

September 2, 2008

By Fax (907) 269-4543 and first-class mail

Department of Public Safety
Office of the Commissioner
5700 E. Tudor Road
Juneau, AK 99507

Re: Alaska Public Records Act Request

Dear Sir/Madam:

Citizens for Ethics and Responsibility in Washington (“CREW”) makes this request for records, regardless of format, medium, or physical characteristics, and including electronic records and information, pursuant to the Alaska Public Records Act, AS 40.25.120.

Specifically, CREW seeks all documents relating to the firing of Alaska Public Safety Commissioner Walter Monegan. CREW also seeks all documents that refer, relate to or reference in any way Alaska State Trooper Mike Wooten.

Please search for responsive records regardless of format, medium, or physical characteristics. We seek records of any and all kind, including electronic records, audiotapes, videotapes, photographs, and computer print-outs. Our request includes any telephone messages, voice mail messages, email, daily agenda and calendars and information about scheduled meetings.

In accordance with AS 40.25.110(d), CREW also requests a waiver of fees associated with processing this request for records. Such a waiver is in the public interest, given that the subject of this request concerns individuals and events connected to Alaska Governor Sarah Palin, who has just been selected as the vice presidential running mate for Senator John McCain. Specifically, the requested records are likely to contribute to the public’s understanding of the role of Governor Palin in the firing of Mr. Monegan because of his refusal to terminate the employment of Governor Palin’s former brother-in-law, State Trooper Mike Wooten.

CREW is a non-profit corporation, organized under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue code. CREW is committed to protecting the citizens’ right to be aware of the activities of government officials and to ensuring the integrity of those officials. CREW is dedicated to empowering citizens to have an influential voice in government decisions and in the government decision-making process. CREW uses a combination of research, litigation, and advocacy to advance its mission. The release of information garnered through this request is not in CREW’s financial interest. CREW will analyze the information responsive to this request and intends to

share its analysis with the public, either through memoranda, reports, or press releases. CREW has an established record of carrying out these types of activities, as evidenced through its website, www.citizensforethics.org. Currently, the CREW website contains links to thousands of pages of documents acquired from multiple Freedom of Information Act ("FOIA") requests. See <http://citizensforethics.org/activities/foia.php>. Visitors to CREW's website can peruse the FOIA request letters, the responses from government agencies, and a growing number of documents responding to FOIA requests. CREW's virtual reading room provides around-the-clock access to anyone interested in learning about the government activities that were the focus of CREW's FOIA requests. The CREW website also includes documents relating to CREW's FOIA litigation, Internal Revenue Service complaints, Federal Election Commission complaints and requests for investigation. In addition, CREW will disseminate any documents it acquires from its request to the public through www.governmentdocs.org, an interactive website CREW founded that includes thousands of pages of public documents from a number of organizations in addition to CREW.

Under these circumstances, CREW satisfies fully the criteria for a fee waiver.

If you have any questions about this request, or foresee any problems in releasing fully the requested records, please contact me at (202) 408-5565. Also, if CREW's request for a fee waiver is not granted in full, please contact our office immediately upon making such a determination. Please send the requested documents to Anne Weismann, Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington, 1400 Eye Street, N.W., Suite 450, Washington, D.C. 20005.

Sincerely,



ANNE L. WEISMANN
Chief Counsel
Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics
in Washington