

No Knock Warrants

January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023

New Jersey Office of the Attorney General

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No-Knock Warrant Reporting

January 1, 2023- December 31, 2023

Overview

Attorney General Law Enforcement Directive No. 2021-12 requires the annual reporting of statistics related to No-Knock warrants in New Jersey and the publication of these statistics by the Office of Attorney General. Under the Directive, all County Prosecutors (hereinafter “CPOs”) are required to track on an annual basis, for each requesting law enforcement agency, the number of warrants including No-Knock provisions applied for and the number approved by a court in their jurisdiction, as well as any No-Knock entries justified by exigent circumstances. New Jersey law enforcement agencies track this data and are required to send this information directly to their County Prosecutor (hereafter “CPO”). In turn, the CPOs are required to report whether any agency within their jurisdiction submitted any applications for No-Knock warrants to the courts in their jurisdiction. Agencies reporting applications for No-Knock warrants are then required to submit counts of:

- # of applications for “No-Knock” provisions applied for to the court
- # of applications for “No-Knock” provisions approved by a court
- # of “No-Knock” entries justified by exigent circumstances

This report details the volume of No-Knock warrants for the reporting period of January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023.

2023 No-Knock Warrant Reporting Summary

Applications	Approved by the Court	Denied by the Court	Entries Justified by Exigent Circumstances
123	120	3	8

No-Knock Warrants by County & State Agency

For the reporting period between January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023, 14 counties reported No-Knock warrant applications within their jurisdictions. Agencies reported submitting 123 applications for a No-Knock warrant of which, 120 were approved by a court. Camden, Gloucester, and Middlesex each reported a denied No-Knock application. Camden, Bergen, Atlantic, and Mercer counties reported the largest volume of applications and approvals. There were eight No-Knock entries which were justified by exigent circumstances, the most, four, occurring in Warren County.

	<i>Applications for "No-Knock" provisions applied for to the court</i>	<i>Applications for "No-Knock" provisions approved by a court</i>	<i>"No-Knock" entries justified by exigent circumstances</i>
<i>Atlantic</i>	18	18	0
<i>Bergen</i>	19	19	0
<i>Burlington</i>	2	2	0
<i>Camden</i>	29	28	0
<i>Cape May</i>	5	5	0
<i>Cumberland</i>	5	5	0
<i>Essex</i>	0	0	0
<i>Gloucester</i>	7	6	0
<i>Hudson</i>	1	1	1
<i>Hunterdon</i>	0	0	0
<i>Mercer</i>	17	17	0
<i>Middlesex</i>	8	7	1
<i>Monmouth</i>	0	0	0
<i>Morris</i>	4	4	0
<i>Ocean</i>	0	0	0
<i>Passaic</i>	0	0	0
<i>Salem</i>	0	0	0
<i>Somerset</i>	3	3	2
<i>Sussex</i>	0	0	0
<i>Union</i>	1	1	0
<i>Warren</i>	4	4	4
<i>Division of Criminal Justice</i>	0	0	0
<i>Division of Taxation</i>	0	0	0
<i>Rutgers PD</i>	0	0	0
Total	123	120	8

No-Knock Warrants by County/Agency

The volume of No-Knock warrant applications in individual law enforcement agencies was generally small. Most frequently applications are made by prosecutor's offices.

Atlantic County No-Knock Warrant Applications

Atlantic County No-Knock warrant applications totaled 18 for 2023. Agencies listed as "Other" were unspecified in the submission. However, these agencies are typically State-wide agencies operating within the county.

	<i>Applications for "No-Knock" provisions applied for to the court</i>	<i>Applications for "No-Knock" provisions approved by a court</i>	<i>"No-Knock" entries justified by exigent circumstances</i>
<i>Atlantic City PD</i>	9	9	0
<i>Egg Harbor City PD</i>	1	1	0
<i>Galloway Twp PD</i>	1	1	0
<i>Hamilton Twp PD</i>	1	1	0
<i>Pleasantville PD</i>	1	1	0
<i>Other¹</i>	5	5	0
Total	18	18	0

Bergen County No-Knock Warrant Applications

Bergen County no-knock warrant applications totaled 19 for 2023.

	<i>Applications for "No-Knock" provisions applied for to the court</i>	<i>Applications for "No-Knock" provisions approved by a court</i>	<i>"No-Knock" entries justified by exigent circumstances</i>
<i>Bergen County Prosecutors Office</i>	13	13	0
<i>Elmwood Park PD</i>	1	1	0
<i>Englewood PD</i>	2	2	0
<i>Garfield PD</i>	1	1	0
<i>Hackensack PD</i>	1	1	0
<i>Maywood PD</i>	1	1	0
Total	19	19	0

¹ Other refers to statewide agencies that operate within the jurisdiction of a specific county.

Burlington County No-Knock Warrant Applications

Burlington County No-Knock warrant applications totaled 2 for 2023.

	<i>Applications for "No-Knock" provisions applied for to the court</i>	<i>Applications for "No- Knock" provisions approved by a court</i>	<i>"No-Knock" entries justified by exigent circumstances</i>
<i>Burlington County Prosecutors Office</i>	1	1	0
<i>Other</i>	1	1	0
Total	2	2	0

Camden County No-Knock Warrant Applications

Camden County No-Knock warrant applications totaled 29 applications and 28 approvals for 2023. Agencies listed as "Other" were unspecified in the submission. However, these agencies are typically State-wide agencies operating within the county.

