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State of New Jersey  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS  
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JACQUELYN A. SUÁREZ  
Commissioner

## FINAL DECISION

### July 29, 2025 Government Records Council Meeting

Abussamaa Rasul Ramziddin  
Complainant

Complaint No. 2023-204

v.

Mercer County Prosecutor's Office  
Custodian of Record

At the July 29, 2025, public meeting, the Government Records Council ("Council") considered the July 22, 2025, Findings and Recommendations of the Executive Director and all related documentation submitted by the parties. The Council voted unanimously to adopt the entirety of said findings and recommendations. The Council, therefore, finds that:

1. The portion of the complaint related to the six (6) May 8, 2023 OPRA requests should be dismissed because it was filed out of time. N.J.A.C. 5:105-2.1(a). Additionally, the Complainant did not provide, nor does the record evidence show, that good cause exists to accept this portion of the complaint as within time.
2. The Complainant's July 28, 2023 request No. 1 seeking "[r]ecords and information" and portions of request Nos. 2 through 5 seeking "records and following information" are invalid because they failed to identify any specific government record. MAG Entm't, LLC v. Div. of ABC, 375 N.J. Super. 534 (App. Div. 2005); Bent v. Stafford Police Dep't, 381 N.J. Super. 30, 37 (App. Div. 2005); Morgano v. Essex Cnty. Prosecutor's Office, GRC Complaint No. 2007-156 (October 2008); Feiler-Jampel v. Somerset Cnty. Prosecutor's Office, GRC Complaint No. 2007-190 (Interim Order dated March 26, 2008). Thus, no unlawful denial of access to this portion of the Complainant's request occurred because it was invalid. N.J.S.A. 47:1A-6.
3. The Custodian has borne his burden of proof that he lawfully denied access to the portions of the Complainant's July 28, 2023 OPRA request Nos. 2 through 5 seeking disciplinary records. N.J.S.A. 47:1A-6; N.J.S.A. 47:1A-10; Merino v. Borough of Ho-Ho-Kus, GRC Complaint No. 2003-110 (Interim Order dated March 11, 2004).

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. Proper service of submissions pursuant to any appeal is to be made to the Council in care of the Executive Director

at the State of New Jersey Government Records Council, 101 South Broad Street, PO Box 819,  
Trenton, NJ 08625-0819.

Final Decision Rendered by the  
Government Records Council  
On The 29<sup>th</sup> Day of July 2025

John A. Alexy, Chair  
Government Records Council

I attest the foregoing is a true and accurate record of the Government Records Council.

Steven Ritardi, Esq., Secretary  
Government Records Council

**Decision Distribution Date: July 31, 2025**

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
GOVERNMENT RECORDS COUNCIL**

**Findings and Recommendations of the Executive Director  
July 29, 2025 Council Meeting**

**Abussamaa Rasul Ramziddin<sup>1</sup>  
Complainant**

**GRC Complaint No. 2023-204**

**v.**

**Mercer County Prosecutor's Office<sup>2</sup>  
Custodial Agency**

**Records Relevant to Complaint:**

May 8, 2023 OPRA requests (six (6) OPRA requests): Agency Nos. 23-33; 23-35; 23-36; 23-37; 23-38, and 23-39. See Exhibit A.

July 28, 2023 OPRA requests (five (5) OPRA requests): Agency No. 23-51. See Exhibit B.

**Custodian of Record:** Scott J. Gershman, Esq.<sup>3</sup>

**Request Received by Custodian:** May 10, 2023; May 12, 2023; August 1, 2023

**Response Made by Custodian:** May 19, 2023; May 23, 2023; June 6, 2023; August 10, 2023

**GRC Complaint Received:** August 28, 2023

**Background<sup>4</sup>**

**Request and Response:**

On May 8, 2023, the Complainant submitted six (6) Open Public Records Act ("OPRA") requests to the Custodian seeking the above-mentioned records. On May 19, 2023, the Custodian responded in writing to 23-33 advising that he required an extension of "five (5) extra days" to respond thereto. On May 23, 2023, the Custodian again responded stating that he required an extension of an additional two (2) weeks for all six (6) pending May 8, 2023 OPRA requests.

On June 6, 2023, the Custodian responded in writing denying access substantively to all six (6) May 8, 2023 OPRA requests. The Custodian initially stated that the requests were invalid because they failed to identify any specific "government records" and would require research to properly fulfill pursuant to MAG Entm't, LLC v. Div. of ABC, 375 N.J. Super. 534, 546 (App.

