



THE RIGHT TO INFORMATION COMMISSION
ACCRA
15TH AUGUST 2025

AFR NO: RTIC/AFR/37/2025

THE ROYAL AMPONG FAMILY
CENTRAL REGION
AND

APPLICANT

CENTRAL REGIONAL HOUSE OF CHIEFS
CAPE COAST

RESPONDENT

**DETERMINATION BY THE RIGHT TO INFORMATION COMMISSION IN RESPECT
OF AN APPLICATION FOR REVIEW FILED BY THE ROYAL AMPONG FAMILY
AGAINST THE REFUSAL BY THE CENTRAL REGIONAL HOUSE OF CHIEFS TO
RELEASE INFORMATION REQUESTED BY THE FAMILY THROUGH MR.
THEOPHILUS KEN DORMAN**

On 10th March, 2025, the Royal Ampong Family (hereinafter referred to as "the Applicant"), acting through its secretary Mr. Theophilus Ken Dorman, submitted a request for information to the Central Regional House of Chiefs (hereinafter referred to as "the Respondent").

In response, the Respondent provided only a portion of the requested information. Dissatisfied, the Applicant submitted a follow-up request for the outstanding information, but received no response from the Respondent.

The outstanding information sought by the Applicant includes:

- 1. The official records of the Assin Owirenkyi Chieftom.*



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2. *Any historical documentation and other documentation that was submitted to the Regional House of Chief to get their approval to elevate the Assin Owerinkyi Mmofo Stool to become paramountcy.*
3. *A list of past and present occupants of the Assin Owirenkyi Stool, as recorded by the House of Chiefs.*
4. *Records of all financial remittances to Assin Owerinkyi Account and reports.*

In its initial response dated 29th April 2025, the Respondent disclosed only the following: Any rulings, petitions, or disputes regarding the chieftaincy of the Assin Owirenkyi Chiefdom and all documentation submitted by all parties involved including their witness statements, particularly in the case between Ohemma Oforiwaa Nyarko (Petitioner) and Pra Agyensaim VI (Respondent).

On 8th May 2025, the Applicant formally reiterated the request for the outstanding information, but once again received no response. Consequently, the Applicant petitioned the Right to Information Commission (the Commission) on 16th May, 2025 for a review of the Respondent's refusal to grant full access.

Upon receiving the petition, the Commission wrote to the Respondent by letter dated 27th May, 2025 referenced RTIC/RF/VOL.6/0714, requesting reasons for the denial of access. As at the date of this determination, the Respondent had failed, neglected, and/or refused to respond to the Commission's request.

It is important to emphasize that, under the Right to Information Act, 2019 (Act 989), the only grounds on which a public institution may lawfully refuse an application for access to information, as outlined under section 27(1) of Act 989, are:

- Where the request is manifestly frivolous or vexatious, and/or.
- Where the information requested is exempt from disclosure.

In the instant case, the Commission finds that none of the information requested is exempt from disclosure, nor can the application be considered frivolous or vexatious.



FINAL ORDERS

Based on the above findings and in accordance with section 43 (2)(c) of the Right to Information Act, 2019 (Act 989) the Commission issues the following binding orders:

1. Administrative Penalty:

Due to the Respondent's failure to respond to both the Applicant's further request and the Commission's correspondence, an administrative penalty of Fifty Thousand Ghana Cedis (GH¢50,000) is imposed on the Central Regional House of Chiefs.

- L This amount shall be paid to the Commission within Seven (7) days from the date of receipt of this decision.
- U A default penalty of 10% on the principal penalty sum will apply for each additional 7 day period of non-compliance thereafter.

2. Mandatory release of Information:

The Respondent is hereby directed to release the following information to the Applicant within seven (7) days of receipt of this decision:

- a. The official records of the Assin Owirenkyi Chiefdom.
- b. All historical and supporting documentation submitted for the elevation of the Assin Owerinkyi Mmofo Stool to paramountcy.
- c. A complete list of past and present occupants of the Assin Owirenkyi Stool, as maintained by the House of Chiefs.
- d. Records of all financial remittances to the Assin Owerinkyi Account including supporting reports.

3. Applicable Charges for Information:

Pursuant to the Fees and Charges (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 2022 (Act 1080):

- A charge of GH¢0.27 per page shall apply if the information is to be provided in hard copy.



- A charge of GH¢0.29 per page shall apply if the information is to be provided in PDF or digital format.

By order of the Commission



GENEVIEVE SHIRLEY LARTEY, ESQ

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

