**Capital Area Michigan** Works!: Keep original and provide copy of both sides, along with Public Summary, to Requestor at no charge.



## **CAPITAL AREA MICHIGAN WORKS!**

Administrative Offices 2110 S. Cedar Street Lansing, MI 48910 Phone: (517) 492-5599

**Request Form** Note: Requestors are not required to use this form. The Capital Area Michigan Works!: may complete one for recordkeeping if not used.

# **FOIA Request for Public Records**

Michigan Freedom of Information Act, Public Act 442 of 1976, MCL 15.231, et seq.

Request No.:	Date Received:	Date <u>delivered</u> to junk/sp	Email
(riease rillit of Type)		Date <u>discovered</u> in julias	
Name			Phone
Firm/Organization			Fax
Street			Email
City		State	Zip
Request for:   Copy	□ Certified copy	□ Record inspection □ Sul	oscription to record issued on regular basis
<b>Delivery Method:</b> Uvill pick up Uvill make own copies onsite Area Mail to address above Email to address above Email to address above			

Note: The Capital Area Michigan Works! is not required to provide records in a digital format or on digital media if the Capital Area Michigan Works! does not already have the technological capability to do so.

Describe the public record(s) as specifically as possible. You may use this form or attach additional sheets:

Consent to Non-Statutory Extension of Capital Area Michigan Works! Response	Time
I have requested a copy of records or a subscription to records or the opportunity to inspect records, pursuant to the	
Information Act, Public Act 442 of 1976, MCL 15.231, et seq. I understand that the Capital Area Michigan Works! n	
five (5) business days after receiving it, and that response may include taking a 10-business day extension. However	
extend the Capital Area Michigan Works! response time for this request until: (month, day, yea	
	<i>,</i>
Requestor's Signature	Date

Date

Records Located on Website		
If the Capital Area Michigan Works! directly or indirectly administers or maintains an official internet presence, any public records available to the general public on that internet site at the time the request is made are exempt from any labor charges to redact (separate exempt information from non-exempt information).		
If the FOIA coordinator knows or has reason to know that all or a portion of the requested information is available on its website, the Capital Area Michigan Works! must notify the Requestor in its written response that all or a portion of the requested information is available on its website. The written response, to the degree practicable in the specific instance, must include a specific webpage address where the requested information is available. On the detailed cost itemization form, the Capital Area Michigan Works! must separate the requested public records that are available on its website and must inform the requestor of the additional charge to receive copies of the public records that are available on its website.		
If the Capital Area Michigan Works! has included the website address for a record in its written response to the Requestor and the Requestor thereafter stipulates that the public record be provided to him or her in a paper format or other form, including digital media, the Capital Area Michigan Works! must provide the public records in the specified format (if the Capital Area Michigan Works! has the technological capability) but may use a fringe benefit multiplier greater than the 50%, not to exceed the actual costs of providing the information in the specified format. <b>Request for Copies/Duplication of Records on Capital Area Michigan Works! Website</b> I hereby stipulate that, even if some or all of the records are located on the Capital Area Michigan Works! website, I am requesting that the Capital Area Michigan Works! make copies of those records on the website and deliver them to me in the format I have requested above. I understand that some FOIA fees may apply.		
Requestor's Signature	Date	
Overtime Labor Costs	<u> </u>	
Overtime wages shall not be included in the calculation of labor costs unless overtime is specifically stipulated by the requestor is the detailed cost itemization form. Consent to Overtime Labor Costs	and clearly noted on	
I hereby agree and stipulate to the Capital Area Michigan Works! using overtime wages in calculating the following labor cost	s as itemized in the	
following categories:		
1. Labor to copy/duplicate 2. Labor to locate 3a. Labor to redact 3b. Contract labor to the second already on Capital Area Michigan Workel website	o redact	
<b>6b.</b> Labor to copy/duplicate records already on Capital Area Michigan Works! website Requestor's Signature	Date	
	Date	
Request for Discount: Indigence         A public record search must be made and a copy of a public record must be furnished without charge for the first \$20.00 of the fee for each request by an individual who is entitled to information under this act and who: <ul> <li>1) Submits an affidavit stating that the individual is indigent and receiving specific public assistance, OR</li> <li>2) If not receiving public assistance, stating facts showing inability to pay the cost because of indigence.</li> </ul> <li>If a Requestor is ineligible for the discount, the public body shall inform the requestor specifically of the reason for ineligibility in the public body's written response. An individual is ineligible for this fee reduction if ANY of the following apply:             <ul> <li>(i) The individual has previously received discounted copies of public records from the same public body twice during that calendar year,</li> <li>(ii) The individual requests the information in conjunction with outside parties who are offering or providing payment or other remuneration to the individual to make the request. A public body may require a statement by the requestor in the affidavit that the request is not being made in conjunction with outside parties in exchange for payment or other remuneration.</li> </ul> </li>		
Office Use: Affidavit Received Eligible for Discount Ineligible for liscount I am submitting an affidavit and requesting that I receive the discount for indigence for this FOIA request:	Discount Date:	
Requestor's Signature:	Date.	
Request for Discount: Nonprofit Organization         A public record search must be made and a copy of a public record must be furnished without charge for the first \$20.00 of the fee for each request by a nonprofit organization formally designated by the state to carry out activities under subtitle C of the Developmental Disabilities         Assistance and Bill of Rights Act of 2000 and the Protection and Advocacy for Individuals with Mental Illness Act, if the request meets ALL of the following requirements: <ul> <li>(i) Is made directly on behalf of the organization or its clients.</li> <li>(ii) Is made for a reason wholly consistent with the mission and provisions of those laws under section 931 of the Mental Health Code, 1974 PA 258, MCL 330.1931.</li> <li>(iii) Is accompanied by documentation of its designation by the state, if requested by the Capital Area Michigan Works!</li> </ul>		
	le for Discount	
I stipulate that I am a designated agent for the nonprofit organization making this FOIA request and that this request is made directly on behalf of the organization or its clients and is made for a reason wholly consistent with the mission and provisions of those laws under section 931 of the Mental Health Code, 1974 PA 258, MCL 330.1931:		

