VIA: EMAIL:  Bill.montgomery@chamberlainlaw.com

August 1, 2013

William D. Montgomery, Esq.
Chamberlain, Hrdlicka, White, Williams & Aughtry
191 Peachtree Street, N.E., 34th Floor
Atlanta, Georgia 30303-1747

Dear Mr. Montgomery:

Thank you for your consideration of the Georgia World Congress Center Authority’s (“Authority”) offer to purchase the Mount Vernon Baptist Church (“MVBC”) Property. However, in your recent email, you advised that MVBC has unanimously rejected the Authority’s adjusted offer of SIX MILLION TWO HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS AND 00/CENTS ($6,200,000.00) which was based on the highest appraised value received by the Authority. Therefore, the Authority hereby advises you that it is officially terminating negotiations and is abandoning its efforts to acquire the MVBC Property.

Pursuant to the Georgia Open Records Act, O.C.G.A. § 50-18-70 et seq. (“ORA”) “all documents, papers, letters … generated information … prepared and maintained or received by an agency” are now public records subject to disclosure. The documents related to this transaction within the reach of ORA include, specifically, “[r]eal estate appraisals, engineering or feasibility estimates, or other records made for or by the state or a local agency relative to the acquisition of real property;” and, unless otherwise exempt, all such documents become public records subject to disclosure at “such time as … the proposed transaction has been terminated or abandoned.” O.C.G.A. § 50-18-72 (9).

Accordingly, unless otherwise prohibited, the Authority is required to disclose all records it generated or received in its efforts to acquire the MVBC Property and intends to post these records on the Authority’s website.
Again, thank you for your consideration and the Authority looks forward to continuing the amicable relationship that the Authority has had in the past with the MVBC. If you have any questions regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Denise E. Whiting-Pack
Senior Assistant Attorney General