

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FOURTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
ROCK ISLAND COUNTY, ILLINOIS**

|  |   |           |
|--|---|-----------|
| CITY OF SILVIS, an Illinois municipal corporation, MATT CARTER, in his official capacity as Mayor of the City of Silvis, Illinois, and AMY MALMSTROM, in her capacity as City Clerk of the City of Silvis, Illinois. | ) |           |
|  | ) |           |
|  | ) |           |
|  | ) |           |
|  | ) |           |
|  | ) | 2023CH7   |
| Plaintiffs,  | ) | No. _____ |
| v.   | ) |           |
|  | ) |           |
| ALLISON WRIGHT and PAPPAS WRIGHT, P.C.   | ) |           |
|  | ) |           |
|  | ) |           |
| Defendants.  | ) |           |

**VERIFIED COMPLAINT FOR  
INJUNCTION AND OTHER RELIEF**

**NOW COME** the Plaintiffs, the CITY OF SILVIS, an Illinois municipal corporation, and AMY MALMSTROM, in her official capacity as City Clerk of the City of Silvis, Illinois, by and through their attorneys, ANCEL GLINK, P.C., and MATT CARTER, in his official capacity as Mayor of the City of Silvis, Illinois, by and through his attorney, MARK W. DANIEL of the DANIEL LAW OFFICE, P.C. ("Plaintiffs"), and complains of the Defendants, ALLISON WRIGHT and PAPPAS WRIGHT, P.C. ("Defendants"), as follows:

**SUMMARY OF THE CASE**

1. Defendant Allison Wright is the former independent contractor labor counsel for the City of Silvis is an attorney licensed to practice law in the State of Illinois. She is an attorney with the law firm of Pappas Wright, P.C. Following the Mayor's termination of her independent contractor relationship, she and Defendant Pappas Wright, P.C. have failed to return the City's records to the Mayor, City Clerk or City Attorneys following repeated requests of the Mayor. The records in her possession include at least the City's labor grievance files, collective

bargaining files, labor arbitration files, and an audio recording of a meeting held by the City's Alderpersons in a closed session portion of the City Council's February 7, 2023 City Council meeting. The City needs the records immediately because the City Clerk, Mayor, City Administrator and City Attorneys need to handle pending matters under local ordinances and state law, previously assigned to them by the Mayor. Also, the City has received a Freedom of Information Act request for the audio recording. The City Attorneys need to review the recording to determine whether it is required to be disclosed or subject to any exemption, which includes an assessment of whether the City can or cannot defend the closed session and an assessment by the City Attorneys as to whether all or part of the closed session recording should be released in response to the pending Freedom of Information Act request. The City Clerk also requires the closed session recording to create the meeting minutes.

### **PARTIES**

2. Plaintiff, City of Silvis, ("the City") is an Illinois municipal corporation located in Rock Island County, Illinois.

3. Plaintiff, Matt Carter, is the duly elected Mayor of Silvis, Illinois.

4. Plaintiff, Amy Malmstrom, is the duly elected City Clerk of Silvis, Illinois. She also serves as the Freedom of Information Act officer for the City.

5. Upon information and belief, Defendant, Allison Wright, ("Wright") resides at 3620 Meadow Circle East in Milan, Illinois, located in Rock Island County.

6. Defendant, Pappas Wright, P.C., is a law firm doing business within Rock Island County, Illinois.

### **ALLEGATIONS COMMON TO ALL COUNTS**

7. The previous mayor of Silvis, Tom Conrad, began using Allison Wright for specialty labor work for the City of Silvis in 2016.

8. The Silvis City Council never approved the hiring of Ms. Wright, nor the predecessor firm to Defendant Pappas Wright, P.C., Pappas O'Connor, nor did the City Council ever approve a contract with Ms. Wright, her predecessor law firm, or her current law firm.

9. Mayor Matt Carter was elected as Mayor of Silvis in April, 2017 and reelected in April, 2021.

10. Section 3.1-35.20 of the Illinois Municipal Code, 65 ILCS 5/3.1-35.20 provides that, "The mayor or president at all times may examine and inspect the books, records, and papers of any agent, employee, or officer of the municipality."