[Requestor's Signature: (Form created by MTA, MAMA and CS&T, PC, May 2015)



# **CAPITAL AREA MICHIGAN WORKS!** Administrative Offices 2110 S. Cedar Street Lansing, MI 48910 Phone: (517) 492-5599

# Notice to Extend Response Time for FOIA Request

MICHIQ	Jan Freedom of Informat	tion Act, Public Act 442 of 1976, MCL 15.231, et seq.
	_ Date Received:	
Name		Phone
Firm/Organization		Fax
Street		Email
City		State Zip
Delivery Method:	r □ Certified copy □ ill pick up □ Will make o provided by the Capital Are	own copies onsite
Record(s) You Requested	J: (Listed here or see attach	ed copy of original request)
	e taken per FOIA request. If	quest for no more than 10 business days, until ( <i>month, day, year</i> ). you have any questions regarding this extension, contact
	nonbinding upon the Capita	<i>days or date</i> ) al Area Michigan Works!, but the Capital Area Michigan Works! is providing the me does not relieve a public body from any of the other requirements of this act.
		<b>Reason for Extension:</b> ch for, collect, or appropriately examine or review a voluminous amount of equest. Specifically, the Capital Area Michigan Works! must:
establishments that are loc		ect the requested public records from numerous field offices, facilities, or other Area Michigan Works! office. Specifically, the Capital Area Michigan Works! s:
□ <b>3.</b> Other (describe):		

Signature of FOIA Coordinator:

Date:

(Form created by MTA, MAMA and CS&T, PC, May 2015)

[This page left blank on purpose.]

Capital Area Michigan Works!: Keep original and provide copy of both sides, along with Public Summary, to Requestor at no charge.



**Denial Form** 

Administrative Offices

2110 S. Cedar Street

Lansing, MI 48910 Phone: (517) 492-5599

# Notice of Denial of FOIA Request

Mimchigan Freedom of Information Act, Public Act 442 of 1976, MCL 15.231, et seq.

Request No.: Date of This Notice: (Please Print or Type)	Date Received:	Date <u>delivered</u> to junk/spa	Email    Fax    Other Electronic Method m folder: pam folder:
Name			Phone
Firm/Organization			Fax
Street			Email
City		State	Zip
•	□ Certified copy □ Reco pick up □ Will make own cop rovided by the Capital Area Michig	ies onsite 🛛 🗆 Mail to add	cription to record issued on regular basis Iress above
Pacard(c) Vou Paguastad	(listed here or see attached conv	of original request)	

Record(s) You Requested: (Listed here or see attached copy of original request)

## Reason for Denial:

□ **1. Exempt from Disclosure:** This item is exempt from disclosure under FOIA Section 13, Subsection \_\_\_\_\_\_(*insert number*), because:

