No. 20241226

Dear Mr. Moghadam:

This letter is in response to your correspondence received by this office on November 26, 2024, in which you sought our assistance regarding your public records request submitted to the Nebraska State Patrol ("NSP") on November 7, 2024.

During the pendency of your petition to this office, it has come to our attention that you have filed a petition for writ of mandamus in the District Court of Buffalo County, Nebraska, against the NSP on November 26, 2024, at Case No. CI 24-542. The Nebraska Public Records Statutes ("NPRS"), as set forth in Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 84-712 through 84-712.09 (2014, Cum. Supp. 2024), provide the remedies available to members of the public that claim to have been denied access to records of or belonging to a public body. Specifically, § 84-712.03(1)(a)-(b) provides that "[a]ny person denied any rights granted" by the NPRS may elect to either (1) "[f]ile for speedy relief by a writ of mandamus in the district court within whose jurisdiction the state, county, or political subdivision officer who has custody of the public record can be served" or (2) "[p]etition the Attorney General to review the matter to determine whether a record may be withheld from public inspection or whether the public body . . . has otherwise failed to comply" with the NPRS.

As it is apparent that you have elected to pursue the remedy under § 84-712.03(1)(a) by filing a petition for writ of mandamus with the district court, we will not

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consider your petition further in accord with our office's longstanding policy. Therefore, no further action by our office is warranted, and we will be closing this file.

Sincerely,

MIKE HILGERS Attorney General

Ryan D. Baker

Assistant Attorney General

c: Mark Boyer (via email only)
Michael Wehling (via email only)

55-062