

ROBERT EDWIN BURNS
4155 Essen Lane, Apt. 228
Baton Rouge, LA 70809-2152
225-636-5506 (home) 225-235-4346 (cell)
rburnsbtr@hotmail.com

February 28, 2018

MR KEITH STUTES
DISTRICT ATTORNEY, LAFAYETTE PARISH
911 LEE AVENUE
LAFAYETTE LA 70501

Dear DA Stutes:

I am respectfully requesting that you contact the Lafayette Parish School System (LPSS) and enlighten them and/or reinforce to them their obligation to fulfill a recent public records request I submitted to them on February 14, 2018. I have enclosed my confirmation from the Board's automated system acknowledging my request.

Initially, my communications with Ms. Mona Bernard, who is the designated point-person for handling this request, went very well. In fact, she and I set up a time and date (Thursday, February 22, 2018 at 11:30 a.m.) at which time I would be able to take electronic pictures of the requested documents from LPSS computer terminals.

Since that time, however, I have encountered nothing but obstructionist communication from Ms. Bernard, whom I firmly believe is serving as the spokesperson for angry outside attorneys who simply don't want me to obtain records of their billings to the LPSS. That obstructionist communication culminated in an email to me yesterday from Ms. Bernard which stated that merely **"downloading the invoices is going to take weeks."** I have enclosed that email from Ms. Bernard with this letter.

This is the year 2018, so it is an utter and complete falsehood that "downloading invoices is going to take 'people weeks' to accomplish. In fact, that a LPSS employee could reduce to writing such an absurd contention is utterly laughable on its face!

It is Ms. Bernard's enclosed email which forms the basis of me respectfully requesting that you advise the LPSS of its obligation and "politely nudge" them in the direction of fulfilling my request and doing so in a **much** more expedient manner than is presently the case.

I know I can retain an attorney and sue the LPSS for this unjustifiable delay (and one attorney has already described Bernard's email as "total bull s---"); however, my goal is to obtain the records and not get bogged down into protracted litigation over the matter

notwithstanding that I would stand to benefit by \$100/day for which the custodian of the LPSS is personal liable for unreasonable delays such as that demonstrated by Mr. Bernard's email yesterday.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter and, should you have need to contact me concerning it, please don't hesitate to do so.

Enclosures: Public Records Confirmation email from LPSS of 2/14/18 & email from Mona Bernard of 2/27/18.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Robert Edwin Burns". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Robert Edwin Burns

Cc: Louisiana Attorney General Jeff Landry

Robert Burns

From: Website Gadget Form Builder <gadget_form_builder@lpssonline.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 14, 2018 2:49 PM
To: robert@auctionsellsfast.com
Subject: Public Records Request Form Confirmation E-Mail

Thank you for your submission. Below is a confirmation of the information you entered:

Name: Robert Edwin Burns
Company/Firm: Sound Off Louisiana (not a company - video blog)
Email address: robert@auctionsellsfast.com
Address: 4155 Essen Lane
Apt 228
City: Baton Rouge
State: LA
Zip Code: 70809-2152
Phone number:: 2252354346

**Title of document you
are requesting:** Legal

**If you do not know the
title of the document,
please describe the
document:** 1. Copies of any and all original invoices billed to the Lafayette School System or Board from the
Hammond's & Sills Law Firm or their individual employees
including court costs
beginning in January of 2012 until the present.

2. Copies of any and all invoices billed to the Lafayette School System or Board from Attorney Denni
Blunt and/or his firm
Phelps Dunbar
including court costs
beginning in January of 2014 until the present.

Powered by Firefly's Website Gadget Form Builder

Robert Burns

From: Mona Bernard <mbernard@lpssonline.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 27, 2018 12:39 PM
To: Robert Burns
Subject: Public Records Request Entailing Legal Invoices for LPSS

People are working on downloading the files, but it will take weeks and then our attorney has to review and redact information, which will take additional time.

Mona Bernard
LPSS Office of Risk Management

From: Robert Burns [mailto:robert@auctionsellsfast.com]
Sent: Tuesday, February 27, 2018 10:32 AM
To: 'Mona Bernard'
Subject: RE: Public Records Request Entailing Legal Invoices for LPSS

Ms. Bernard:

Given that it has been a week since I have heard anything from you, can you update me on the status and whether I may be able to view the documents tomorrow. Given that's a week after a date we'd agreed upon weeks ago, I anticipated being able to view them long before now.

Thanks.

Robert Edwin Burns, founder, Sound Off Louisiana

4155 Essen Lane, Ste 228
Baton Rouge, LA 70809-2152
(225) 235-4346
www.soundoffla.com

From: Mona Bernard [mailto:mbernard@lpssonline.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 21, 2018 1:24 PM
To: Robert Burns <robert@auctionsellsfast.com>
Subject: RE: Public Records Request Entailing Legal Invoices for LPSS

You will not be able to view the records tomorrow electronically until they have been redacted.

Mona Bernard
LPSS Office of Risk Management

From: Robert Burns [mailto:robert@auctionsellsfast.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 21, 2018 11:05 AM
To: 'Mona Bernard'
Subject: RE: Public Records Request Entailing Legal Invoices for LPSS

Ms. Bernard:

Thank you for the attached response labeled "4215_001.pdf"

Based on its content, I will respond in kind similarly to the way I did on the attached email in 2013 wherein I had a FAR, FAR less hospital Attorney General in James D. "Buddy" Caldwell. For the record, even Buddy Caldwell's office caved and had Bankston SUBSTANTIALLY reduce his redacting and provide the records (to which he complied at no charge and I scanned them even five years ago – have spent hours in his office copying substantially-less redacted invoices as the attached email makes clear).

I have a meeting to attend now; however, I'll contact the AG's Office and ascertain its stand on this matter (the LALB routinely performs redacting and has NEVER charged for it, and God knows if there's one agency with which I have the highest level of antagonism, it's the LALB).

I assume you saw yesterday evening's piece on the W. D. Smith situation and the favorable light that was shined upon the LPSS: <http://www.soundoffla.com/?p=1371>. I'm assuming there's obviously now reluctance for the LPSS system to be as transparent as possible on its legal billings, which I have no doubt have been massive entailing Dr. Cooper's litigation, but I'll deal with whatever hand I'm dealt. It's not like I have encountered this type of resistance before. To me, it's an absolute indictment on the mainstream media that nobody has previously requested these invoices and you already have redacted copies available (obviously you will if any feature I distribute "catches on" and the MSM opts to at least piggy back), but that's primarily the reason Sound Off Louisiana exists (i.e. because the drive-by, mainstream media is largely asleep at the wheel).

At any rate, I need to know where we stand on me coming into tomorrow at 11:30 a.m. and scanning those records which are available. That timeframe was agreed to readily agreed to a week ago, so I would hope it still flies with the LPSS given that the nature of my request was known back then. I'll await hearing back from you and thank you for your response.

Robert Edwin Burns, founder, Sound Off Louisiana

4155 Essen Lane, Ste 228

Baton Rouge, LA 70809-2152

(225) 235-4346

www.soundoffla.com

From: Mona Bernard [<mailto:mbernard@lpssonline.com>]

Sent: Wednesday, February 21, 2018 10:12 AM

To: Robert Burns <robert@auctionsellsfast.com>

Subject: FW: Attached Image

Please see attached.

Mona Bernard

LPSS Office of Risk Management