□ 2. Record Does Not Exist: It is hereby certified, pursuant to Section 5(5)(b) of the FOIA, that your FOIA request is denied because, to the best of my knowledge, information and belief, no public records exist as of \_\_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_, under the name(s) set forth in your request, nor under another name reasonably known to the Capital Area Michigan Works!. If you believe this record does exist, provide a description that will enable us to locate the record: \_\_\_\_\_\_

□ 3. **Redaction:** A portion of the requested record had to be separated or deleted (redacted) as it is exempt under FOIA Section 13, Subsection \_\_\_\_\_\_ (*insert number*), because: \_\_\_\_\_\_

A brief description of the information that had to be separated or deleted:

### Notice of Requestor's Right to Seek Judicial Review

You are entitled under Section 10 of the Michigan Freedom of Information Act, MCL 15.240, to appeal this denial to the Capital Area Michigan Works! Administrative Board or to commence an action in the Circuit Court to compel disclosure of the requested records if you believe they were wrongfully withheld from disclosure. If, after judicial review, the Court determines that the Capital Area Michigan Works! has not complied with MCL 15.235 in making this denial and orders disclosure of all or a portion of a public record, you have the right to receive attorneys' fees and damages as provided in MCL 15.240. (See back of this form for additional information on your rights.)

Date:

#### FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT (EXCERPT) Act 442 of 1976

15.240.amended Options by requesting person; appeal; actions by public body; receipt of written appeal; judicial review; civil action; venue; de novo proceeding; burden of proof; private view of public record; contempt; assignment of action or appeal for hearing, trial, or argument; attorneys' fees, costs, and disbursements; assessment of award; damages. Sec. 10.

(1) If a public body makes a final determination to deny all or a portion of a request, the requesting person may do 1 of the following at his or her option:

(a) Submit to the head of the public body a written appeal that specifically states the word "appeal" and identifies the reason or reasons for reversal of the denial.

(b) Commence a civil action in the circuit court, or if the decision of a state public body is at issue, the court of claims, to compel the public body's disclosure of the public records within 180 days after a public body's final determination to deny a request.

(2) Within 10 business days after receiving a written appeal pursuant to subsection (1)(a), the head of a public body shall do 1 of the following:

(a) Reverse the disclosure denial.

(b) Issue a written notice to the requesting person upholding the disclosure denial.

(c) Reverse the disclosure denial in part and issue a written notice to the requesting person upholding the disclosure denial in part.

(d) Under unusual circumstances, issue a notice extending for not more than 10 business days the period during which the head of the public body shall respond to the written appeal. The head of a public body shall not issue more than 1 notice of extension for a particular written appeal.

(3) A board or commission that is the head of a public body is not considered to have received a written appeal under subsection (2) until the first regularly scheduled meeting of that board or commission following submission of the written appeal under subsection (1)(a). If the head of the public body fails to respond to a written appeal pursuant to subsection (2), or if the head of the public body upholds all or a portion of the disclosure denial that is the subject of the written appeal, the requesting person may seek judicial review of the nondisclosure by commencing a civil action under subsection (1)(b).

(4) In an action commenced under subsection (1)(b), a court that determines a public record is not exempt from disclosure shall order the public body to cease withholding or to produce all or a portion of a public record wrongfully withheld, regardless of the location of the public record. Venue for an action against a local public body is proper in the circuit court for the county in which the public record or an office of the public body is located has venue over the action. The court shall determine the matter de novo and the burden is on the public body to sustain its denial. The court, on its own motion, may view the public record in controversy in private before reaching a decision. Failure to comply with an order of the court may be punished as contempt of court.

(5) An action commenced under this section and an appeal from an action commenced under this section shall be assigned for hearing and trial or for argument at the earliest practicable date and expedited in every way.

(6) If a person asserting the right to inspect, copy, or receive a copy of all or a portion of a public record prevails in an action commenced under this section, the court shall award reasonable attorneys' fees, costs, and disbursements. If the person or public body prevails in part, the court may, in its discretion, award all or an appropriate portion of reasonable attorneys' fees, costs, and disbursements. The award shall be assessed against the public body liable for damages under subsection (7).

