

P.O. Box 338 · Mound, MN 55364
(612) 718-4945 · ClaraN@umn.edu

December 28, 2006

Lori Swanson
Attorney General
102 State Capitol Building
75 Dr. Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard
St. Paul, MN 55155-1002

Dear Attorney General Swanson,

I am attaching a Data Practices Act request made to your predecessor, Attorney General Mike Hatch. During a conversation with Mr. Hatch, he told me that he would help me obtain the information I am here requesting. However, with the election and other demands on his time and attention, he may not have even seen my initial (November 3rd) request, even though it was directed (as he instructed during that conversation) to him personally.

The information that I am here requesting is straightforward: the legal *grounds* for decisions made by the State Department of Health to re-amend my deceased husband's death certificate: withdrawing State recognition of our legally-valid marriage, while upholding other – legally potent – false and inaccurate information, specifically including: a) the death certificate is in my deceased husband's disabled son's name, and b) the "race" alleged on the death certificate, "American Indian," is inaccurate and misleading, and was used to enter his estate into inapplicable 'Indian' jurisdiction. In consequence, I was stripped of almost everything I owned and had an interest in: at Red Lake, and elsewhere including in Minnesota.

I have been trying to find out what the legal basis for the State's decisions were, for more than eight years now. The Health Department assures me that what they did was 'legal,' but claims that the advice – from the Attorney General's Office – supporting their claims of 'legality' is 'confidential,' protected by attorney-client privilege.

Chief Deputy Attorney General Kristine Eiden responded to my November 3, 2006 request to Mr. Hatch, and tells me that the Attorney General's Office cannot find any record of the advice provided to the Health Department.

Which leaves me in the position of having had substantial property, rights, and other valuable interests taken – without even knowing what *law* was used dispossess me.

The Attorney General's Office could request copies of the advice, reviews and opinions provided to the Health Department, as well as the records detailing the process that the Health Department used, and the evidence and findings of fact that supported their decisions. I have a reasonable right to know.

I am incorporating by reference the attached request, dated December 24th and hand-delivered to your office today (I had problems with my printer). [Online: <http://www.maquah.net/MikeHatch/2006/>]

Thank you for your assistance,

Sincerely,

Clara NiiSka