

From:
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To:
"Sheila" <stuff4sheila@yahoo.com>
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- COUNTY BILLS AND ADVANCES FROM JULY 1 (3).docx
- FORECLOSURE BILLS AND ADVANCES FROM JULY 1 (2).docx
- BATTONGUIN DSSFEES.xlsx
- attorney info 0809.xls

Ms. Hanna,

I'm writing in response to your email request for information dated 08/24/09. As I indicated on several occasions, research was necessary in order to prepare a response. Please review the information below:

Your correspondence referenced the Board's 04/20/09 meeting where you made public comment regarding a broad range of issues. You've requested a response from the Board of Commissioners. As the manager, I'll provide the following information on behalf of the Board:

First, let me emphasize that our Board and its staff are committed to providing our public with information in a timely manner. If the information requested exists, my office (with very limited resources) makes every effort to provide an expedient response. Sometimes, the information requested doesn't exist. If it's within our reach (fiscally and with limited resources), I try to produce the documentation requested. With the large volume of information requests we receive, it's a challenge – especially if we try to produce a record that is not readily available.

-On 04/20/09 you spoke during the public comment period at our Board meeting. Chairman Swanson indicated the Board would take your comments into consideration. The Board values the opportunity to have feedback presented by our public. Your comments were noted and full consideration given to your concerns. I have followed up on several of the concerns as manager and have addressed in the appropriate manner.

-As I has stated several times before, the Board has received your request for a Town Hall meeting. At this time, no further action has been taken.

-Costs for legal representation are attached; legal assistance is sought for a broad range of issues; you had requested info. for the CY 2009

-Note: the attorney payment history attached for 2008 -2009 includes fees and some expenses; example: Norman & Gardner was selected to provide services for the CDBG (Community Development Block Grant Program; \$180,802.74 is the amount for settlement for housing purchased through this program

-Darnell Batton has never been a county employee. He (like the Manager and the Clerk to the Board are appointed positions – working at the will of the Board)

-Mr. Batton isn't paid a salary; his services are provided for a fee; see information attached.

-Three candidates were interviewed when the County advertised for a full-time attorney in 2008. The Chairman and Board members conducted the interviews.

(You'll note Darnell's office itemized his legal fees as well as advances).

Angela L. Harris

(attachment 1)

COUNTY BILLS AND ADVANCES FROM JULY 1, 2005 TO JULY, 2009

YEAR: 2005

ATTORNEYS FEES: ADVANCES:

\$30,860.00 \$944.54

YEAR: 2006

ATTORNEYS FEES: ADVANCES:

\$56,056.80 \$616.93

YEAR: 2007

ATTORNEYS FEES: ADVANCES:

\$71,679.30 NONE

YEAR: 2008

ATTORNEYS FEES: ADVANCES:

\$94,498.69 \$226.77

YEAR: 2009

ATTORNEYS FEES: ADVANCES:

\$42,463.30 \$2,036.69

TOTAL OF ABOVE:

\$295,558.09 \$3,824.93

NOTE: Advances are expenses such as filing and service fees paid by Batton and Guin and subsequently reimbursed (without interest) by Franklin County.

(attachment 2)

FORECLOSURE BILLS AND ADVANCES FROM JULY 1, 2005 TO JULY, 2009

YEAR: 2005

ATTORNEYS FEES: ADVANCES:

\$23,400.00 \$13,390.28

YEAR: 2006

ATTORNEYS FEES: ADVANCES:

\$73,200.00 \$17,525.04

YEAR: 2007

ATTORNEY'S FEES: ADVANCES:

\$42,226.25 \$9,251.82

YEAR: 2008

ATTORNEY'S FEES: ADVANCES:

\$46,800.00 \$9,720.72

YEAR: 2009

ATTORNEYS FEES: ADVANCES:

\$38,400.00 \$7,355.57

NOTE: Fees and advances are included in the amounts paid by delinquent taxpayers and are then reimbursed to the County, therefore, the amount reflected does not represent actual expenditures by Franklin County.

(attachment 3)

Batton & Guin Services Invoiced to DSS - July, 2005-June, 2009

	Adoption Assistance Legal	Legal Services	Advances & Expenses
Jul-05		4,086.00	40.66
Aug-05		4,419.00	582.01
Sep-05		6,516.00	849.50
Oct-05		5,832.00	76.09
Nov-05		5,517.00	50.79
Dec-05	880.00	3,717.00	48.74
Jan-06		3,600.00	49.15
Feb-06	1,350.00	4,212.00	88.63
Mar-06	450.00	5,526.00	192.23
Apr-06		7,344.00	61.14
May-06	450.00	8,784.00	557.52
Jun-06		4,752.00	349.93
Jul-06		8,400.00	399.29
Aug-06		8,130.00	2,624.20
Sep-06		5,780.00	1,544.60
Oct-06		7,250.00	150.90
Nov-06		5,360.00	1,524.60
Dec-06	450.00	2,900.00	117.40
Jan-07		8,480.00	208.20
Feb-07		4,000.00	188.10
Mar-07	2,250.00	3,950.00	497.10
Apr-07	900.00	8,340.00	135.90
May-07	900.00	7,370.00	
Jun-07		8,430.00	50.00

Jul-07		7,020.00	967.10
Aug-07	400.00	10,070.00	2,209.70
Sep-07	450.00	7,020.00	356.31
Oct-07		5,550.00	31.30
Nov-07		6,990.00	597.70
Dec-07		9,700.00	1,420.30
Jan-08	1,950.00	6,600.00	
Feb-08		7,190.00	237.67
Mar-08		5,970.00	748.71
Apr-08		7,900.00	186.26
May-08		5,300.00	324.66
Jun-08		8,420.00	226.70
Jul-08	3,900.00	7,800.00	850.12
Aug-08	650.00	5,500.00	
Sep-08	651.00	12,250.00	
Oct-08		5,900.00	364.69
Nov-08		7,650.00	
Dec-08		8,560.00	3,675.46
Jan-09	651.00	8,600.00	1,871.74
Feb-09		6,470.00	
Mar-09		7,410.00	227.53
Apr-09		9,910.00	314.25
May-09	2,604.00	6,420.00	231.43
Jun-09		3,510.00	620.76
			Total:
	18,886.00	320,405.00	25,849.07
			365,140.07

(attachment 4)

ATTORNEY	AMOUNT PAID	HOURLY RATE	
ALLEN & PINNEX PA	40,000.00	375.00	
DAVIS STURGES AND TOMLINSON	14,218.75	125.00	
FRAZIER FRANKLIN HILL & FURY	6,668.75	175.00	
ORTIZ & SHICK	25,431.62		
ORTIZ		175.00	
ATKINS		90.00	
HIMPHILL		165.00	
DRISCOLL SHEEDY	10,312.59		
DRISCOLL		165.00	
SHEEDY		275.00	
NORMAN & GARDNER	4,527.00	125.00-200.00	Notes/Title Searches
NORMAN & GARDNER	180,802.74		Settlements(CDBG)
TOTAL	281,961.45		

Information prepared by Franklin County Finance Office on 9/21/09.