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<sup>1</sup> No legal representation listed on record.

<sup>2</sup> No legal representation listed on record.

<sup>3</sup> The current custodian of record is Daniel Opatut, Esq.

<sup>4</sup> The parties may have submitted additional correspondence or made additional statements/assertions in the submissions identified herein. However, the Council includes in the Findings and Recommendations of the Executive Director the submissions necessary and relevant for the adjudication of this complaint.

Div. 2005); Bent v. Stafford Police Dep't, 381 N.J. Super. 30, 37 (App. Div. 2005); and Lagerkvist v. Office of Governor, 443 N.J. Super. 230, 237 (App. Div. 2015). The Custodian next denied the request on the basis that some responsive records were exempt from disclosure as criminal investigatory material. N.J.S.A. 47:1A-1.1. The Custodian finally stated that the requests were also denied under the personnel records' exemption at N.J.S.A. 47:1A-10; except for salary and employment dates for four (4) employees that he included in his response.

On June 9, 2023, the Complainant e-mailed the Custodian asking him to reconsider his position on the May 8, 2023 OPRA requests. The Complainant asserted that denial was "unreasonable, arbitrary, and capricious."

On July 28, 2023, the Complainant submitted an additional five (5) Open Public Records Act ("OPRA") requests to the Custodian seeking the above-mentioned records. On August 10, 2023,<sup>5</sup> the Custodian responded in writing denying all five (5) OPRA requests under the same basis for his denial of the May 8, 2023 OPRA requests.

#### Denial of Access Complaint:

On August 28, 2023, the Complainant filed a Denial of Access Complaint with the Government Records Council ("GRC"). The Complainant disputed the Custodian's denial on the basis that his OPRA requests were invalid. The Complainant contended that the Custodian relied on court decisions that has "been ruled over in new evidentiary and case law" including Rivera v. Union Cnty. Prosecutor's Office, 250 N.J. 124 (2022). The Complainant further contended that the Custodian violated his constitutional rights, purportedly contrary to Rivera, which held that OPRA guarantees access to public records.

The Complainant further argued that the Custodian applied exemptions to his OPRA requests to "avoid transparency and accountability." The Complainant contended that records sought, including personnel information and lawsuit statistics, are readily available under OPRA. The Complainant further argued that disclosure of this information is important to ensure government transparency and accountability. The Complainant contended that public agencies have an obligation to comply with the "Square Corners Doctrine" set forth in FMC Stores, Co. v. Borough of Morris Plains, 100 N.J. 418 (1985).<sup>6</sup> The Complainant thus requested that the GRC overturn the Custodian's denial of access.

#### Statement of Information:<sup>7</sup>

On October 2, 2023, the Custodian filed a Statement of Information ("SOI"). The Custodian certified that he received the Complainant's May 8, 2023 OPRA requests on May 10, and 12, 2023. The Custodian certified that his search included disseminating the requests to various

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<sup>5</sup> The Custodian's response occurred on the ninth (9<sup>th</sup>) business day after receipt of the OPRA requests, which constitutes a "deemed" denial of access. However, the GRC does not address this issue because the Complainant did not raise it.

<sup>6</sup> FMC Stores, Co., decided 17 years before the enactment of OPRA, addressed whether a statutory deadline for property tax appeals could be modified.

<sup>7</sup> On September 11, 2023, this complaint was referred to mediation. On September 18, 2023, this complaint was referred back to the GRC for adjudication.

divisions with the MCPO. The Custodian certified that following two (2) extensions, he responded in writing on June 6, 2023, denying the requests as invalid, applying exemptions to various other records, and disclosing salary and employment dates for four (4) employees.

The Custodian certified that he received the Complainant's July 28, 2023 OPRA requests on August 1, 2023. The Custodian certified that his search included disseminating the requests to various divisions with the MCPO. The Custodian certified that he responded in writing on June 6, 2023, denying the requests for all the reasons he previously denied access to the May 8, 2023 OPRA requests.

The Custodian first argued that the GRC should dismiss the portion of the complaint regarding the May 8, 2023 OPRA requests as filed beyond the 60-calendar day statute of limitations set forth in N.J.A.C. 5:105-2.1. The Custodian argued that the Complainant did not cause his complaint to be filed with the GRC until August 22, 2023, approximately fifteen (15) days after the statute of limitations expired. The Custodian further argued that the Complainant did not submit a motion to file within time, as required under N.J.A.C. 5:105-2.1.

