



NEW JERSEY GOVERNMENT RECORDS COUNCIL

Administrative Complaint Disposition – All Records Responsive Provided in a Timely Manner

Rotimi Owoh, Esq. (on Behalf of African American Data & Research Institute)
Complainant

GRC Complaint No. 2022-69

v.

Highland Park Police Department (Middlesex)
Custodial Agency

Custodian of Record: Jennifer Santiago
Request Received by Custodian: January 28, 2022
GRC Complaint Received: March 28, 2022

Complaint Disposition: The Custodian certified that all personnel information responsive to the OPRA request were provided to the Complainant, and certified that no responsive agreements exist.¹ Additionally, the Complainant failed to provide any evidence to contradict the Custodian’s certification.² Thus, this complaint shall be dismissed because the Custodian provided all personnel information.³

Applicable OPRA Provision: “A custodian shall promptly comply with a request to inspect, examine, copy, or provide a copy of a government record.” N.J.S.A. 47:1A-5(g).

“Unless a shorter time period is otherwise provided by statute, regulation, or executive order, a custodian of a government record shall grant access to a government record . . . as soon as possible, but not later than seven business days after receiving the request, provided that the record is currently available and not in storage or archived.” N.J.S.A. 47:1A-5(i).

This is the final administrative determination in this matter. Any further review should be pursued in the Appellate Division of the Superior Court of New Jersey within forty-five (45) days. Information about the appeals process can be obtained from the Appellate Division Clerk’s Office, Hughes Justice Complex, 25 W. Market St. PO Box 006, Trenton, NJ 08625-0006.

¹ The GRC notes that the Custodian requested clarification on the OPRA request but received no response from the Complainant. Upon review, the GRC finds that the request did not adequately clarify whether the Complainant sought personnel information from all separated Highland Park personnel, or only police department employees. Therefore, the deadline to respond to the Complainant was suspended upon seeking clarification.

² The Complainant raised an objection on how the Custodian provided the requested personnel information, however because the information was obtained via electronic database, the format constituted a valid response. See Owoh, Esq. (OBO AADARI) v. Voorhees Twp. Police Dep’t (Camden), GRC Complaint No. 2022-12 (March 2024).

³ Because the matter is being administratively disposed, the Complainant is not a prevailing party entitled to an attorney fee award.



Effective Date of Disposition: July 30, 2024

Prepared By: Samuel A. Rosado
Staff Attorney

Date: July 23, 2024

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