

## NEW JERSEY GOVERNMENT RECORDS COUNCIL

## Administrative Order - In Camera Review

Rotimi Owoh, Esq. (On Behalf of African American Data and Research Institute) Complainant GRC Complaint No. 2021-304

v.

North Bergen Police Department (Hudson) Custodial Agency

**Custodian of Record:** Erin Barillas

**Request Received by Custodian:** September 15, 2021 **GRC Complaint Received:** November 18, 2021

Order: The GRC must conduct an *in camera* review of the redacted settlement agreement to determine the validity of the Custodian's assertion that the record was lawfully redacted under OPRA's exemption for medical, psychiatric or psychological history, diagnosis, treatment or evaluation, as well as exemptions pursuant to other State statutes or regulations. N.J.S.A. 47:1A-1.1; N.J.S.A. 47:1A-9; Executive Order No. 26 (McGreevy 2002); 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 deliver to the Council in a sealed envelope nine (9) copies of the requested unredacted settlement, nine (9) copies of the redacted settlement, and a document or redaction index.<sup>2</sup>

This is an Administrative Order requiring compliance within ten (10) business days after receipt thereof. The Custodian shall also simultaneously deliver<sup>3</sup> certified confirmation of compliance with this Order, in accordance with N.J. Court Rules, R. 1:4-4,<sup>4</sup> to the Executive Director.

**Effective Date of Disposition:** November 8, 2023

Prepared By: Samuel A. Rosado Date: October 31, 2023 Staff Attorney **Distribution Date: November 9, 2023** 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> 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.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The document or redaction index should identify the record and/or each redaction asserted and the lawful basis for the denial.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> 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.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> "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."