The Custodian next argued that, should the GRC consider the May 8, 2023 OPRA requests as part of this complaint, same are nonetheless invalid under OPRA pursuant to MAG, 375 N.J. Super. 534 and Bent, 381 N.J. Super. 30. The Custodian argued that the requests were "anything but clear and concise" and failed to identify specific records. The Custodian noted that the requests included "numerous variations of 'any and all' terms," which requests have been determined to be improper under Spectraserv, Inc. v. Middlesex Cnty. Util. Auth., 416 N.J. Super. 565 (App. Div. 2010). The Custodian argued that the requests also lack specificity by failing to identify types of phone call records for the stretches from four (4) named individuals. The Custodian contended that even the request seeking recorded phone calls required "substantial, impermissible research," but that in any event no records exist because MCPO does not record its calls.

The Custodian further argued that the Complainant's request sought, in part, personnel records and information not disclosable per N.J.S.A. 47:1A-10. The Custodian noted that the records sought included ethics complaints and disciplinary actions. The Custodian contended that the Complainant's reliance on Rivera is erroneous because that complaint reinforced his ability to apply N.J.S.A. 47:1A-10 to the records sought here. The Custodian noted that in accordance with that limited personnel information subject to disclosure under N.J.S.A. 47:1A-10, he disclosed to the Complainant salary and length of employment information.

The Custodian also argued that although invalid, he lawfully denied the Complainant's requests for mobile video recordings under the criminal investigatory exemption pursuant to N. Jersey Media Grp., Inc. v. Twp. of Lyndhurst, 229 N.J. 541 (2017). The Custodian also noted that OPRA was not intended to replace or supplement discovery per MAG, 375 N.J. Super. at 545-546. The Custodian further noted that notwithstanding the forgoing, no responsive videos exist.

The Custodian next argued that he lawfully denied access to the Complainant's July 28, 2023 OPRA requests because they were invalid. The Custodian applied all previous validity arguments, and added that the requests, although containing a date range, required him to conduct research that resulted in an open-ended search. The Custodian also noted that based on internal

conversations, it was his understanding that any civil lawsuits to which MCPO is a party are held by the County. The Custodian averred that this system is in place to alleviate conflicts of interest; thus, it is likely that MCPO would not have any records responsive to the request. The Custodian finally noted that although the Complainant identified the common law portion of Rivera in his OPRA requests, the GRC has no authority to adjudicate that issue.

#### Additional Submissions:

On October 10, 2023, the Complainant submitted a reply to the SOI. The Complainant first argued that he timely filed his complaint because the second extension of time expired on June 15, 2023, wherein the statute of limitations should begin thereafter. The Complainant further argued that he included in his complaint the July 28, 2023 OPRA requests.

The Complainant next contended that the Custodian insufficiently explained his bases for denial. The Complainant argued that his request concisely cited to OPRA and submitted his OPRA requests in accordance with Attorney General Law Enforcement Directive (“AG Directive”) 2022-14 (addressing internal affairs records that may be subject to “common law” access as a result of Rivera). The Complainant noted that prior to AG Directive 2022-14, other directives were issued requiring previously confidential internal affairs information. AG Directive 2020-5 and 2020-6.

The Complainant further contended that the MCPO used presumption to apply exemptions on the basis of prior criminal investigations and pending civil litigation. The Complainant argued that MCPO’s denial was a violation of his civil and constitutional rights and undermines the “principles of fairness and justice” upheld by the legal system. The Complainant contended that MCPO’s “blatant disregard for the principles of Due Process and Procedural Due Process” require corrective action to ensure justice is served.

The Complainant finally disputed the Custodian’s addition of the argument that the GRC has no authority over common law requests.<sup>8</sup> The Complainant noted that OPRA did not affect a requestor’s right to access records under either common law or through the discovery process. The Complainant argued the argument was moot because he was aware that common law challenges can only be filed with the Superior Court. The Complainant contended that this issue was addressed at length in Rivera.

