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September 11, 2009

VIA REGULAR U.S. MAIL

Mayor Freddie McCall
Town of Century
P.O. Drawer 790
Century, Florida 32535

Ann Brooks, President
9302 North Century Boulevard
Century, Florida 32535

Henry Hawkins
P.O. Box 364
Century, FL 32535

Nadine McCaw
P.O. Box 444
Century, FL 32535

Gary Riley
7100 Roberts Road
Century, Florida 32535

Sharon Scott
P.O. Box 479
Century, FL 32535

RE: Town of Century v. Helicopter Technology, Inc.
Our File No.: C1006-050

Dear Mayor McCall and Members of the Town Council:

Yesterday I received a telephone call from Mayor McCall regarding a public records request made by Mr. Hawkins in December 2008. I understand that this matter was discussed at the meeting of the Town Council last Tuesday evening. I was also referred to an article in *NorthEscambia.com* regarding the matter which referenced my limited involvement with this matter. In light of the confusion regarding this matter, I thought it appropriate to write this letter to elarify my involvement.

As you are aware, Mr. Hawkins sent a letter to the "Office of the Mayor" making a public records request of the Town of Century. The letter was apparently sent through certified mail. Although the letter is dated December 10, 2008, it appears that it was not received until December 24, 2008. A copy of the letter was faxed to me on December 30, 2008. Mayor McCall called shortly thereafter to discuss the records request. Rccognizing that Mr. Hawkins' records request sought a

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large number of documents and would require staff of the Town a significant amount of time to locate and prepare the copies. Mayor McCall inquired whether Florida's Public Records Act required the Town to charge Mr. Hawkins for the expenses that would be incurred by the Town.

Upon reviewing Mr. Hawkins' letter, it appeared that although the Town would have a large portion of the requested documents, many of the documents might be located elsewhere (including within my files). Although my files are not subject to public records requests, I suggested to Mayor McCall that he allow me to contact Mr. Hawkins and propose a more expeditious and considerably less costly manner for him to obtain the requested documents. Specifically, since my files likely contained the majority of the records Mr. Hawkins sought, I suggested to Mayor McCall that the simplest and least expensive approach would be to have Mr. Hawkins review my files and identify what portions he desired copies.

I would not open my files to members of the general public. However, the Town of Century is my client and, therefore, it is entitled to review my files. I suggested to Mayor McCall, and he agreed, that Mr. Hawkins be allowed to review all of my files regarding Helicopter Technology and Georges Van Nevel.

On the afternoon of December 30, 2008, I contacted Mr. Hawkins regarding his public records request. I explained that he was certainly entitled to inspect and copy all of the records referenced in his letter. I also explained that the Town may incur significant time and expense in fulfilling his public records request. I mentioned to Mr. Hawkins that I suspected that my files likely contained the vast majority of the records that he desired to inspect and/or copy. As all of my files regarding Helicopter Technology are conveniently accessible, I could produce my files in a matter of minutes. Thus, as an alternative to Town staff expending significant time and effort to locate all of the requested documents, I suggested to Mr. Hawkins that he might want to simply review all of my files and then decide whether he needed to inspect additional records. I also offered, that if he preferred, I could send all my files (approximately nine to ten inches thick) to a copying service and send him copies. I suspected that the charges would be in the range of \$100.00 to \$150.00.

Mr. Hawkins agreed that my proposal would be far more expedient for all concerned and indicated that he would get back in touch with me to arrange a time to review my files. I was under the impression that Mr. Hawkins was going to discuss this matter with someone else and perhaps bring another person with him to review the files.

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Following that telephone conversation, I called Mayor McCall and relayed to him the substance of my conversation with Mr. Hawkins. I had understood, perhaps mistakenly, that it was not necessary for Town staff to locate and copy the requested records from Mr. Hawkins, rather he would first inspect my files before deciding whether such efforts would be necessary. I relayed that understanding to Mayor McCall, which I suspect explains why no further efforts were undertaken by Town staff to fulfill Mr. Hawkins' public records request.

I simply wanted to clarify my involvement with this matter. Unless the Mayor or Town Council instructs otherwise, my preference has also been that all of my files regarding any legal representation of the Town of Century be available at any time for review by the Mayor or any individual, current member of the Town Council. Along those lines, any of you are welcome to review all of my files pertaining to Helicopter Technology.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Matt E. Dannheisser
For the Firm

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