

**OFFICE OF THE FULTON COUNTY ATTORNEY**

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ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303

R. DAVID WARE  
COUNTY ATTORNEY



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December 15, 2010

**VIA U.S. MAIL and EMAIL**

Michael B. Pell  
Atlanta Journal Constitution  
223 Perimeter Center Pkwy.  
Atlanta, GA 30346

Re: Open Records Request

Dear Mr. Pell:

The Tax Commissioner's Office received a copy of your open records request dated December 10, 2010 on December 13, 2010. In said correspondence, you have requested the following records:

- The total number of delinquent properties that had their tax liens sold in 2007, 2008, and 2009.
- The total dollar value for the delinquent properties that had their tax liens sold in 2007, 2008, and 2009.

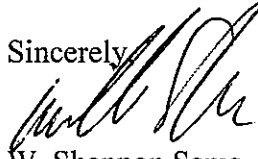
The Tax Commissioner's Office has reviewed your request and has found that it does not maintain an existing document, in electronic version or otherwise, which shows the **total** number of delinquent properties that had their tax liens sold in 2007, 2008 and 2009 or the **total** dollar value for the delinquent properties that had their tax liens sold in 2007, 2008 and 2009 and the dollar amount due for delinquent properties for tax years 2007, 2008 and 2009. In order to produce the records requested, the Tax Commissioner's Office would have to generate reports by querying system records and tables, and then perform comparisons of those reports in order to produce accurate results. These tasks are outside the normal business functions for the Tax Commissioner's Office and would require dedicated hours and staffing to meet the request. As previously stated in response to your Open Records Request dated November 30, 2010, the Tax Commissioner does maintain a physical copy of each lien transferred by the Tax Commissioner for tax years 2007, 2008 and 2009. Each of these liens contains the amount of the taxes, fees and penalties owed by the defendant in fi. fa. The documentation maintained by the Tax Commissioner's Office is available for review by appointment.

Michael Pell  
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A fee is charged for the time it takes to search, retrieve, copy and supervise access to the requested documents pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 50-18-71(d) and (f). However, no fee will be assessed for the first fifteen (15) minutes of this search. If you should request printed copies or request further documentation pursuant to this request, an administrative fee will be charged. This fee is set at the hourly rate of the lowest paid full-time employee within each department with the necessary skill and training to respond to your request. You will also be of \$.25 per page for each printed page of the documents you request. Please note that the total amount for searching and retrieving and/or copying all documents is due upon release.

Please direct all inquiries regarding this request to the Office of the Fulton County Attorney to my attention. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 404-612-0246.

Sincerely,



W. Shannon Sams  
Staff Attorney



WSS/deh

xc: Dr. Arthur E. Ferdinand, Tax Commissioner  
Matthew C. Welch, Senior Attorney