	<i>Applications for "No- Knock" provisions applied for to the court</i>	<i>Applications for "No- Knock" provisions approved by a court</i>	<i>"No-Knock" entries justified by exigent circumstances</i>
<i>Camden PD</i>	3	3	0
<i>Camden County Prosecutors Office</i>	21	20	0
<i>Gloucester City PD</i>	2	2	0
<i>Pennsauken Twp PD</i>	1	1	0
<i>Voorhees Twp PD</i>	1	1	0
<i>Other</i>	1	1	0
Total	29	28	0

Cape May County No-Knock Warrant Applications

Cape May County No-Knock warrant applications totaled 5 for 2023.

	<i>Applications for "No-Knock" provisions applied for to the court</i>	<i>Applications for "No- Knock" provisions approved by a court</i>	<i>"No-Knock" entries justified by exigent circumstances</i>
<i>Cape May County Prosecutors Office</i>	1	1	0
<i>Lower Twp PD</i>	1	1	0
<i>Middle Twp PD</i>	2	2	0
<i>Wildwood Crest Boro PD</i>	1	1	0
Total	5	5	0

Cumberland County No-Knock Warrant Applications

Cumberland County No-Knock warrant applications totaled 5 for 2023. Agencies listed as “Other” were unspecified in the submission. However, these agencies are typically State-wide agencies operating within the county.

	<i>Applications for "No-Knock" provisions applied for to the court</i>	<i>Applications for "No-Knock" provisions approved by a court</i>	<i>"No-Knock" entries justified by exigent circumstances</i>
<i>Vineland PD</i>	1	1	0
<i>Other</i>	4	4	0
Total	5	5	0

Gloucester County No-Knock Warrant Applications

Gloucester County No-Knock warrant applications totaled 7 with 6 approved for 2023.

	<i>Applications for "No-Knock" provisions applied for to the court</i>	<i>Applications for "No-Knock" provisions approved by a court</i>	<i>"No-Knock" entries justified by exigent circumstances</i>
<i>Franklin Twp PD</i>	1	1	0
<i>Gloucester County Prosecutors Office</i>	5	4	0
<i>West Deptford Twp PD</i>	1	1	0
Total	7	6	0

Hudson County No-Knock Warrant Applications

Hudson County No-Knock warrant applications totaled 1 for 2023.

	<i>Applications for "No-Knock" provisions applied for to the court</i>	<i>Applications for "No-Knock" provisions approved by a court</i>	<i>"No-Knock" entries justified by exigent circumstances</i>
<i>Hudson County Prosecutors Office</i>	1	1	1
Total	1	1	1

Mercer County No-Knock Warrant Applications

Mercer County No-Knock warrant applications totaled 17 for 2023.

	<i>Applications for "No-Knock" provisions applied for to the court</i>	<i>Applications for "No-Knock" provisions approved by a court</i>	<i>"No-Knock" entries justified by exigent circumstances</i>
<i>Hamilton Twp PD</i>	2	2	0
<i>Mercer County Sheriffs Office</i>	1	1	0
<i>Mercer County Prosecutors Office</i>	7	7	0
<i>Trenton PD</i>	3	3	0
<i>West Windsor Twp PD</i>	4	4	0
Total	17	17	0

Middlesex County No-Knock Warrant Applications

Middlesex County No-Knock warrant applications totaled 8 with 7 approvals for 2023.

	<i>Applications for "No-Knock" provisions applied for to the court</i>	<i>Applications for "No-Knock" provisions approved by a court</i>	<i>"No-Knock" entries justified by exigent circumstances</i>
<i>Edison Twp PD</i>	2	2	0
<i>Middlesex County Prosecutors Office</i>	5	4	1
<i>Perth Amboy PD</i>	1	1	0
Total	8	7	1

Morris County No-Knock Warrant Applications

Morris County No-Knock warrant applications totaled 4 for 2023.

	<i>Applications for "No-Knock" provisions applied for to the court</i>	<i>Applications for "No-Knock" provisions approved by a court</i>	<i>"No-Knock" entries justified by exigent circumstances</i>
<i>Morris County Prosecutors Office</i>	4	4	0
Total	4	4	0

Somerset County No-Knock Warrant Applications

Somerset County No-Knock warrant applications totaled 3 for 2023. Agencies listed as “Other” were unspecified in the submission. However, these agencies are typically State-wide agencies operating within the county.

	<i>Applications for "No-Knock" provisions applied for to the court</i>	<i>Applications for "No- Knock" provisions approved by a court</i>	<i>"No-Knock" entries justified by exigent circumstances</i>
<i>Franklin Twp PD</i>	2	2	0
<i>Other</i>	1	1	0
<i>Somerset County Prosecutors Office</i>	0	0	2
Total	3	3	2

Union County No-Knock Warrant Applications

Union County No-Knock warrant applications totaled 1 for 2023.

	<i>Applications for "No- Knock" provisions applied for to the court</i>	<i>Applications for "No- Knock" provisions approved by a court</i>	<i>"No-Knock" entries justified by exigent circumstances</i>
<i>Plainfield PD</i>	1	1	0
Total	1	1	0

Warren County No-Knock Warrant Applications

Warren County No-Knock warrant applications totaled 4 for 2023.

	<i>Applications for "No- Knock" provisions applied for to the court</i>	<i>Applications for "No- Knock" provisions approved by a court</i>	<i>"No-Knock" entries justified by exigent circumstances</i>
<i>Phillipsburg PD</i>	4	4	4
Total	4	4	4