

February 13, 2009

Ms. Estefanie Muller, Clerk/Administrator
Town of Edgewood
P.O. Box 3610
Edgewood, NM 87015
via e-mail: clerk@edgewood-nm.gov sent 2/13/09

Subject: Inspection of Public Records Request

Dear Estefanie:

This request to inspect and copy public records is submitted pursuant to the New Mexico Inspection of Public Records Act (NMIPRA), NMSA 1978 §14-1, et seq. I wish to inspect and obtain electronic and all other copies of documents believed to be in the possession of the Town of Edgewood. Specifically, the resignation letter of Edgewood Police Chief Paul Welch is requested.

With respect to the Town's assertion that the letter is not a public document, as referenced in the article in the February 11, 2009 issue of the local newspaper The Independent, I disagree. The NMIPRA (attached) provides twelve exceptions to the right to inspect public records. Mr. Welch's resignation letter does not fall into any of these categories. Therefore, please be advised that, if this request is denied or if inspection is not allowed within the statutory deadline (please see the attached copy of the statute) for any reason, a complaint will be filed with the New Mexico Attorney General's office.

This request is in the public interest; therefore, I request that costs associated with copying be waived; however, I would prefer to receive the information electronically if possible, which should eliminate the need for copying. The custodian of records may contact me at the following address and telephone number within applicable statutory time limits provided in NMSA §14-2-8.

(edited)

Thank you for your attention to this matter. If you should have any questions, please feel free to contact me at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

John E. Weckerle

cc:
The East Mountain Telegraph
The Independent