

DANIEL CAMERON ATTORNEY GENERAL 1024 CAPITAL CENTER DRIVE SUITE 200 FRANKFORT, KY 40601

March 3, 2021

Mr. Jason Darnall, County Attorney and Members of the Marshall County Fiscal Court 1101 Main Street Benton, Kentucky 42025 RE: Donation to the Marshall County Parks System

Dear Mr. Darnall and Members of the Marshall County Fiscal Court,

The Kentucky Office of the Attorney General (KYOAG) is pleased to inform County Attorney Darnall and the Marshall County Fiscal Court that Mr. Mason Cook, former director of the Aurora-Jonathan Creek Tourism Association and signatory on the organization's bank account, has completed a transfer of \$8,362 from the organization to the Marshall County Parks Department. Mr. Cook has requested that this money be earmarked for special projects at the community park in Aurora.

The Aurora-Jonathan Creek Tourism Association was a charitable organization that existed to promote tourism in the Aurora, Kentucky area. The organization is no longer active as most members of the organization are either deceased or have moved from the area. The organization filed its last annual report with the Kentucky Secretary of State in 2017. In 2019, Mr. Darnall contacted the Kentucky Office of the Attorney General (KYOAG) about this matter. Mr. Darnall became aware of the Aurora-Jonathan Creek Tourism Association's inactivity when Mr. Ricky Sirls came into possession of the organization's bank account after his mother, Mrs. Brenda Sirls, passed away. Mrs. Sirls was a signatory on the account and maintained it with the Community Financial Services Bank.

An investigator in the KYOAG worked to locate all of the signatories on the bank account who would be able to close the bank account and transfer the money to an active organization. Our investigator located Mr. Mason Cook of Murray, Kentucky. Mr. Cook has closed the Aurora-Jonathan Creek Tourism Association bank account and today, March 3, 2021, he is delivering a check to the Marshall County Parks Department to the Marshall County Treasurer in the amount of \$8,362.

Mr. Cook has requested that the money donated to the Marshall County Parks
Department be specially earmarked for special projects at the community park in Aurora. The
Aurora-Jonathan Creek Tourism Association existed to promote tourism and recreation in
Aurora, Kentucky. The improvement of the Aurora park and its facilities will continue the
Aurora-Jonathan Creek Tourism Association's mission. The KYOAG exists to promote the
safety and well-being of citizens across the Commonwealth, and this donation to the Aurora park
will provide safe recreational activities for both families and tourists to enjoy. It is our privilege
to assist in the facilitation of this donation.

Sincerely,

DANIEL J. CAMERON

AFTORNEY GENERAL

Rebecca Price

Office of Consumer Protection

502-696-5446

rebecca.price@ky.gov