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July 22, 2024

Allison Rogers, County Attorney Escambia County 221 Palafox Place, Suite 430 Pensacola, FL 32502 aarogers@myescambia.com

VIA EMAIL ONLY

RE: Lumon May Invoice:

Dear Ms. Rogers:

Commissioner May recently received an invoice from the Clerk of Court demanding payment for monies for an alleged "lot cleaning" of real property he owns on Yonge Street. Commissioner May never requested the County "clean" or otherwise remove debris from his family's property. For reasons unknown, a request to the County Administrator requesting someone to look at debris in the roadway turned into a larger work crew than necessary entering his property without his permission and removing debris from a recent lot clearing he had performed with his own funds. Indeed, the Grand Jury cleared him of any legal wrongdoing from this situation.

The Grand Jury did recommend, however, that he reimburse the County for "the work done on his property." Commissioner May has great respect for the Grand Jury and its work. While he does not believe he should have to reimburse the County for services he never requested, out of respect for the Grand Jury, and because he does not want there to be a perception that he has received a public benefit, he is willing to pay the county for the actual amount the county expended for the removal of debris.

The County Clerk's invoice and demand for payment of \$4,253.74 was allegedly prepared by one of her many internal employees. Does this figure match the results of the County Administrator's investigation? It is my understanding the County Administrator was able to use GPS data to determine that County Road Crew employees lied on their timesheets and their false and misleading time sheets were provided to the Clerk of Court as part of her investigation.

I am told that the Clerk never requested any clarification or the accuracy of these reports from County Administration, nor did her Internal Auditor request any GPS data which would have easily shown that certain County Road Workers records were false. For instance, it is my

Eric D. Stevenson eric@stevensonklotz.com Licensed in FL & AL J. Christopher Klotz chris@stevensonklotz.com Licensed in FL, MS, AL & D.C. understanding that some County workers claimed to have worked on Commissioner May's lot at a time when the GPS data proved they were actually at a shoe store, fast food restaurants, and even a youth football game.

Because the County Clerk's invoice was based upon false and incomplete information, we question whether the other items in the invoice are also inaccurate. The County has access to all of the data and is in a better position to do a thorough and accurate investigation into what the actual costs were. For these reasons, we are asking you to please advise us within 7 days the County's computation for the actual time, equipment, and materials used in the pickup of debris on his property. Please provide supporting documentation.

Compliance with laws and policies as well as accountability for the use of public funds is important to Commissioner May. He is a man of integrity and does not tolerate fraud, waste, corruption or abuse. His record of service to this community is unassailable. As the Grand Jury suggested, he will pay for the unrequested work done on his property to ensure there is no appearance of impropriety. He does not wish to pay for fraudulent time entries, equipment, or materials that were not used for work performed. Within 7 days of receipt of your computations and supporting documentation, Mr. May will deliver a check to your office for the amount you determine.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact our office.

D. Stevenson

EDS/mjc