(7) If the court determines in an action commenced under this section that the public body has arbitrarily and capriciously violated this act by refusal or delay in disclosing or providing copies of a public record, the court shall order the public body to pay a civil fine of \$1,000.00, which shall be deposited into the general fund of the state treasury. The court shall award, in addition to any actual or compensatory damages, punitive damages in the amount of \$1,000.00 to the person seeking the right to inspect or receive a copy of a public record. The damages shall not be assessed against an individual, but shall be assessed against the next succeeding public body that is not an individual and that kept or maintained the public record as part of its public function.

History: 1976, Act 442, Eff. Apr. 13, 1977 ;-- Am. 1978, Act 329, Imd. Eff. July 11, 1978 ;-- Am. 1996, Act 553, Eff. Mar. 31, 1997 ;-- Am. 2014, Act 563, Eff. July 1, 2015

Capital Area Michigan Works!: Keep original and provide copy of both sides, along with Public Summary, to Requestor at no charge.



# **CAPITAL AREA MICHIGAN WORKS!**

Administrative Offices 2110 S. Cedar Street Lansing, MI 48910 Phone: (517) 492-5599

# FOIA Appeal Form—To Appeal a Denial of Records

Michigan Freedom of Information Act, Public Act 442 of 1976, MCL 15.231, et seq.

Request No.:	Date Received: Check if received via: Determined Email Determined Fax Determined Other Electronic Method
Date of This Notice: (Please Print or Type)	Date <u>delivered</u> to junk/spam folder: Date discovered in junk/spam folder:
Name	Phone
Firm/Organization	Fax
Street	Email
City	State Zip
<b>Delivery Method:</b> UVill	□ Certified copy □ Record inspection □ Subscription to record issued on regular basis pick up □ Will make own copies onsite □ Mail to address above □ Email to address above rovided by the Capital Area Michigan Works!
Record(s) You Requested: (Li	sted here or see attached copy of original request)
	Date:
The Capital Area Michigan Worl one 10-day extension.	Capital Area Michigan Works! Response: s! must provide a response within 10 business days after receiving this appeal, including a determination or taking
one 10-day extension. Capital Area Michigan Works!(month, day	
one 10-day extension. Capital Area Michigan Works! (month, da) Unusual circumstances warranti	<b>Extension:</b> We are extending the date to respond to your FOIA fee appeal for no more than 10 business days, until <i>y</i> , <i>year</i> ). Only one extension may be taken per FOIA appeal.
one 10-day extension. Capital Area Michigan Works! (month, da) Unusual circumstances warranti If you have any questions regard	ks! must provide a response within 10 business days after receiving this appeal, including a determination or taking         Extension: We are extending the date to respond to your FOIA fee appeal for no more than 10 business days, until y, year). Only one extension may be taken per FOIA appeal.         ng extension:

Works! Administrative Board or to commence an action in the Circuit Court to compel disclosure of the requested records if you believe they were wrongfully withheld from disclosure. If, after judicial review, the Court determines that the Capital Area Michigan Works! has not compled with MCL 15.235 in making this denial and orders disclosure of all or a portion of a public record, you have the right to receive attorneys' fees and damages as provided in MCL 15.240. (See back of this form for additional information on your rights.)

Signature of FOIA Coordinator:

(Form created by MTA, MAMA and CS&T, PC, May 2015)

Date:

#### FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT (EXCERPT) Act 442 of 1976

15.240.amended Options by requesting person; appeal; actions by public body; receipt of written appeal; judicial review; civil action; venue; de novo proceeding; burden of proof; private view of public record; contempt; assignment of action or appeal for hearing, trial, or argument; attorneys' fees, costs, and disbursements; assessment of award; damages. Sec. 10.

(1) If a public body makes a final determination to deny all or a portion of a request, the requesting person may do 1 of the following at his or her option:

(a) Submit to the head of the public body a written appeal that specifically states the word "appeal" and identifies the reason or reasons for reversal of the denial.

(b) Commence a civil action in the circuit court, or if the decision of a state public body is at issue, the court of claims, to compel the public body's disclosure of the public records within 180 days after a public body's final determination to deny a request.

(2) Within 10 business days after receiving a written appeal pursuant to subsection (1)(a), the head of a public body shall do 1 of the following:

(a) Reverse the disclosure denial.

(b) Issue a written notice to the requesting person upholding the disclosure denial.

(c) Reverse the disclosure denial in part and issue a written notice to the requesting person upholding the disclosure denial in part.

(d) Under unusual circumstances, issue a notice extending for not more than 10 business days the period during which the head of the public body shall respond to the written appeal. The head of a public body shall not issue more than 1 notice of extension for a particular written appeal.

