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Mr. Dan Whisenhunt
via email: dwhisenhunt@gmail.com

RE: *Open Records Act Complaint regarding the City Schools of Decatur*

Dear Mr. Whisenhunt:

I am writing to follow up on your complaint regarding the City Schools of Decatur and their failure to produce a copy of the contract for the purchase of real property on Talley Street. You noted that many details of the contract have already been released, both to the press and to the public, and therefore there may be no actual need to keep the contract itself confidential, despite the exception in the Open Records Act that covers records of the acquisition of real estate.

I spoke on the phone to Debra Golymbieski, an attorney for the school district. She stated that although many details of the contract had been released to the press and to the public, there were still some details that had not been released. Given that fact, she believed that the City still had a valid reason for wanting to keep those details confidential, and asserting the appropriate exemption under the Act.

The Act does allow the City to keep these records confidential in this situation. O.C.G.A. § 50-18-72(a)(9). Furthermore, the City appears to have a good faith belief that doing so is necessary in this situation. Given the facts of this particular situation, I do not believe that the City has violated the Open Records Act in this instance.

Sincerely,

JENNIFER COLANGELO
Assistant Attorney General

cc: Debra Golymbieski, Esq. (via email)