### Analysis

#### Statute of Limitations

The GRC’s regulations provide that:

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<sup>8</sup> Prevailing case law has long supported that the GRC has no authority to address common law issues. Ciesla v. N.J. Dep’t of Health and Senior Servs., 429 N.J. Super. 127, 148 (App. Div. 2012); Rowan, Jr. v. Warren Hills Reg’l Sch. Dist. (Warren), GRC Complaint No. 2011-347 (January 2013). This tenet was recently reinforced in Owoh ex rel. Afr. Am. Data & Rsch. Inst. v. Maple Shade Police Dep’t Burlington, 2024 N.J. Super. Unpub. LEXIS 445 (App. Div. 2024).

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) (emphasis added).]<sup>9</sup>

In the instant matter, the Complainant submitted six (6) OPRA requests on May 8, 2023. Following two (2) extensions of time, the Custodian responded in writing on June 6, 2023, denying all six (6) OPRA requests. This complaint followed and the Custodian argued in the SOI that this portion of the complaint should be dismissed as out of time. The Custodian argued that because he responded on June 6, 2023, the statute of limitations began tolling on June 7, 2023, and ended on August 7, 2023. In his SOI rebuttal, the Complainant contended that the statute of limitations began the day after the end of the second extended time period, or June 16, 2023. The Complainant further argued that the inclusion of the July 28, 2023 OPRA requests rendered the whole complaint timely.

Taking the facts and arguments into account, the GRC finds that the portion of the complaint related to the May 8, 2023 OPRA requests was filed out of time. The applicable regulatory language contemplates the calculation of the statute of limitations either from the denial date or, if the custodian fails to respond, the expiration of the response time frame. N.J.A.C. 5:105-2.1. Here, and contrary to the Complainant's assertion, the Custodian responded in writing denying the Complainant's May 8, 2023 OPRA requests on June 6, 2023. Based on this denial date, the Complainant had until August 7, 2023, to file a complaint regarding these OPRA requests. The Complainant subsequently filed the instant complaint on August 28, 2023.<sup>10</sup>

At the time this complaint was filed, approximately eighty-three (83) calendar days later, the statute of limitations had clearly expired. The fact that the Complainant included more current OPRA requests in this complaint is of no moment: the Custodian's August 10, 2023, denial to all five (5) of the Complainant's July 28, 2023 OPRA requests did not restart the statute of limitations for the May 8, 2023 OPRA requests. Further, the Complainant did not include a motion arguing why this portion of the complaint should be accepted as within time.

Therefore, the portion of the complaint related to the six (6) May 8, 2023 OPRA requests should be dismissed because it was filed out of time. N.J.A.C. 5:105-2.1(a). Additionally, the

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<sup>9</sup> The GRC notes that P.L. 2024, c. 16, effective September 3, 2024, codified a forty-five (45)-calendar day statute of limitations for all OPRA actions filed either with the New Jersey Superior Court or the GRC. N.J.S.A. 47:1A-6.

<sup>10</sup> The Complainant did not attempt to file a complaint until August 22, 2023, but his complaint was returned as incomplete and subsequently faxed again on August 24, 2023. The GRC officially received the complaint, absent a motion to file within time, for intake on August 28, 2023.

Complainant did not provide, nor does the record evidence show, that good cause exists to accept this portion of the complaint as within time.

### **Validity of Request**

The New Jersey Appellate Division has held that:

While OPRA provides an alternative means of access to government documents not otherwise exempted from its reach, *it is not intended as a research tool litigants may use to force government officials to identify and siphon useful information. Rather, OPRA simply operates to make identifiable government records “readily accessible for inspection, copying, or examination.”* N.J.S.A. 47:1A-1.

[MAG, 375 N.J. Super. at 546 (emphasis added).]

The court reasoned that:

Most significantly, the request failed to identify with any specificity or particularity the governmental records sought. *MAG provided neither names nor any identifiers other than a broad generic description of a brand or type of case prosecuted by the agency in the past.* Such an open-ended demand required the Division's records custodian to manually search through all of the agency's files, analyze, compile and collate the information contained therein, and identify for MAG the cases relative to its selective enforcement defense in the OAL litigation. Further, once the cases were identified, the records custodian would then be required to evaluate, sort out, and determine the documents to be produced and those otherwise exempted.

[Id. at 549 (emphasis added).]

The court further held that “[u]nder OPRA, agencies are required to disclose only ‘identifiable’ government records not otherwise exempt . . . . In short, OPRA does not countenance open-ended searches of an agency's files.” Id. (emphasis added). Bent, 381 N.J. Super. at 37;<sup>11</sup> N.J. Builders Ass’n v. N.J. Council on Affordable Hous., 390 N.J. Super. 166, 171 (App. Div. 2007); Schuler v. Borough of Bloomsbury, GRC Complaint No. 2007-151 (February 2009).

