



**NEW JERSEY GOVERNMENT RECORDS COUNCIL**  
**Administrative Complaint Disposition – Not Within the Council’s Jurisdiction**

**Peter Chen**  
**Complainant**

**GRC Complaint No. 2020-238**

v.

**Superior Court of N.J.**  
**Custodial Agency**

**Custodian of Record:** Michelle Smith  
**Request Received by Custodian:** N/A  
**GRC Complaint Received:** December 10, 2020

**Complaint Disposition:** The Complainant asserts a denial of access to records requested on August 7, 2020.<sup>1</sup> However, the GRC does not have jurisdiction over records requests made of the Superior Court, as it falls under the Judicial Branch of government. Thus, this complaint shall be dismissed due to lack of jurisdiction. Inquiries concerning Judiciary records may be addressed to:

Superior Court Clerk’s Office  
Richard J. Hughes Justice Complex  
PO Box 971  
Trenton, NJ 08625-0971

**Applicable OPRA Provision:** “The council shall not have jurisdiction over the Judicial or Legislative Branches of State Government or any agency, officer, or employee of those branches.” N.J.S.A. 47:1A-7(g).

**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.**

**Effective Date of Disposition:** January 26, 2021

Prepared By: Frank F. Caruso  
Executive Director

Date: January 19, 2021

**Distribution Date: January 27, 2021**

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<sup>1</sup> The GRC notes that the Complainant asserted a denial of his Judiciary “Records Request Form.” Thus, even if the GRC had jurisdiction over the Judiciary, this complaint would still be subject to dismissal due to the absence of an OPRA request.