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VIA EMAIL (Sheila.williamowski@ohiohouse.gov)

Ms. Sheila Williamowski
Deputy Legal Counsel
House Republican Caucus
Ohio House of Representatives

Re: Checks & Balances Public Records Request

Dear Ms. Williamowski:

This firm represents the Checks & Balances Project (“C&BP”). On May 4, Scott Peterson, C&BP’s Executive Director, submitted a request for the final report of the independent counsel who’d been retained to investigate allegations of widespread sexual harassment of women in the Ohio House. Our client also requested that you provide all documents related to the hiring of the independent counsel, so Ohio citizens understand what the scope of its duties were, and all documents relating to the manner in which House staff was informed of the outcome of the investigation.

You acknowledged receipt of the request on May 4. Since then, you have not made any records available for inspection nor have you otherwise responded in any fashion. Your behavior constitutes a violation of R.C. 149.43(B)(1).

I would also direct your attention to the Ohio Supreme Court’s ruling in *State ex rel. Wadd v. Cleveland*, 81 Ohio St. 3d 50, 53-54 (1998), where the court noted: “no pleading of too much expense, or too much time involved, or too much interference with normal duties can be used by the public office to evade the public’s right to inspect or obtain a copy of public records within a reasonable time.”

Please provide a copy of the report and related documents upon your receipt of this correspondence. If we do not receive these documents by the close of business on June 11, we will take appropriate action to enforce our client’s rights.

Thank you,

GRAYDON HEAD & RITCHIEY LLP


John C. Greiner

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