(3) A board or commission that is the head of a public body is not considered to have received a written appeal under subsection (2) until the first regularly scheduled meeting of that board or commission following submission of the written appeal under subsection (1)(a). If the head of the public body fails to respond to a written appeal pursuant to subsection (2), or if the head of the public body upholds all or a portion of the disclosure denial that is the subject of the written appeal, the requesting person may seek judicial review of the nondisclosure by commencing a civil action under subsection (1)(b).

(4) In an action commenced under subsection (1)(b), a court that determines a public record is not exempt from disclosure shall order the public body to cease withholding or to produce all or a portion of a public record wrongfully withheld, regardless of the location of the public record. Venue for an action against a local public body is proper in the circuit court for the county in which the public record or an office of the public body is located has venue over the action. The court shall determine the matter de novo and the burden is on the public body to sustain its denial. The court, on its own motion, may view the public record in controversy in private before reaching a decision. Failure to comply with an order of the court may be punished as contempt of court.

(5) An action commenced under this section and an appeal from an action commenced under this section shall be assigned for hearing and trial or for argument at the earliest practicable date and expedited in every way.

(6) If a person asserting the right to inspect, copy, or receive a copy of all or a portion of a public record prevails in an action commenced under this section, the court shall award reasonable attorneys' fees, costs, and disbursements. If the person or public body prevails in part, the court may, in its discretion, award all or an appropriate portion of reasonable attorneys' fees, costs, and disbursements. The award shall be assessed against the public body liable for damages under subsection (7).

(7) If the court determines in an action commenced under this section that the public body has arbitrarily and capriciously violated this act by refusal or delay in disclosing or providing copies of a public record, the court shall order the public body to pay a civil fine of \$1,000.00, which shall be deposited into the general fund of the state treasury. The court shall award, in addition to any actual or compensatory damages, punitive damages in the amount of \$1,000.00 to the person seeking the right to inspect or receive a copy of a public record. The damages shall not be assessed against an individual, but shall be assessed against the next succeeding public body that is not an individual and that kept or maintained the public record as part of its public function.

History: 1976, Act 442, Eff. Apr. 13, 1977 ;-- Am. 1978, Act 329, Imd. Eff. July 11, 1978 ;-- Am. 1996, Act 553, Eff. Mar. 31, 1997 ;-- Am. 2014, Act 563, Eff. July 1, 2015.

Capital Area Michigan Works1: Keep original and provide copy of both sides, along with Public Summary, to Requestor at no charge.



# CAPITAL AREA MICHIGAN WORKS! Administrative Offices 2110 S. Cedar Street Lansing, MI 48910 Phone: (517) 492-5599

# FOIA Appeal Form—To Appeal an Excess Fee

Michigan Freedom of Information Act, Public Act 442 of 1976, MCL 15.231, et seq.

Request No.:		
Date of This Notice:		Date <u>delivered</u> to junk/spam folder:
(Please Print or Type)		Date <u>discovered</u> in junk/spam folder:
Name		Phone
Firm/Organization		Fax
Street		Email
City		State Zip
Delivery Method: 🗆 Will	□ Certified copy □ bick up □ Will make own c ovided by the Capital Area Mic	
Record(s) You Requested:	Listed here or see attached co	py of original request)
		exceed the amount permitted. You may use this form or attach additional sheets:
The Capital Area Michigan W one 10-day extension.		Area Michigan Works! Response: within 10 business days after receiving this appeal, including a determination or taking
(month, d	<i>ay, year</i> ). Only one extension n	ing the date to respond to your FOIA fee appeal for no more than 10 business days, until nay be taken per FOIA appeal.
Unusual circumstances warra	nting extension:	
If you have any questions reg	arding this extension, contact:	
Capital Area Michigan Work	s! Determination: Defermination:	e Waived 🛛 Fee Reduced 🖓 Fee Upheld
Written basis for Capital Area	Michigan Works! determination	n:

### Notice of Requestor's Right to Seek Judicial Review

You are entitled under Section 10a of the Michigan Freedom of Information Act, MCL 15.240a, to appeal a FOIA fee that you believe exceeds the amount permitted under the Capital Area Michigan Works! written Procedures and Guidelines to the Capital Area Michigan Works! Administrative Board or to commence an action in the Circuit Court for a fee reduction within 45 days after receiving the notice of the required fee or a determination of an appeal to the Capital Area Michigan Works! Administrative Board If a civil action is commenced in court, the Capital Area Michigan Works! is not obligated to compete processing the request until the Court resolves the fee dispute. If the Court determines that the Capital Area Michigan Works! required a fee that exceeded the permitted amount, the Court shall reduce the fee to a permissible amount. (See back of this form for additional information on your rights.)