Invalid OPRA requests typically fall into three (3) categories. The first is a request that is overly broad (“any and all,” requests seeking “records” generically, *etc.*) and requires a custodian to conduct research. MAG, 375 N.J. Super. 534; Donato v. Twp. of Union, GRC Complaint No. 2005-182 (January 2007). The second is those requests seeking information or asking questions. See *e.g.* Rummel v. Cumberland Cnty. Bd. of Chosen Freeholders, GRC Complaint No. 2011-168 (December 2012). The final category is a request that is either not on an official OPRA request form or does not invoke OPRA. See *e.g.* Naples v. N.J. Motor Vehicle Comm’n, GRC Complaint No. 2008-97 (December 2008).

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<sup>11</sup> Affirmed on appeal regarding Bent v. Stafford Police Department, GRC Case No. 2004-78 (October 2004).



In Morgano v. Essex Cnty. Prosecutor's Office, GRC Complaint No. 2007-156 (October 2008), the complainant filed an OPRA request for two entire prosecutor's office files. The Council relied upon MAG, 375 N.J. Super. at 546; Bent, 381 N.J. Super. at 37; and Asarnow v. Dep't of Labor, GRC Complaint No. 2006-24 (May 2006), in determining that the request was overbroad and of the nature of a blanket request for a class of various documents rather than a request for a specific government record. As such, the Council found that the custodian met her burden of proof in denying access to the responsive records.

Moreover, in Feiler-Jampel v. Somerset Cnty. Prosecutor's Office, GRC Complaint No. 2007-190 (Interim Order dated March 26, 2008), the Council similarly held that a request seeking "[a]ny and all documents and evidence" relating to an investigation being conducted by the Somerset County Prosecutor's Office was invalid, reasoning that:

[B]ecause the records requested comprise an entire SCPO file, the request is overbroad and of the nature of a blanket request for a class of various documents rather than a request for specific government records. Because OPRA does not require custodians to research files to discern which records may be responsive to a request, the Custodian had no legal duty to research the SCPO files to locate records potentially responsive to the Complainant's request pursuant to the Superior Court's decisions in [MAG], [Bent] and the Council's decisions in [Asarnow, GRC 2006-24 and Morgano, GRC 2007-156].

[Id. See also Schulz v. NJ State Police, GRC Complaint No. 2014-390 (Interim Order dated July 28, 2015) (holding that the portion of the request seeking "all documents" was overly broad and thus invalid).]

Here, the Complainant's July 28, 2023 OPRA request No. 1 sought "[r]ecords and information from . . . ." various types of litigation, settlements, and of unidentified individuals terminated for certain reasons within time periods from 2018 or 2019 to 2023. The Complainant's remaining OPRA requests sought in part "records and following information . . . [w]hich resulted in litigation, lawsuits and[/]or settlements and payouts" over various time frames. The Custodian responded denying the requests as invalid, among other bases, and this complaint followed. Therein, the Complainant contended that the Custodian's denial was unlawful based on Rivera, 250 N.J. 124. In the SOI, the Custodian maintained his position that the requests were invalid because they required research and open-ended searches for an unknown set of records. In his SOI reply, the Complainant continued to argue that his requests were sufficiently specific.

Upon review, precedential case law supports that these portions of the Complainant's July 28, 2023 request No. 1 and portions of request Nos. 2 through 5 were invalid. Specifically, as in Feiler-Jampel, GRC 2007-190, the portion of request item No. 1 seeking "[r]ecords and information" related to any litigation and settlements failed to identify those specifically sought. More specifically, the Custodian would have been required to review the entire universe of MCPO's records to determine if any even tacitly addressed the perimeters of the Complainant's requests. Thus, a plain reading of each of the Complainant's requests including the term "[r]ecords and information" represent a blanket request for all documents maintained by MCPO that may have anything to do with litigation, settlements, and certain termination causes.

Further, the Complainant's overarching suggestion that any case law or statutory provision in OPRA automatically makes an OPRA request valid is not supported by copious case law on the validity issue. While OPRA provides that any limitations on access shall be construed in favor of the public's right, it does not abrogate a requestor's responsibility to identify specific types of records, as provided for in MAG and its progeny. Further, and contrary to the Complainant's assertions, no case law or amendments to OPRA have overturned the forgoing.