11. Similarly, the Silvis City Code provides in Chapter 2, Article III, Division 2, Section 2-203 entitled, "Power to inspect books and records of officers and employees," that, "The mayor shall have power at all times to examine and inspect the books, records and papers of any agent, employee or officer of the City."

12. On February 7, 2023 the City Council held a meeting. Near the end of the meeting, Alderman Rich Lohse made a motion, "To go to closed session." When Mayor Carter asked pursuant to what section, Alderman Lohse stated, "ILCS 2022 (c)(i) and (ii) which covers appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, and performance or dismissal of specific employees and which also covers pending and threatened litigation." See the recording of the City Council meeting at: [https://soundcloud.com/user-625882465/220207\\_1828a?si=d49338e11cfe4de3b79da6b1d0fcae91&utm\\_source=clipboard&utm\\_medium=text&utm\\_campaign=social\\_sharing](https://soundcloud.com/user-625882465/220207_1828a?si=d49338e11cfe4de3b79da6b1d0fcae91&utm_source=clipboard&utm_medium=text&utm_campaign=social_sharing) at minute 42:14.

13. The motion was seconded, but the City Council never voted on the motion.

14. Alderman Lohse then attempted to amend his motion to “clarify that only the aldermen with just the attorneys,” would go into closed session. His amendment was not seconded, nor did the City Council vote on it.

15. The Illinois Open Act provides that:

A public body may hold a meeting closed to the public, or close a portion of a meeting to the public, upon a majority vote of a quorum present, taken at a meeting open to the public for which notice has been given as required by this Act. A single vote may be taken with respect to a series of meetings, a portion or portions of which are proposed to be closed to the public, provided each meeting in such series involves the same particular matters and is scheduled to be held within no more than 3 months of the vote. The vote of each member on the question of holding a meeting closed to the public and a citation to the specific exception contained in Section 2 of this Act which authorizes the closing of the meeting to the public shall be publicly disclosed at the time of the vote and shall be recorded and entered into the minutes of the meeting. Nothing in this Section or this Act shall be construed to require that any meeting be closed to the public.

5 ILCS 120/2a

16. Notwithstanding that no roll call vote was taken, the City’s Alderpersons, without including the Mayor or City Clerk, went into closed session.

17. When the City Council returned to open session, the Council took no action. See recording: [https://soundcloud.com/user-625882465/220207\\_2025a?si=ad3617b12c064220a62f753046447fee&utm\\_source=clipboard&utm\\_medium=text&utm\\_campaign=social\\_sharing](https://soundcloud.com/user-625882465/220207_2025a?si=ad3617b12c064220a62f753046447fee&utm_source=clipboard&utm_medium=text&utm_campaign=social_sharing) at the :10 minute.

18. Defendant Wright was present at the meeting and did not inform the City Council that a roll call vote was required to go into closed session.

19. Upon information and belief, while in the closed session, the Alderpersons did not discuss any issue that would be properly discussed in closed session regarding employees under

Section (c)(1) of the Open Meetings Act, 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1) or (2) but instead they discussed the Mayor and the City Clerk.

20. Upon information and belief, while in closed session, the Alderpersons did not discuss any issue that would be properly discussed in closed session under 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11) because the Council did not discuss litigation that has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, nor did it make a finding that an action was probable or imminent.

21. Upon information and belief, in the closed session, the Alderpersons did not discuss any matter that was appropriate to be discussed in closed session under the exceptions cited in the motion that was never voted on.

22. Upon information and belief, Defendant Wright and former City Attorney Nick Mason were present in the closed session and never informed the Alderpersons that they were not properly in closed session, nor that the items the Alderpersons were discussing were not permitted to be discussed in closed session under the Illinois Open Meetings Act.

23. On February 13, 2023, the City Clerk, in her capacity as the City's Freedom of Information Act officer, received a request for the audio tape of the "alleged closed session on February 7, 2023." See attached Exhibit A.

24. The Illinois Freedom of Information Act requires the City to respond to the Freedom of Information Act request within five business days. 5 ILCS 140/3(d).

