

City of Cullman
Response to Public Records Request

Public Records Request

Noah Galilee

The Cullman Tribune

Received July 17, 2026

Due: 15 business days following acknowledgment of receipt: August 7, 2026

Response provided: August 7, 2026

BACKGROUND

On August 26, 2025, Noah Galilee/The Cullman Tribune submitted a Public Records Request for “All names, ranks and positions of Cullman Police Department officers who are being investigated for time theft. Full names, dates of time theft, total for each, how is city proceeding.” See attached Public Records Request.

City Attorney, Roy Williams, denied the request and the city informed Mr. Galilee that there was no active investigation into any Cullman Police Officer stealing time and that any past investigations were conducted at his instruction and the documentation was privileged and not a matter of public record. Mr. Galilee was invited to contact Mr. Williams to express any concerns he had over this declination. See city documentation reflecting the denial of said request.

CURRENT REQUEST

On July 17, 2026, Mr. Galilee/The Cullman Tribune submitted a Public Records Request indicating that the current request seeks records reflecting the status, scope, and disposition of that matter set forth in the August 26, 2025 request.

RESPONSE:

The investigation initiated by Mr. Williams, City Attorney, was performed prior to the August 26, 2025 request which was denied due to attorney client privilege.

Since August 26, 2025, there have been no allegations of time theft, payroll fraud, falsification of time records, misuse of public funds, or any administrative or criminal investigations related to the matters identified in the request. See Cullman Police Department Chief Duncan response attached.

REQUESTED RECORDS

1. Investigative reports, summaries, findings, conclusions, recommendations, and determinations relating to the allegations.
2. Investigative files, case files, interview summaries, witness statements, notes, and supporting documentation.
3. Reports or memoranda reflecting the closure, suspension, or resolution of any investigation.
4. Communications among the Mayor's Office, City Attorney, Human Resources, Finance Department, and Cullman Police Department concerning these allegations.
5. Communications with external law enforcement agencies, prosecutors, auditors, or investigators.

6. Records reflecting referral of the matter to any external agency, including but not limited to the Alabama Attorney General's Office, Alabama Law Enforcement Agency, Alabama Department of Examiners of Public Accounts, Cullman County District Attorney, Federal Bureau of Investigation, or other governmental entities.
7. Responses, reports, recommendations, or findings received from any external agency.
8. Payroll audits, internal audits, accounting reviews, or financial analyses conducted in response to the allegations.
9. Records indicating whether public funds were improperly paid or received.
10. Records reflecting repayment, restitution, or reimbursement of public funds.
11. Disciplinary records related to these allegations, including reprimands, suspensions, administrative leave, termination notices, or resignations in lieu of termination, to the extent such records are subject to disclosure under Alabama law.
12. Separation, settlement, or release agreements involving employees connected to these allegations.
13. Records reflecting whether criminal prosecution was considered, recommended, or declined.
14. Records documenting policy, payroll, supervisory, or administrative changes resulting from these allegations.
15. Records identifying individuals assigned to investigate the matter.
16. Records documenting the commencement and conclusion of any investigation.
17. Communications relating to my 2024 Open Records request, including internal handling or processing of that request.
18. Communications regarding the release of records following the conclusion of any investigation.
19. Records provided to or presented before the Cullman City Council concerning these allegations, excluding materials protected by attorney-client privilege or otherwise exempt under law.
20. Records sufficient to identify each Cullman Police Department employee whose separation from employment was investigated in connection with these allegations.

Redaction and withholding log

There are two documents withheld that postdate the August 26, 2025 public document request and the city's response:

September 3, 2025 - communication from human resources to Roy Williams. The document is information requested by attorney Williams related to his investigation. The sender is human resources for the City of Cullman. The recipient is Roy Williams, City Attorney. The document is withheld in full due to the attorney client privilege. It cannot be reasonably segregated. Furthermore Ala. Code § 36-25-4.4 (1975) prevents disclosure of this document.

October 29, 2025 – communication from Mayor Jacobs to Alabama Ethics Commission. Ala. Code § 36-25-4.4 (1975) prevents disclosure of this document.

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City of Cullman
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