

**SUNSHINE ORDINANCE  
TASK FORCE**



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**ORDER OF DETERMINATION**

**DATE THE DECISION ISSUED**

March 27, 2008

*DENIZ BOLBOL v. SAN FRANCISCO ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY (08015)*

**FACTS OF THE CASE**

On February 21, 2008 Complainant Deniz Bolbol submitted an Immediate Disclosure Request to the San Francisco Zoological Society ("SFZoo"), specifically seeking (1) The San Francisco Zoo's Collection Plan; (2) A list of zoo management personnel; (3) A list of SFZoo's steering committee members; (4) The original design plan for the African Savannah; and (5) Animal inventory. Bolbol stated that a temporary employee acknowledged that SF Zoo received the request. However as of March 4, 2008, Deniz Bolbol had not received the documents and had not been told when she might receive the documents.

**COMPLAINT FILED**

On March 5, 2008, Deniz Bolbol filed a complaint against the SF Zoo for violation of Section 67.21(a) and 67.25(b) of the Sunshine Ordinance and California Public Records Act Section 6250 et seq.

Ms. Bolbol alleged that as the SFZoo is paid by the City and County of San Francisco to manage and operate the city-owned San Francisco Zoo, and based on the San Francisco Zoo Lease and Management Agreement, the SFZoo is required to provide public access to information concerning the operation of the Zoo to the same extent that such information would have been available to the public if the Department had continued to operate the Zoo.

**HEARING ON THE COMPLAINT**

On March 25, 2008, Complainant Deniz Bolbol appeared before the Task Force and presented her claim. Ms. Bolbol indicated that the requested records had recently been produced, but wanted to proceed with her complaint to make a record on the untimely response from the SFZoo. Respondent Agency was represented by Michael Orosco who presented the Agency's defense.

The issue in the case is whether the Agency violated Section(s) 67.1, 67.21, 67.25, 67.26, and 67.27 of the Ordinance and/or Sections 6253 and/or 6255 of the California Public Records Act.

ORDER OF DETERMINATION

**FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

Based on the testimony and evidence presented the Task Force finds that the testimony of Deniz Bolbol to be persuasive and finds that section 67.25 to be applicable in this case. The Agency did not dispute that they had failed to provide a timely response to Ms. Bolbol, and has committed to providing Sunshine Ordinance training to its managers and preventing further violations in the future.

**DECISION AND ORDER OF DETERMINATION**

The Task Force finds that the agency violated § 67.25 of the Sunshine Ordinance for failure to respond in a timely manner. The Task Force commends the Agency for putting a Sunshine Ordinance training process in place.

This Order of Determination was adopted by the Sunshine Ordinance Task Force on March 25, 2008, by the following vote: (Pilpel / Goldman)

Ayes: Craven, Knee, Cauthen, Comstock, Pilpel, Wolfe, Chan, Goldman, Williams

Excused: Chu



Doug Comstock, Chair  
Sunshine Ordinance Task Force

- c: Ernie Llorente, Deputy City Attorney
- Deniz Bolbol, Complainant
- Michael Orosco, SF Zoological Society