Accordingly, the Complainant's July 28, 2023 request No. 1 seeking "[r]ecords and information" and portions of request Nos. 2 through 5 seeking "records and following information" are invalid because they failed to identify any specific government record. MAG, 375 N.J. Super. at 546; Bent, 381 N.J. Super. at 37; Morgano, GRC 2007-156; Feiler-Jampel, GRC 2007-190. Thus, no unlawful denial of access to this portion of the Complainant's request occurred because it was invalid. N.J.S.A. 47:1A-6.

### **Unlawful Denial of Access**

OPRA provides that government records made, maintained, kept on file, or received by a public agency in the course of its official business are subject to public access unless otherwise exempt. N.J.S.A. 47:1A-1.1. A custodian must release all records responsive to an OPRA request "with certain exceptions." N.J.S.A. 47:1A-1. Additionally, OPRA places the burden on a custodian to prove that a denial of access to records is lawful pursuant to N.J.S.A. 47:1A-6.

Having addressed the Complainant's July 28, 2023 request No. 1 and portions of the remaining requests, the GRC now turns to those remaining portions of the July 28, 2023 OPRA request Nos. 2 through 5 seeking disciplinary records.

OPRA provides that:

Notwithstanding the provisions [OPRA] or any other law to the contrary, the personnel or pension records of any individual in the possession of a public agency, including but not limited to records relating to any grievance filed by or against an individual, shall not be considered a government record and shall not be made available for public access . . . .

[N.J.S.A. 47:1A-10.]

OPRA begins with a presumption against disclosure and "proceeds with a few narrow exceptions that . . . need to be considered." Kovalcik v. Somerset Cnty. Prosecutor's Office, 206 N.J. 581, 594 (2011). These are:

[A]n individual's name, title, position, salary, payroll record, length of service, date of separation and the reason therefore, and the amount and type of any pension received shall be government record;

[P]ersonnel or pension records of any individual shall be accessible when required to be disclosed by another law, when disclosure is essential to the performance of

official duties of a person duly authorized by this State or the United States, or when authorized by an individual in interest; and

[D]ata contained in information which disclose conformity with specific experiential, educational or medical qualifications required for government employment or for receipt of a public pension, but not including any detailed medical or psychological information, shall be a government record.

[Id.]

The Council has addressed whether personnel records not specifically identified in OPRA as disclosable were subject to disclosure. For instance, the Council has determined that records involving employee discipline or investigations into employee misconduct are properly classified as personnel records exempt from disclosure under N.J.S.A. 47:1A-10. In Merino v. Borough of Ho-Ho-Kus, GRC Complaint No. 2003-110 (Interim Order dated March 11, 2004), the Council found that records of complaints or internal reprimands against a municipal police officer were properly classified as personnel records encompassed within the provisions of N.J.S.A. 47:1A-10. For this reason, the Council concluded that “records of complaints filed against [the police officer] and/or reprimands [the officer] received are not subject to public access.” Id.; see also Wares v. Twp. of West Milford (Passaic), GRC Complaint No. 2014-274 (May 2015).

Here, portions of the Complainant’s July 28, 2023 OPRA request Nos. 2 through 5 sought “all disciplinary records, including written warning, reprimands, and any administrative reviews” for four (4) individuals over differing periods of time. The Custodian denied access under N.J.S.A. 47:1A-10. This complaint followed, wherein the Complainant relied largely on a common law right of access argument to refute the Custodian’s denial. In the SOI, the Custodian maintained his position that disciplinary records were exempt from disclosure. In the SOI reply, the Complainant argued that AG Directives responding to Rivera provided that he should be given access to the records in question.

Upon review, prevailing statutes and precedential case law are clear that disciplinary records are not disclosable under OPRA. N.J.S.A. 47:1A-10; Merino, GRC 2003-110. Based on the forgoing, the Custodian’s denial of these portions was lawful under OPRA. Further, contrary to the Complainant’s complaint and SOI reply arguments, nothing in Rivera or the AG’s Directive changes this position. In fact, the Complainant would later admit in his SOI reply that he was aware Rivera addressed internal affairs records and specifically provided that, while exempt under OPRA, they may be disclosed under the common law.

