

NEW JERSEY GOVERNMENT RECORDS COUNCIL

Administrative Complaint Disposition – Motion to File Within Time Denied

Mildred F. Waale Complainant GRC Complaint No. 2023-166

v.

Warren Township Planning Board (Somerset) Custodial Agency

Custodian of Record: Cathy Reese

Request Received by Custodian: March 31, 2023

GRC Complaint Received: July 18, 2023

Complaint Disposition: The Complainant verified the instant complaint on July 6, 2023, alleging she was denied access to her OPRA request on April 3, 2023, or ninety-four (94) days prior. The Complainant contended that she was unaware of the GRC's sixty (60) day statute of limitations. However, the Complainant failed to show good cause to permit the complaint to proceed out of time. Therefore, this complaint shall be dismissed.

Applicable OPRA Provision: "Any requestor who is denied access, in whole or in part, to a government record by a custodian, at the option of the requestor, may file a complaint with the Council pursuant to N.J.S.A. 47:1A-6. Such filing shall be made within 60-calendar days or, if the last day of the period is a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday, within the next business day, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 1:1-1.4, after the requestor receives a response from the custodian that grants or denies access or, if the custodian does not respond within seven business days of the request, within 60-calendar days following the expiration of such seven-business-day period, whichever is later, unless accompanied by a motion to file within time, showing good cause." N.J.A.C. 5:105-2.1(a).

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: August 29, 2023

Prepared By: Samuel A. Rosado

Staff Attorney

Date: August 22, 2023 Distribution Date: August 29, 2023

¹ The GRC notes that the Complainant relied upon an unaffiliated third-party website for information on the GRC's complaint process and did not confirm the information via the GRC's website or contact the GRC directly.