



JOHNSON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT

Christopher Boedeker
County Judge

Rick Bailey
Commissioner
Precinct 1

Kenny Howell
Commissioner
Precinct 2

Mike White
Commissioner
Precinct 3

Larry Woolley
Commissioner
Precinct 4

THE STATE OF TEXAS

COUNTY OF JOHNSON

§
§
§

ORDER 2026-26

COMMISSIONERS COURT ORDER GRANTING AN EXEMPTION UNDER SECTION 262.024, LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE, FROM THE BIDDING REQUIREMENTS OF SECTION 262.023, LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE, UPON THE COMMISSIONERS COURT FINDING THAT THE LEGAL SERVICES PROVIDED BY BLAIES & HIGHTOWER, LLP, IN RESPONDING TO PUBLIC INFORMATION ACT REQUESTS SUBMITTED TO JOHNSON COUNTY IS A PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

The Johnson County Commissioners Court met on March 23, 2026 in regular session for the consideration of finding that the legal services provided by Blaies & Hightower, LLP, in responding to Public Information Act requests submitted to Johnson County is a professional service and that the Commissioners Court may grant an exemption under Section 262.024, Local Government Code, from the competitive bidding requirements of Section 262.023, Local Government Code.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDERED:


The Commissioners Court of Johnson County, Texas does hereby enter this order granting an exemption under Section 262.024, Local Government Code, from the bidding requirements of Section 262.023, Local Government Code, upon the Commissioners Court finding the legal services provided by Blaies & Hightower, LLP, in responding to Public Information Act requests submitted to Johnson County is a professional service

WITNESS OUR HAND THIS, THE 23RD DAY OF MARCH 2026.



Christopher Boedeker, Johnson County Judge

Voted: yes, ___ no, ___ abstained




Rick Bailey, Comm. Pct. 1

Voted: ___ yes, ___ no, abstained



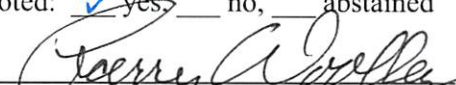
Kenny Howell, Comm. Pct. 2

Voted: yes, ___ no, ___ abstained



Mike White, Comm. Pct. 3

Voted: yes, ___ no, ___ abstained



Larry Woolley, Comm. Pct. 4

Voted: yes, ___ no, ___ abstained



ATTEST: April Long, County Clerk





VG-92-2026-8241

Johnson County
April Long
Johnson County Clerk

Instrument Number: 2026 - 8241

Real Property Recordings

Recorded On: March 23, 2026 03:38 PM

Number of Pages: 2

" Examined and Charged as Follows: "

Total Recording: \$0.00

******* THIS PAGE IS PART OF THE INSTRUMENT *******

Any provision herein which restricts the Sale, Rental or use of the described REAL PROPERTY because of color or race is invalid and unenforceable under federal law.

File Information:

Document Number: 2026 - 8241
Receipt Number: 20260323000162
Recorded Date/Time: March 23, 2026 03:38 PM
User: Honor C

Record and Return To:

JUDGE BOEDEKER
RETURN TO Paula

Station: ccl30



**STATE OF TEXAS
Johnson County**

I hereby certify that this Instrument was filed in the File Number sequence on the date/time printed hereon, and was duly recorded in the Official Records of Johnson County, Texas

April Long
Johnson County Clerk
Johnson County, TX

BLAIES & HIGHTOWER, L.L.P.

Attorneys and Counselors
A Registered Limited Liability Partnership

100 Throckmorton Street, Suite 1400
Fort Worth, Texas 76102
(817) 334-0800
(817) 334-0574 fax

direct number:
(817) 334-8294

Grant D. Blaies

March 16, 2026

Hon. Christopher Boedeker
Johnson County Judge
Johnson County Courthouse
2 North Main Street
Cleburne, TX 76031

Re: ***Representation of Johnson County in Responding to Requests under the Public Information Act***

Dear Judge Boedeker:

We appreciate the opportunity to represent Johnson County (“Client”) providing legal representation in responding to certain requests made to Client pursuant to the Public Information Act (“PIA”). This will confirm that we agree to represent Client’s interests pursuant to the terms set forth in this letter. It is our understanding that the Commissioners Court of Johnson County has approved the retention of our law firm for such representation.

