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STATE OF LOUISIANA  
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL  
P.O. Box 94005  
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## Louisiana Open Meeting Law Complaint Form

**NOTE:** This signed Complaint Form should be mailed to Louisiana Attorney General Office, ATTN: Civil Division, P.O. Box 94005, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804, faxed to 225-326-6098, and/or emailed to carbonettem@ag.louisiana.gov and MoranA@ag.louisiana.gov, once fully complete and any supporting documents necessary are attached. **Your complaint will not be processed further if the Complaint Form is not completed with all necessary information and returned with all necessary supporting documentation.**

NAME OF COMPLAINANT: CITIZENS FOR A NEW LOUISIANA

ADDRESS : 2800 WEST PINHOOK ROAD, STE. 8B;  
LAFAYETTE, LA 70508

PHONE NUMBER: (337) 873-1221

EMAIL: MICHAEL@NEWLOUISIANA.ORG

NAME OF THE PUBLIC BODY:  
(i.e. specific board, commission, agency, etc.)

CITY OF NEW IBERIA MUNICIPAL FIRE AND POLICE CIVIL SERVICE BOARD

CITY/PARISH:

CITY OF NEW IBERIA / PARISH OF IBERIA

DATE, TIME, AND PLACE OF THE MEETING:

(Note: A separate form must be completed for each meeting date)

THURSDAY, MARCH 19, 2026 @ 5:15 PM

CITY OF NEW IBERIA COUNCIL CHAMBERS

**NAME OF THE MEMBERS PRESENT AT THE MEETING:**

ED LANDRY, EBRAR REAUX, PETER KRACKE, WYATT COLLINS, AND DOUG LOUVIERE

**DESCRIBE ALLEGED OPEN MEETINGS LAW VIOLATION:**

Pursuant to La. R.S. 42:25, et seq., this complaint is submitted requesting review of actions taken by the New Iberia Municipal Fire and Police Civil Service Board at its March 19, 2026 meeting, which appear to be inconsistent with the requirements of Louisiana's Open Meetings Law.

It is believed that multiple provisions of the Open Meetings Law were not complied with during that meeting. Louisiana law requires that public bodies provide advance written notice of meetings, including an agenda that identifies the matters to be considered with reasonable specificity. See La. R.S. 42:19(A). The purpose of this requirement is to ensure that the public is adequately informed of both the subject matter and any potential action to be taken. Additionally, La. R.S. 42:16 strictly limits the use of executive sessions and requires that such sessions be properly noticed and conducted only for lawful purposes following a valid motion and vote in open session. Further, La. R.S. 42:14(D) mandates that an opportunity for public comment be provided prior to any vote on an agenda item. The Open Meetings Law is to be liberally construed in favor of openness, as provided in La. R.S. 42:12(A), and prior Attorney General opinions have emphasized that agendas must be sufficiently clear to inform the public of the nature of the business to be conducted.

The agenda published for the March 19, 2026 special meeting listed an item described as "Discuss First Supplemental and Amending Petition for Investigation filed by Pat Magee Firm for Cassie Duhon." The agenda did not indicate that the Board intended to take any final action on that matter, nor did it provide notice that an executive session would be held.

During the meeting, a motion was made to enter into executive session. An objection was raised at that time regarding the lack of proper notice; however, the Board proceeded into executive session notwithstanding the objection. Upon returning to open session, a Board member stated that the Board had already reached a decision. The Board then entertained a motion, which was seconded and approved, denying the petition at issue. No public comment period was announced or provided prior to the vote being taken. It is understood that an audio recording of the meeting exists and would confirm these events.

Based on these facts, the Board's actions raise several concerns under the Open Meetings Law. An agenda item listed for "discussion" does not provide adequate notice that a vote or final action will be taken. Entering executive session without proper notice and then returning to announce that a decision had already been reached suggests that deliberation and/or decision-making occurred outside of public view. Louisiana law clearly requires that any final action be taken in open session. In addition, the failure to provide an opportunity for public comment prior to the vote further implicates compliance with statutory requirements.

These circumstances appear to have deprived the public of its constitutional right to observe the deliberations of a public body, as guaranteed by Article XII, Section 3 of the Louisiana Constitution. For these reasons, an investigation into these matters is respectfully requested.

Pursuant to La. R.S. 42:25, if enforcement proceedings are not initiated, a written explanation of that decision is requested. Please advise if any additional information is needed in connection with this complaint.

\*Please attach to this complaint all evidence on which you base your allegation. i.e. the agenda, minutes of the meeting at issue, any recording of the meeting, etc.