25. On February 14, 2023, Mayor Carter terminated the City's informal working relationship with Defendant Wright and her law firm. See attached Exhibit B.

26. On February 14, 2023, Mayor Carter also directed Defendant Wright to, "Please provide the City Attorney with a status report on all the matters you are handling of the City of Silvis and transfer your files to him before the end of this week. Please provide the City Clerk

with the audio recording of the closed session from the City Council meeting on February 7<sup>th</sup> by the close of business tomorrow.”

27. On February 16, 2023, former City Attorney Nick Mason resigned. See attached Exhibit C.

28. Later in the day on February, 16, 2023, Mayor Carter appointed Ancel Glink, P.C. to serve as the temporary city attorneys until he can present a candidate for city attorney to the City Council for conformation. See attached Exhibit D.

29. On Friday, February 17, 2023, Mayor Carter sent Defendant Wright an email that stated:

Please confirm that you will deliver the City’s recording of the February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023 closed session of the City Council to the City Clerk by the close of business today. As you know, by law I am permitted to inspect the city’s books and records at any time. Further, we have a request pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act and we need the city attorneys to review the recording to see if there are any exemptions that would apply, and we are almost at the deadline to comply with that request.

See attached Exhibit E.

30. Defendant Wright did not respond to Mayor Carter’s email of February 17, 2023.

On February 19, 2023, Mayor Carter again sent correspondence to Defendant Wright, directing her to deliver the audio tape to the Clerk, and also directing her to deliver the legal files to City Hall by no later than noon on February 21, 2023.

See attached Exhibit F.

31. Defendant Wright has failed to deliver the City’s books and records, including legal files and the audio recording of the February 7, 2023 closed session to the City, the City Clerk or the Mayor at any time prior to the filing of this lawsuit.

**COUNT I: MANDATORY INJUNCTION TO COMPEL DEFENDANTS TO  
RETURN THE CITY’S RECORDS, LEGAL FILES, AND THE AUDIO  
TAPE OF THE FEBRUARY 7, 2023 CLOSED SESSION**

32. Plaintiff adopts and realleges Paragraphs 1 - 32 above as though fully set forth herein.

33. Section 7(2) of the Illinois Open Meetings Act states:

A public record that is not in the possession of a public body but is in the possession of a party with whom the agency has contracted to perform a governmental function on behalf of the public body, and that directly relates to the governmental function and is not otherwise exempt under this Act, shall be considered a public record of the public body, for purposes of this Act.

5 ILCS 140/7(2).

34. Section 3.1-35-90 of the Illinois Municipal Code specifies that the municipal clerk shall keep “all papers belonging to the municipality the custody and control of which are not given to other officers.” 65 ILCS 5/3.1-35-90(a).

35. Defendant Wright is not, and never was, an officer or employee of the City of Silvis, nor has Defendant Pappas Wright, P.C.

36. The City is entitled to the audio tape of the February 7, 2023 audio recording (“the audio tape”) . The recording is a public record of the City. The City is required to comply with the Open Meetings Act.

37. Due to Defendant Wright’s refusal to provide the audio tape to the City Clerk, the Mayor, the City or the City Attorney, the City Attorneys were unable to evaluate the tape to determine whether it should have been produced to the watchdog group that requested it under the Freedom of Information Act (“FOIA”) in accordance with the timeline required under the FOIA.

38. There is no lawful basis for Ms. Wright to withhold the audio tape from the City, especially as it appears that the February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023 closed session was not held in accordance with the Open Meetings Act.

39. The City requires the immediate return of the audio tape to determine if it must be produced under the Freedom of Information Act, or whether there is a lawful basis to exclude it from production. Either way, the City Attorneys need to evaluate the audio tape and they cannot do that while it is not in the City's possession.

40. Likewise, Defendant Wright is in possession of numerous legal files for pending labor matters.

41. The City Clerk is required to prepare the minutes of the February 8, 2023 closed session meeting pursuant to 65 ILCS 5/3.1-35-90 and requires the audio tape to prepare them.

42. The City requires the legal files to be returned immediately so that the City Attorneys can represent the City in such matters.

43. Upon information and belief, Defendant Wright and or her law firm have other City records in their possession which should be returned immediately to the City.

