

NEW JERSEY GOVERNMENT RECORDS COUNCIL

Administrative Order – In Camera Review

George F. Burdick, Jr. Complainant

GRC Complaint No. 2024-51

v.

Franklin Township Board of Education (Hunterdon) Custodial Agency

Custodian of Record: Mark Kramer

Request Received by Custodian: January 24, 2024 **GRC Complaint Received:** February 26, 2024

Order: The GRC must conduct an *in camera* review of the responsive redacted e-mails and attachments, if any, to determine the validity of the Custodian's assertion that those records were exempt under the cited exemption. See Paff v. N.J. Dep't of Labor, Bd. of Review, 379 N.J. Super. 346, 355 (App. Div. 2005). Thus, The Custodian shall deliver¹ to the Council in a sealed envelope nine (9) copies of the requested unredacted records, nine (9) copies of the redacted records, and a document or redaction index.²

This is an Administrative Order requiring compliance within ten (10) business days after receipt thereof. The Custodian shall also simultaneously deliver³ certified confirmation of compliance with this Order, in accordance with N.J. Court Rules, R. 1:4-4,⁴ to the Executive Director.⁵

Effective Date of Disposition: May 21, 2024

Prepared By: Frank F. Caruso May 14, 2024

Executive Director Distribution Date: May 23, 2024

¹ The *in camera* records may be sent overnight mail, regular mail, or be hand-delivered, at the discretion of the Custodian, as long as the GRC physically receives them by the deadline.

² The document or redaction index should identify the record and/or each redaction asserted and the lawful basis for the denial

³ The certified confirmation of compliance, including supporting documentation, may be sent overnight mail, regular mail, e-mail, facsimile, or be hand-delivered, at the discretion of the Custodian, as long as the GRC physically receives it by the deadline.

⁴ "I certify that the foregoing statements made by me are true. I am aware that if any of the foregoing statements made by me are willfully false, I am subject to punishment."

⁵ Satisfactory compliance requires that the Custodian deliver the record(s) to the Complainant in the requested medium. If a copying or special service charge was incurred by the Complainant, the Custodian must certify that the record has been *made available* to the Complainant but the Custodian may withhold delivery of the record until the financial obligation is satisfied. Any such charge must adhere to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 47:1A-5.