

GRAMA Notice of Appeal to State Records Committee

Note: Utah Code § [63G-2-403](#) (GRAMA) provides that any person may further appeal the chief administrative officer's denial of an appeal by filing a notice of appeal with the State Records Committee. This notice must be filed within 30 days of the response from a governmental entity's chief administrative officer or no later than 45 days after the records request was made if the following occur: the governmental entity claims extraordinary circumstances, and the chief administrative officer failed to make a determination.

Requester's information

Name: Janae Wahnschaffe Date: 9/5/2018

Address: [REDACTED] City/State/Zip:

Daytime telephone number: [REDACTED]

Make request to

SRC Executive Secretary
346 South Rio Grande Street
Salt Lake City, Utah
84101 grama@utah.gov

Explanation of Relief Sought

Note: Relief can relate to conflicts over denial of access to records (Utah Code § [63G-2-402](#)) as well as disputes over fees (Utah Code § [63G-2-203\(6\)](#)) or extraordinary circumstances (Utah Code § [63G-2-402](#)).

The State Records Committee can also use the weighing provision to order the release of records that are properly restricted if it determines that the interests favoring access are greater than or equal to the interests favoring restriction (Utah Code § [63G-2-203\(11\)](#))

I vacated my employment with Highland City at the end of May, 2018 with a legal settlement agreement after filing a formal complaint of harassment. I am one of 3 female employees who have left their position in Highland after enduring this type of treatment. There were 3 paid agreements, from taxpayer money, to dismiss these employees. Sadly, Highland City continues a pattern of misconduct. The information I have requested is directly related to the misconduct I encountered in Highland. All information requested should be legally available.

I requested these documents from the city to determine if there were disparaging remarks made about my performance as an employee, or personal disparagement that constitutes further harassment. I have received verbal confirmation that the city has continued to disparage me both in written and verbal form. I believe it's in the best interest of the public for Highland to release this information free of charge because no employee should have to endure what I did in their employment. If Highland is still disparaging individuals after their employment ended as a result of harassment, it should be made public so it can be addressed properly and stopped.

Highland's reply to my GRAMA request is concerning for many reasons. First, they stated there are over 2,100 emails that qualify in my request parameters. I am only wanting emails from a 4 month period containing any of 5 specific keywords. If there are truly over 2,100 emails that qualify, that indicates obsessive behaviors and could prove very disparaging to me, personally. In addition, the claim that retrieving the information would require over 74 hours of labor is extremely overestimated. I consulted with two IT professionals, who have expertise in exchange server, and they both assured me this task is minor, if the information is being maintained properly. The other documents I requested are already accessible, with no work required.

I am also aware that some of my specifically requested material was offered to a reporter with the Daily Herald, which means some of this work has already been completed. Highland City is seemingly making this information inaccessible. I cannot afford the exorbitant amount of money requested, especially considering they grossly overinflated the estimated time and cost involved. I am willing to accept all information either electronically or physically, whichever method is easiest for execution and delivery.

I appreciate your help in petitioning the city to offer the requested documents at no cost to me. This would be in the best interest of the public. Thank you.

Inclusions for notice of appeal

The State Records Committee requires documentation and has specific appeals procedures which are outlined in Administrative Rule: [Title R35. Administrative Services, Records Committee](#), and should be reviewed by a petitioner.

This petition to appeal to the State Records Committee requires the following attachments or inclusions:

- Statement of facts, reasons, and legal authority in support of this appeal
(see Utah Code § [63G-2-403\(3\)\(b\)](#)).
- Original GRAMA request
- Notice of denial from the governmental agency's records officer
- Notice of appeal to the governmental entity's chief administrative officer (Optional)
- Notice of decision from the governmental entity's chief administrative officer

This notice of appeal must, **on the same day**, also be forwarded to the governmental entity to which the records request was made (Utah Code § [63G-2-403\(3\)](#)).

- Notice of appeal sent to agency

Request assistance

A petitioner may request assistance from the government records ombudsman. The ombudsman's responsibility is to serve as a resource for a person who is filing an appeal relating to a records request. The ombudsman may also attempt to mediate disputes between requesters and responders (Utah Code § [63A-12-111\(2\)](#)).

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