44. The Plaintiffs have a right in need of protection.

45. The Plaintiffs will suffer immediate, irreparable harm if the City's records are not returned immediately.

46. The Defendants have no right to keep City records, nor any other right in need of protection.

47. The Plaintiffs do not have an adequate remedy at law.

48. The Plaintiffs have a likelihood of succeeding on the merits.

WHEREFORE, the Plaintiffs, THE CITY OF SILVIS, MAYOR MATT CARTER, and CITY CLERK AMY MALMSTROM, prays for a judgment against the Defendants as follows:

A. For entry of an order of mandatory injunction compelling the Defendants to transfer any records of the City of Silvis in their possession, including legal files and the audio tape of the February 7, 2023 City Council meeting's closed session over the Mayor, Clerk and City of Silvis immediately.

B. For such other and further or different relief as may be equitable and just.

**COUNT II: INJUNCTION TO PREVENT THE  
DEFENDANTS FROM CONTINUING TO  
PERFORM LEGAL WORK FOR THE CITY OF SILVIS**

49. Plaintiff adopts and realleges Paragraphs 1 – 48 above as though fully set forth herein.

50. Upon information and belief, after Mayor Carter's termination of their relationship with the City of Silvis, the Defendants have continued to are continuing to perform legal work for the City by advising the City Administrator and Alderpersons regarding the City's legal work.

51. The Silvis City Code provides that the City's legal work is performed by the City Attorneys.

52. The City has a right to have its legal work performed by its City Attorneys.

53. The City's right is a right in need of protection.

54. The City will suffer immediate, irreparable harm in the event that several attorneys and law firms are providing the Alderpersons with different advice and information regarding the City's legal work.

55. The Defendants have no right to continue to advise the City, its officers or employees regarding the City's legal work.

56. The Plaintiffs do not have an adequate remedy at law.

57. The Plaintiffs have a likelihood of succeeding on the merits.

WHEREFORE, the Plaintiffs, THE CITY OF SILVIS, MAYOR MATT CARTER, and CITY CLERK AMY MALMSTROM, prays for a judgment against the Defendants as follows:

A. For entry of an order enjoining Defendant Allison Wright and the law firm of Pappas Wright, P.C. from continuing to perform any of the City's legal work or providing legal advice to the City Administrator or any of the City's officers or employees regarding the City's legal work.

B. For such other and further or different relief as may be equitable and just.

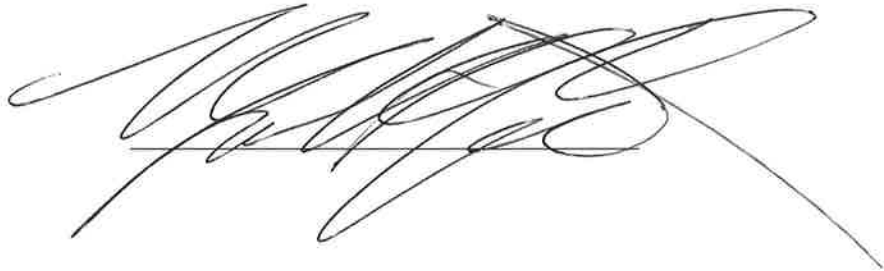
By: /s/ Keri-Lyn J. Krafthefer  
Attorneys for the Plaintiffs City of Silvis and  
City Clerk Amy Malmstrom  
Keri-Lyn J. Krafthefer  
Attorneys for the City of Silvis and City Clerk Amy Malmstrom  
**ANCEL GLINK, P.C.**  
1515 5th Avenue, Suite 320  
Moline, IL 61265  
630-399-5464  
[kkrafthefer@ancelglink.com](mailto:kkrafthefer@ancelglink.com)  
ARDC No. 6199188

By: /s/ Mark W. Daniel  
Attorneys for Plaintiff Mayor Matt Clark  
Mark W. Daniel  
**THE DANIEL LAW OFFICE, P.C.**  
17W733 Butterfield Road, Unit F  
Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181  
(630) 833-3311  
[mark@thedaniellawoffice.com](mailto:mark@thedaniellawoffice.com)  
ARDC No. 6226696

STATE OF ILLINOIS                    )  
  ) SS  
COUNTY OF ROCK ISLAND        )

**VERIFICATION**

I, MATT CARTER, being duly sworn, deposes and states that I am a Plaintiff in this action. I have read the foregoing complaint and know the contents thereof; the same is true to my knowledge, except as to matters therein stated to be alleged upon information and belief, and as to those matters, I believe them to be true.



SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to  
before me this 21<sup>st</sup> day  
of February, 2023.

  
NOTARY PUBLIC

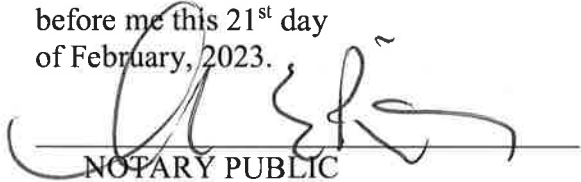
STATE OF ILLINOIS                    )  
  ) SS  
COUNTY OF ROCK ISLAND        )

**VERIFICATION**

I, AMY MALMSTROM, being duly sworn, deposes and states that I am a Plaintiff in this action. I have read the foregoing complaint and know the contents thereof; the same is true to my knowledge, except as to matters therein stated to be alleged upon information and belief, and as to those matters, I believe them to be true.



SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to  
before me this 21<sup>st</sup> day  
of February, 2023.

  
NOTARY PUBLIC

**Vilaro Perez, Cynthia**

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**From:** Krafthefer, Keri-Lyn  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 21, 2023 11:14 AM  
**To:** Vilaro Perez, Cynthia  
**Subject:** FW: FOIA Request (Silvis, IL) - 2-13-2023 #2

Keri-Lyn J. Krafthefer  
Ext. 9126

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**From:** Amy Malmstrom <[amalmstrom@silvisil.org](mailto:amalmstrom@silvisil.org)>  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 19, 2023 2:18 PM  
**To:** Krafthefer, Keri-Lyn <[KKrafthefer@ancelglink.com](mailto:KKrafthefer@ancelglink.com)>  
**Subject:** FW: FOIA Request (Silvis, IL) - 2-13-2023 #2

[EXTERNAL EMAIL] Use Caution when opening attachments or links from unknown senders.

Amy R. Malmstrom  
City Clerk  
121 11<sup>th</sup> Street  
Silvis, IL 61282  
309.792.9181 Office  
309.792.9726 Fax  
309.429.8386 Cellular

---

**From:** John Kraft <[john@illinoisleaks.com](mailto:john@illinoisleaks.com)>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 13, 2023 9:43 AM  
**To:** Amy Malmstrom <[amalmstrom@silvisil.org](mailto:amalmstrom@silvisil.org)>  
**Cc:** Kirk Allen <[Kirk@illinoisleaks.com](mailto:Kirk@illinoisleaks.com)>  
**Subject:** FOIA Request (Silvis, IL) - 2-13-2023 #2

On behalf of the Edgar County Watchdogs, Inc., and in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act I am requesting the following.

If you are not the FOIA officer, please forward to the FOIA officer as required by statute.

Electronic copies requested.

## EXHIBIT A

**= Copy of the audio or video recording of the alleged closed session from Feb 7, 2023.**

**Electronic copies are requested.**

**This is not a commercial request.**

This is also a request for fee waiver, should any fees be imposed, as this information bears on the public business of the local and state governments in Illinois and will be used to inform citizens of the actions of their public officials, of their rights and responsibilities, of news and current or passing events, and for articles of opinion or features of interest to the public. The principal purpose of this request is to access and disseminate information regarding the health, safety, and welfare or the legal rights of the general public and is not for the principal purpose of gaining a personal or commercial benefit

*I, and the organizations I represent, qualify as both media and non-profit under the definitions in Section 2 (c-10) ("Commercial purpose"), Section 2 (f) ("News media"), Section 2 (g) ("Recurrent requester"), and Section 2 (h) ("Voluminous request") of the Freedom of Information Act, for the purposes of being exempt to the provisions of Section 3.1 (Requests for commercial purposes), Section 3.2 (Recurrent requesters), Section 3.6 (Voluminous requests), and Section 6 (Authority to charge fees). Additionally, I, and the organizations I represent, qualify as "news media" under the Illinois Vehicle Code, Section 1-148.5.*

Thanks,

John Kraft

Edgar County Watchdogs, Inc.