Signature of FOIA Coordinator:

(Form created by MTA, MAMA and CS&T, PC, May 2015)

**Fee Appeal Form** 

Date:

#### FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT (EXCERPT) Act 442 of 1976

#### **15.240a.added Fee in excess of amount permitted under procedures and guidelines or MCL 15.234.** Sec. 10a.

(1) If a public body requires a fee that exceeds the amount permitted under its publicly available procedures and guidelines or section 4, the requesting person may do any of the following:

(a) If the public body provides for fee appeals to the head of the public body in its publicly available procedures and guidelines, submit to the head of the public body a written appeal for a fee reduction that specifically states the word "appeal" and identifies how the required fee exceeds the amount permitted under the public body's available procedures and guidelines or section 4.

(b) Commence a civil action in the circuit court, or if the decision of a state public body is at issue, in the court of claims, for a fee reduction. The action must be filed within 45 days after receiving the notice of the required fee or a determination of an appeal to the head of a public body. If a civil action is commenced against the public body under this subdivision, the public body is not obligated to complete the processing of the written request for the public record at issue until the court resolves the fee dispute. An action shall not be filed under this subdivision unless 1 of the following applies:

(i) The public body does not provide for appeals under subdivision (a).

(ii) The head of the public body failed to respond to a written appeal as required under subsection (2).

(iii) The head of the public body issued a determination to a written appeal as required under subsection (2).

(2) Within 10 business days after receiving a written appeal under subsection (1)(a), the head of a public body shall do 1 of the following:

(a) Waive the fee.

(b) Reduce the fee and issue a written determination to the requesting person indicating the specific basis under section 4 that supports the remaining fee. The determination shall include a certification from the head of the public body that the statements in the determination are accurate and that the reduced fee amount complies with its publicly available procedures and guidelines and section 4.

(c) Uphold the fee and issue a written determination to the requesting person indicating the specific basis under section 4 that supports the required fee. The determination shall include a certification from the head of the public body that the statements in the determination are accurate and that the fee amount complies with the public body's publicly available procedures and guidelines and section 4.

(d) Issue a notice extending for not more than 10 business days the period during which the head of the public body must respond to the written appeal. The notice of extension shall include a detailed reason or reasons why the extension is necessary. The head of a public body shall not issue more than 1 notice of extension for a particular written appeal.

(3) A board or commission that is the head of a public body is not considered to have received a written appeal under subsection (2) until the first regularly scheduled meeting of that board or commission following submission of the written appeal under subsection (1)(a).

(4) In an action commenced under subsection (1)(b), a court that determines the public body required a fee that exceeds the amount permitted under its publicly available procedures and guidelines or section 4 shall reduce the fee to a permissible amount. Venue for an action against a local public body is proper in the circuit court for the county in which the public record or an office of the public body is located. The court shall determine the matter de novo, and the burden is on the public body to establish that the required fee complies with its publicly available procedures and guidelines and section 4. Failure to comply with an order of the court may be punished as contempt of court.

(5) An action commenced under this section and an appeal from an action commenced under this section shall be assigned for hearing and trial or for argument at the earliest practicable date and expedited in every way.

(6) If the requesting person prevails in an action commenced under this section by receiving a reduction of 50% or more of the total fee, the court may, in its discretion, award all or an appropriate portion of reasonable attorneys' fees, costs, and disbursements. The award shall be assessed against the public body liable for damages under subsection (7).

(7) If the court determines in an action commenced under this section that the public body has arbitrarily and capriciously violated this act by charging an excessive fee, the court shall order the public body to pay a civil fine of \$500.00, which shall be deposited in the general fund of the state treasury. The court may also award, in addition to any actual or compensatory damages, punitive damages in the amount of \$500.00 to the person seeking the fee reduction. The fine and any damages shall not be assessed against an individual, but shall be assessed against the next succeeding public body that is not an individual and that kept or maintained the public record as part of its public function.

(8) As used in this section, "fee" means the total fee or any component of the total fee calculated under section 4, including any deposit.

History: Add. 2014, Act 563, Eff. July 1, 2015