Accordingly, the Custodian has borne his burden of proof that he lawfully denied access to the portions of the Complainant’s July 28, 2023 OPRA request Nos. 2 through 5 seeking disciplinary records. N.J.S.A. 47:1A-6; N.J.S.A. 47:1A-10; Merino, GRC 2003-110.

As a note, the GRC does not address the Complainant’s arguments related to potential violations of his civil rights, constitutional rights, or due process as this issues are not within the GRC’s authority to adjudicate. N.J.S.A. 47:1A-7.

## **Conclusions and Recommendations**

The Executive Director respectfully recommends the Council find that:

1. The portion of the complaint related to the six (6) May 8, 2023 OPRA requests should be dismissed because it was filed out of time. N.J.A.C. 5:105-2.1(a). Additionally, the Complainant did not provide, nor does the record evidence show, that good cause exists to accept this portion of the complaint as within time.
2. The Complainant's July 28, 2023 request No. 1 seeking "[r]ecords and information" and portions of request Nos. 2 through 5 seeking "records and following information" are invalid because they failed to identify any specific government record. MAG Entm't, LLC v. Div. of ABC, 375 N.J. Super. 534 (App. Div. 2005); Bent v. Stafford Police Dep't, 381 N.J. Super. 30, 37 (App. Div. 2005); Morgano v. Essex Cnty. Prosecutor's Office, GRC Complaint No. 2007-156 (October 2008); Feiler-Jampel v. Somerset Cnty. Prosecutor's Office, GRC Complaint No. 2007-190 (Interim Order dated March 26, 2008). Thus, no unlawful denial of access to this portion of the Complainant's request occurred because it was invalid. N.J.S.A. 47:1A-6.
3. The Custodian has borne his burden of proof that he lawfully denied access to the portions of the Complainant's July 28, 2023 OPRA request Nos. 2 through 5 seeking disciplinary records. N.J.S.A. 47:1A-6; N.J.S.A. 47:1A-10; Merino v. Borough of Ho-Ho-Kus, GRC Complaint No. 2003-110 (Interim Order dated March 11, 2004).

Prepared By: Frank F. Caruso  
Executive Director

July 22, 2025

# Exhibit A

OPRA

## NEW JERSEY FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT REQUEST

PROTECTING YOUR RIGHT TO OPEN GOVERNMENT

ABUSSAMAA RASUL RAMZIDDIN,  
207 HERITAGE COURT  
PENNINGTON, NEW JERSEY 08534-5285  
609.815.9187  
[abussamaaramziddin@gmail.com](mailto:abussamaaramziddin@gmail.com)

RECEIVED  
MERCER COUNTY  
PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE  
2023 MAY 10 A 9:52

MERCER COUNTY PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE:

CUSTODIAN OF RECORDS: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT REQUEST; [OPRA]  
OPEN PUBLIC RECORDS REQUEST  
209 SOUTH BROAD STREET  
P.O. BOX; 8068  
TRENTON, NEW JERSEY, 08650-0068

May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Dear, Custodians of Records:

Under the New Jersey Open Public Records Act, N.J.S.A. 47:1A-1 et seq., also known as the New Jersey Freedom of Information Act. I am requesting an opportunity to inspect or obtain copies of Public Records of each individual, and or agencies, listed and named, in the request of New Jersey Freedom Of Information Act Request, also known as [OPRA] Open Public Records Request.

REQUESTS THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION (2). Seeks ASSISTANT, MERCER COUNTY PROSECUTOR HEATHER HADLEY ESQ, (A) Past Present, Educational History and Training, (B) Past and Present, Enhancement(s) (C) Past and Present Training for any Certifications, Awards and Promotions received (D) Present and Past, Qualifications and training Received to Certify as an Expert Investigator & Evidence Collector, (E) Any Referrals to the New Jersey Bar Association & Ethics Committee, Including Full Dispositions of the New Jersey Bar Association & Ethics Committee and/or any actions taken by the New Jersey Bar &

1 | Page

Ethics Committees. (F) ENTIRE Employment Records Start to Completion, (G) Including Disciplinary History, (H) Current and Prior Salaries, (I) Citations and Administrative History including all and/or any and/or all received written Infractions, OR INFRACTIONS, Written, BOTH Past Present, (J) Past and Present Formal and Informal Sanctions or Administrative Dispositions, Including any Adjudications. (K) The ENTIRE request Pertains to Professional Duties Performed while Enforcing the Law and/or enforcing Administrative Orders for and/or against, any EMPLOYEE OF OR EMPLOYEED THROUGH AND OR WITH THE MERCER COUNTY PROSECUTORS' OFFICE, or any MERCER COUNTY PROSECUTOR, & MERCER COUNTY PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE DETECTIVES & ASSISTANT MERCER COUNTY PROSECUTOR.