Box 124

Paris, Illinois 61944

[john@illinoisleaks.com](mailto:john@illinoisleaks.com)

217-808-2527



Office of Mayor Matt Carter  
121 - 11th Street • Silvis, IL 61282  
PH 309/ 792-9181 • FAX 309/ 792-9726

02/14/2023

Ms. Allison Wright  
Pappas & Wright, P.C.  
1617 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue #300  
Rock Island IL 61201  
[awright@pappaswright.com](mailto:awright@pappaswright.com)

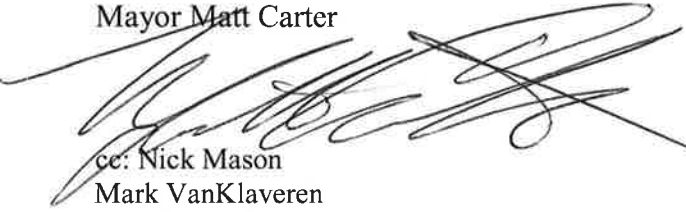
Re: Termination of Legal Services to City of Silvis

Dear Ms. Wright:

I am hereby terminating you and your law firm from the City of Silvis, effective immediately. You and your firm are hereby directed to perform no further legal work for the City of Silvis. As you know, your firm is not an officer or employee of Silvis, and I have been informally using your firm for legal work related to labor and employment matters for several years. However, in the recent weeks, I have learned that you are providing incorrect legal advice to the City related to a number of issues related to our form of government, the powers of the mayor, the powers of the city administrator, the Open Meetings Act, the finance department, the union contract, employment matters, and other issues. As a direct result of your incorrect advice, the City Council is now severely fractured, and it appears to be on a path towards litigation. I no longer have confidence in you or your law firm.

Please provide the City Attorney with a status report on all the matters you are handling for the City of Silvis and transfer your files to him before the end of this week. Please provide the City Clerk with the audio recording of the closed session from the City Council meeting on February 7<sup>th</sup> by the close of business tomorrow.

Very truly yours,  
Mayor Matt Carter

  
cc: Nick Mason  
Mark VanKlaveren  
Nevada Lemke  
Amy Malmstrom  
City Council

**EXHIBIT B**

# MASON AND SCOTT, P. C.

3610 25<sup>TH</sup> STREET  
MOLINE, IL 61265

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February 16, 2023

Mayor Matt Carter  
City of Silvis  
121 11<sup>th</sup> Street  
Silvis, IL 61282

RE: City Representation

Dear Matt:

Due to the office schedule and family commitments, I hereby tender my resignation of the firm of Mason and Scott PC as City counsel to the City of Silvis. I have already spoken in person with the mayor and the department heads at the planning meeting this morning.

It has been our pleasure to provide legal services to the City of Silvis. Thank You.

Very Truly Yours,



R. Nick Mason  
Attorney at Law

RNM  
CC: City Council

## EXHIBIT C

Caution: The information or data contained in this facsimile or document is attorney privileged and confidential, and it is intended exclusively for the use of the individual or entity named above. If the reader of this transmission is not the intended recipient, or the employee or agent responsible for delivering it to the intended recipient, you are hereby informed that any dissemination, distribution, copying or unauthorized use of any part of this document is strictly prohibited. If you have received this document in error, please notify the sender immediately by telephone, and return the document in its entirety to the sender at the address listed via the United States Postal Service.

Phone 309.762.4600

Fax 309.762.8255

Licensed in IA, IL & Federal Courts



**Office of Mayor Matt Carter  
121 - 11th Street • Silvis, IL 61282  
PH 309/ 792-9181 • FAX 309/ 792-9726**

February 16, 2023

City Council  
City of Silvis

Dear City Council Members:

Due to the resignation of our City Attorney, I am making a temporary appointment of the law firm of Ancel Glink PC to serve as our city attorneys to walk us through the steps of procuring a new city attorney and to make sure the city is legally protected until that happens. A representative from Ancel Glink will be at our City Council Meeting on Tuesday to help the City of Silvis with this process.