The scope of representation shall include any requests made to Johnson County under the PIA that address, involve, or are related to criminal investigations or prosecutions (including those subject to appeal, post-conviction writs, or inquiries) as determined by those individuals authorized herein. (“Authorized PIA Requests”). The following individuals shall have authority to review any PIA request submitted to the County and to submit such request as an Authorized PIA Request to the Firm for handling: 1) County Judge Christopher Boedeker; 2) County Attorney Bill Moore; 3) Assistant County Attorney Jim Simpson; District Attorney Tim Good; and 4) Assistant District Attorney Stephanie Miller.

The hourly rates we charge for this representation are \$325.00/hour for partners, \$250.00/hour for associate attorneys, and \$125.00/hour for legal assistants. We will also bill for expenses incurred on Client’s behalf during the course of the representation, and we will itemize these expenses at regular intervals. My partner, Jennifer Litke, and I will have primary responsibility for Client’s representation. However, we will attempt to utilize other attorneys and legal assistants in our firm as we feel are necessary or appropriate in our professional judgment. Obviously, we cannot anticipate the number of hours necessary to address and respond to each Authorized PIA Request. However, should it appear that hourly fees required will exceed \$5,000 we will advise Client of the anticipated costs so that Client may determine whether the Firm should continue its representation for that specific Request.

We will submit periodic, usually monthly, invoices to you for fees, expenses, and our out-of-pocket disbursements, Client agrees to pay those invoices promptly. We will submit those monthly statements to the address you have provided above, or to another address upon your request. These statements may contain privileged information, such as references to our communications with you and descriptions of work we have performed. Those privileges could be waived, however, if someone other than the Client sees the privileged material. Therefore, we recommend that you keep all of our bills in a separate file for “attorney-client privileged materials” and maintain the file in a secure location.

Increasingly, conflict of interest is a concern for lawyers and their clients today. Rules concerning conflicts of interest vary with the jurisdiction. In order to avoid any uncertainty, our policy is that the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct will be applicable to this representation. By signing this letter, Client agrees with that policy. Our representation in this matter is limited to Client and does not include anyone else such as employees, officers, directors, investors, partners, or officials. Further, by engaging us to represent Client within the scope of this engagement, Client has not engaged us to represent Client generally or in any other specific matter. Additionally, we are accepting this engagement on the understanding that our representation of Client will not preclude us from accepting any other engagement from any existing or new client, provided that: (1) such engagement is not substantially related to the subject matter of any services we are providing to Client; (2) in accepting such other engagement we would not impair the confidentiality of proprietary, sensitive, or otherwise confidential information Client has provided to us, and (3) Client consents to such engagement if the matter is adverse to Client.

Finally, in accordance with requirements imposed on all Texas attorneys, be advised that links to the State Bar of Texas’ grievance process and professional requirements, including the Texas Lawyer’s Creed, may be found at www.texasbar.com. We look forward to working with you and thank you for your confidence.

If you have any comments or questions concerning this letter, please contact me. Otherwise, I would appreciate it if you would execute and return this letter so that we may begin this representation. Thank you.

Sincerely,




GRANT D. BLAIES

Hon. Christopher Boedeker
Johnson County Judge
March 16, 2026
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APPROVED AND AGREED

JOHNSON COUNTY

By: 

Hon. Christopher Boedeker
County Judge

Date: March 23, 2026

AGENDA PLACEMENT FORM

(Submission Deadline – Monday, 5:00 PM before Regular Court Meetings)

Date: _____

Meeting Date: 3/23/2026

Submitted By: County Judge's Office

Department: _____

Signature of Elected Official/Department Head:



Description:

Discuss Hiring Outside Legal Counsel to Assist with Public Information Act Requests, with Possible Action to Retain Law Firm on Limited Basis

Motion to Approve Order 2026-26 and Grant Blaies Letter with Authorization for County Judge to Sign

(May attach additional sheets if necessary)

Person to Present: _____

(Presenter must be present for the item unless the item is on the Consent Agenda)

Supporting Documentation: (check one) PUBLIC CONFIDENTIAL

(PUBLIC documentation may be made available to the public prior to the Meeting)

Estimated Length of Presentation: _____ minutes

Session Requested: (check one)

Action Item Consent Workshop Executive Other _____

Check All Departments That Have Been Notified:

County Attorney IT Purchasing Auditor

Personnel Public Works Facilities Management

Other Department/Official (list) _____

**Please List All External Persons Who Need a Copy of Signed Documents
In Your Submission Email**