**COMPLAINANT SIGNATURE:**

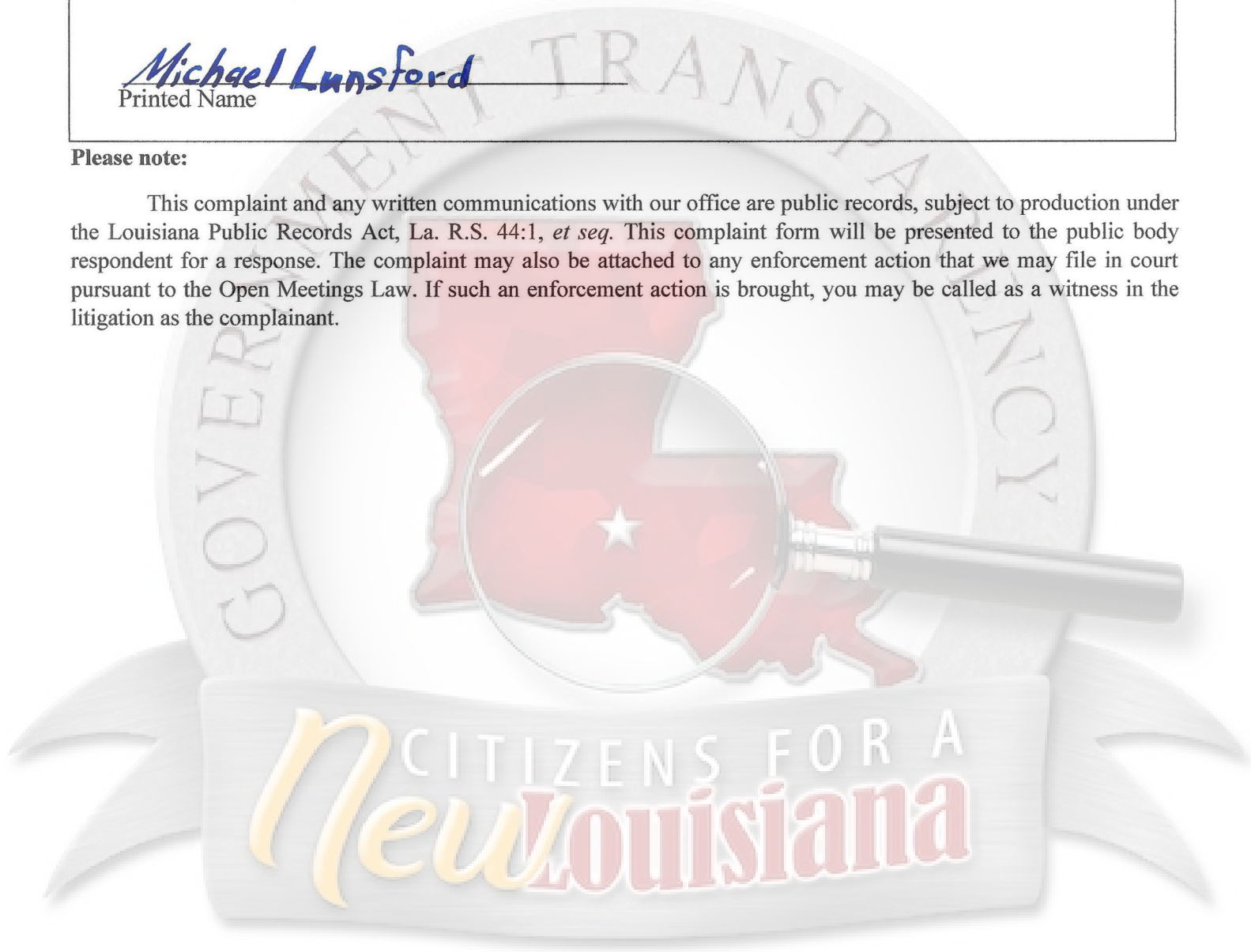
Michael Lunsford  
Signature

23 Mar 2026  
Date Submitted

Michael Lunsford  
Printed Name

**Please note:**

This complaint and any written communications with our office are public records, subject to production under the Louisiana Public Records Act, La. R.S. 44:1, *et seq.* This complaint form will be presented to the public body respondent for a response. The complaint may also be attached to any enforcement action that we may file in court pursuant to the Open Meetings Law. If such an enforcement action is brought, you may be called as a witness in the litigation as the complainant.



**NOTICE**

**NEW IBERIA MUNICIPAL FIRE AND POLICE**

**CIVIL SERVICE BOARD**

**SPECIAL MEETING**

**MARCH 19, 2026**

**COUNCIL ROOM, 3<sup>RD</sup> FLOOR, NEW IBERIA CITY HALL**

**457 E. MAIN STREET, NEW IBERIA LA 70560**

**TIME: 5:15 P.M.**

**AGENDA:**

**ROLL CALL:**

1. Approve the minutes of the last board meeting held on February 26, 2026.
2. Review and approve Personnel Action forms.
3. Discuss First Supplemental and Amending Petition for investigation, filed by Pat Magee Firm for Cassie Duhon.
4. Review and approve scores from examination taken on February 12, 2026, for Police Sergeant.

**ADJOURN:**

**CITIZENS FOR A**  
***New*Louisiana**

**EXHIBIT**

**A**

Last Transaction

Date	Time	Type	Station ID	Duration	Pages	Result
Mar 20	2:32pm	Fax Sent	2253266098	21:33 N/A	4	OK

Digital Fax