Very truly yours,

Mayor Matt Carter

cc: City Council  
City Clerk  
City Administrator

**EXHIBIT D**

**Vilaro Perez, Cynthia**

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**From:** Krafthefer, Keri-Lyn  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 21, 2023 11:53 AM  
**To:** Vilaro Perez, Cynthia  
**Subject:** FW: Closed Session Recording

Keri-Lyn J. Krafthefer  
Ext. 9126

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**From:** Amy Malmstrom <amalmstrom@silvisil.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 21, 2023 11:40 AM  
**To:** Krafthefer, Keri-Lyn <KKrafthefer@ancelglink.com>; Kostopulos, Margaret <MKostopulos@ancelglink.com>  
**Subject:** FW: Closed Session Recording

[EXTERNAL EMAIL] Use Caution when opening attachments or links from unknown senders.

Amy R. Malmstrom  
City Clerk  
121 11<sup>th</sup> Street  
Silvis, IL 61282  
309.792.9181 Office  
309.792.9726 Fax  
309.429.8386 Cellular

---

**From:** Matt Carter <mcarter@silvisil.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, February 17, 2023 3:35 PM  
**To:** awright@pappaswright.com  
**Cc:** Amy Malmstrom <amalmstrom@silvisil.org>; mkostopulos@ancelglink.com; kkrafthefer@ancelglink.com  
**Subject:** Closed Session Recording

Dear Ms. Wright,

Please confirm that you will deliver the City's recording of the February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023 closed session of the City Council to the City Clerk by the close of business today. As you know, by law I am permitted to inspect the city's books and records at any time. Further, we have a request pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act and we need the city attorneys to review the recording to see if there are any exemptions that would apply, and we are almost at the deadline to comply with that request.

Thank you for your attention in this matter,

Matt Carter  
Mayor of City of Silvis

**EXHIBIT E**



Office of Mayor Matt Carter  
121 – 11<sup>th</sup> Street ▪ Silvis IL 61282  
PH 309/792-9181 FAX 309/792-9726

Date: February 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023

**Ms. Allison Wright**  
**Pappas and Wright**  
**1617 Second Avenue**  
**Suite 300**  
**Rock Island, IL 61201**  
**Via email to: [awright@pappaswright.com](mailto:awright@pappaswright.com)**

Dear Ms. Wright:

Last week, when I terminated you, I requested that you transfer all of the City's legal files that are in your possession to the City Attorney and the tape of the closed session recording from the February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023 City Council meeting to the City Clerk by no later than this past Friday. On Friday, I sent you an email asking you to confirm you were turning over documents in response to my request. To my knowledge, you did not comply with either of these requests. As mayor, I am entitled to examine the City's records at any time pursuant to Section 3.1-35.20 of the Illinois Municipal Code. Since you failed to comply with my previous request for these City records, I am directing you to deliver these records to City Hall to my attention by no later than noon on Tuesday, February 21, 2023.

If I am not present at City Hall when you deliver these records, please give them to the City Clerk. It is urgent that we receive the recording of the closed session because we have received a Freedom of Information Act request for it, and the City Attorneys need to review it to determine whether it can be released, or whether there is an applicable exemption. The City Attorneys also require the legal files and matters you were working on so that they can make sure the interests of the City are represented. You have no legal basis to keep City records from me. If you do not comply with this request, the City of Silvis will take appropriate action to compel the return of these City records.

Very truly yours,

Mayor Matt Carter

Cc: City Clerk  
City Administrator  
City Attorneys  
Mr. Mark Daniel

## EXHIBIT F

City of Silvis ▪ 121 – 11<sup>th</sup> Street ▪ Silvis IL 61282  
Phone: (309) 792-9181 ▪ [www.silvisil.org](http://www.silvisil.org) ▪ Fax: (309) 792-9726  
Email: [mcarter@silvisil.org](mailto:mcarter@silvisil.org)