



SMITH
SCONZERT
LLC

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September 28, 2026

Via Email: williammost@gmail.com

William Most
Most & Associates
201 St. Charles Ave., Suite 2500
New Orleans, LA 70170

Re: *Destruction of Public Records*

Dear Mr. Most:

I have the privilege of serving as City Attorney for the City of Mandeville. I write in response to your September 9, 2026 letter on behalf of Robert H. Berning III concerning text messages on Mayor Madden's phone.

No public records were destroyed. Mayor Madden's text messages concerning public business are backed up via cloud storage. The 30-day automatic-deletion setting referenced in your letter does not mean that those public-business messages were destroyed; he simply does not store them on his device *ad infinitum*.

Rest assured, the City recognizes its obligation to preserve public records and will continue to preserve responsive messages in accordance with applicable law. If your client seeks particular records, please submit a request identifying them so the City can review and respond through its public-records process.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Sconzert

cc: Mayor L. Clay Madden