

Before the Presiding Judges of the Administrative Judicial Regions
Per Curiam Rule 12 Decision

APPEAL NO.: 26-018

RESPONDENT: 401st District Court, Collin County

DATE: September 16, 2026

SPECIAL COMMITTEE: Judge David Evans, Chair; Judge Robert Trapp; Judge Sid Harle; Judge Ana Estevez; Judge Alfonso Charles

On July 3, Petitioner requested from Respondent various communications exchanged between (1) Respondent and a certain person and (2) Respondent and the Collin County District Attorney's Office regarding certain subjects. In reply to Petitioner's request, Respondent advised Petitioner that there were no "judicial records" responsive to the requests. Petitioner timely filed an appeal challenging Respondent's "no responsive judicial records" reply to the request. In response to the petition, Respondent reiterated to the special committee that it lacked judicial records responsive to Petitioner's request.

Respondent has informed the special committee that it lacks records responsive to Petitioner's July 3 request. If a requested record does not exist, a respondent's inability to produce a requested record is not a denial of access to judicial records under Rule 12 and the Rule 12 appeals process does not apply to the request. *See, e.g.*, Rule 12 Dec. Nos. 17-015, 17-020, 23-003, 23-006, 23-010, 25-007, 26-003, 26-004. Accordingly, the appeal is dismissed.