## NJDEP Right to Enter

Pete Madan Greg Davis

### N.J.S.A 2C:29-1

Obstructing Administration of Law or Other Governmental Function

- 2C:29-1. Obstructing Administration of Law or Other Governmental Function.
- a. A person commits an offense if he purposely obstructs, impairs or perverts the administration of law or other governmental function or prevents or attempts to prevent a public servant from lawfully performing an official function by means of flight, intimidation, force, violence, or physical interference or obstacle, or by means of any independently unlawful act. This section does not apply to failure to perform a legal duty other than an official duty, or any other means of avoiding compliance with law without affirmative interference with governmental functions.
- b. An offense under this section is a crime of the fourth degree if the actor obstructs the detection or investigation of a crime or the prosecution of a person for a crime, otherwise it is a disorderly persons offense.

### NEW JERSEY STATE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION NEW JERSEY ADMINISTRATIVE CODE TITLE 7 CHAPTER 27 SUBCHAPTER 1 1.31 Right To Enter

#### **7:27-1.31** Right to enter

(a) The Department and its representatives shall have the right to enter and inspect at any time, any facility or building, or portion thereof, including all documents and equipment on the premises, in order to ascertain compliance or noncompliance with this chapter or with any preconstruction permit, certificate, operating permit, order, authorization or other legal document issued pursuant thereto, or to verify any information submitted to the Department. This right is absolute and shall not be conditioned upon any action by the Department, except the presentation of appropriate credentials as requested, and compliance with appropriate safety standards. This right includes, but is not limited to, the right to:

- 1. Enter upon the premises of the facility;
- 2. Sketch or photograph any portion of the facility;
- 3. Enter upon the premises of a facility where records are maintained under the conditions of the preconstruction permit, certificate or operating permit;
- 4. Review any records that must be kept under the conditions of the preconstruction permit, certificate or operating permit;
- 5. Copy or photograph any records that must be kept under the conditions of the preconstruction permit, certificate or operating permit;

- 6. Inspect any part of the facility, including any equipment (including any equipment used for monitoring and any air pollution control apparatus), practices, or operations, regulated or required under the preconstruction permit, certificate or operating permit;
- 7. Interview any employee or representative of the owner or operator; and
- 8. Test or sample any substance or material.

(b) No person shall obstruct, hinder or delay the Department or its representatives in its exercise of its rights under (a) above.

# NEW JERSEY STATE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION NEW JERSEY ADMINISTRATIVE CODE TITLE 7 CHAPTER 27A-3.7(c)

Civil administrative penalty for failure to allow lawful entry and inspection

### 7:27A-3.7 Civil administrative penalty for failure to allow lawful entry and inspection

- (a) The Department may assess a civil administrative penalty against each violator who refuses, inhibits or prohibits immediate lawful entry and inspection of any premises, building, or place, except private residences, by any authorized Department representative.
- (b) Each day that a violator refuses, inhibits or prohibits immediate lawful entry and inspection of any premises, building, or place, except private residences, by any authorized Department representative, shall be an additional, separate and distinct offense.

- (c) The amount of the civil administrative penalty for offenses described in this section shall be \$8,000 for the first offense, \$16,000 for the second offense, and \$40,000 for the third and each subsequent offense.
- (d) The Department may, in its discretion, treat an offense as a first offense solely for civil administrative penalty determination purposes, if the violator has not committed the same offense in the five years immediately preceding the date of the pending offense
- (e) A violation under this section is non-minor and therefore not subject to a grace period.

### Denial of Entry May also Result In



Search Warrant

### Securing the Premises



### Injunctive Relief



Injunctive relief consists
 of a court order called
 an injunction, requiring
 an individual to do or
 not do a specific action.