JOHN B. ROE
STATE'S ATTORNEY OF OGLE COUNTY
106 S. 5th St., Suite 110
OREGON, ILLINOIS 61061

Sender's E-mail: srobinson@oglecounty.org
www.oglecounty.org

Telephone: (815) 732-1170
Fax: (815) 732-6607

November 9, 2009

Hon. Becky Huntley
Ogle County Clerk
4th & Washington Streets
Oregon, IL 61061

RE: filing of documents with minutes

Dear Becky:

I am writing to give you my opinion regarding the issue of whether public bodies of the County, including the Ogle County Board and its various committees, should file with the County Clerk copies of documents reviewed by their members during open meetings upon the filing of the minutes of those open meetings with your office.

It is my opinion that such documents should be filed by the public bodies when their minutes are filed with your office as required by law. The public has a right to access the documents reviewed by members of public bodies during their deliberations relating to public business. The failure of these public bodies to file such documents creates the potential for numerous problems, including making it extremely difficult or impossible for the County to comply with requests for such documents under the Freedom of Information Act. If such documents are not filed in a central location (i.e., your office), it is not likely that the public would be able to access them at all.

Please let me know if you have any questions, or if I can be of any further assistance to you.

Very Truly Yours,

Scott P. Robinson
Assistant State's Attorney

cc: State's Attorney Ben Roe