If there are any fees pursuant to N.J.S.A 47:1-A-5(c), for searching or copying these records, please contact me to inform me if the cost will exceed [\$25] twenty-five dollars. However, I would also like to request a waiver of all fees incurred in the disclosure of the requested information that is in the public interest and related to news gathering purposes, as it will contribute significantly to the public's understanding of obtaining discovery, and the investigations process and measures utilized by the New Jersey Attorney General's office, and the Mercer County Prosecutor's office, to ensure the protections of those of us who are senior citizens and citizens living with disabilities, living off fixed incomes. This information is not being sought for commercial purposes.

The New Jersey Open Public Records Act/New Jersey Freedom of information Act requires a response time of seven business days. If access to the records and or information I am requesting takes longer than this amount of time, please contact me with information about when I might expect copies or ability to inspect the requested records. If you deny any or all of this request, please cite each specific exemption you feel justifies the refusal to release the information and notify me of the appeal procedures available to me under the Law. Thank you for considering my request(s).

Sincerely,

  
ABUSSAMAA RASUL RAMZIDDIN,

CC: ABUSSAMAA RASUL RAMZIDDIN.

CUSTODIAN OF RECORDS; FOR THE NEW JERSEY ATTORNEY GENERALS  
OFFICE.

CUSTODIAN OF RECORDS FOR THE MERCER COUNTY PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE.

NEW JERSEY FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT REQUEST

PROTECTING YOUR RIGHT TO OPEN GOVERNMENT

ABUSSAMAA RASUL RAMZIDDIN,  
207 HERITAGE COURT  
PENNINGTON, NEW JERSEY 08534-5285  
609.815.9187

abussamaaramziddin@gmail.com

MERCER COUNTY PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE:

CUSTODIAN OF RECORDS: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT REQUEST; [OPRA]  
OPEN PUBLIC RECORDS REQUEST

209 SOUTH BROAD STREET

P.O. BOX; 8068

TRENTON, NEW JERSEY, 08650-0068

RECEIVED  
MERCER COUNTY  
PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE  
2023 MAY 12 A 9:01

May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Dear, Custodians of Records:

Under the New Jersey Open Public Records Act, N.J.S.A. 47:1A-1 et seq., also known as the New Jersey Freedom of Information Act. I am requesting an opportunity to inspect or obtain copies of Public Records of each individual, and or agencies, listed and named, in the request of New Jersey Freedom Of Information Act Request, also known as [OPRA] Open Public Records Request.

REQUESTS THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION (1). Dates and times, of Telephone records and or all telephone calls made from the MERCER COUNTY PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE, and or within the MERCER COUNTY PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE, from any and or all personal, and or any, and or all employees of THE MERCER COUNTY PROSECUTORS' OFFICE DETECTIVE'S BUREAU; and ATTORNEY OF RECORD, SKYLAR S. WEISSMAN, ESQ. AND HELMER, CONLEY & KASSELMAN, PA. and or MERCER COUNTY PROSECUTORS, INCLUDING THE HEAD OF THE MERCER COUNTY PROSECUTOR' and or ASSISTANTS TO OR OF THE HEAD OF THE MERCER THE MERCER COUNTY PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE and or THE MERCER COUNTY PROSECUTORS OFFICE, and or ANY MERCER COUNTY DETECTIVES. In the matter of, collection evidence's Pre-Indictment, and Post-



Indictment, and or telephonic conversations to request and or obtain search WARRANT'S, for the purpose of obtaining and or securing evidence, About, and or pertaining to Abussamaa Rasul Ramziddin, from on or about, February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2018, until on or about July 15<sup>th</sup>, 2019.

If there are any fees pursuant to N.J.S.A 47:1-A-5(c), for searching or copying these records, please contact me to inform me if the cost will exceed [\$25] twenty-five dollars. However, I would also like to request a waiver of all fees incurred in the disclosure of the requested information that is in the public interest and related to news gathering purposes, as it will contribute significantly to the public's understanding of obtaining discovery, and the investigations process and measures utilized by the New Jersey Attorney General's office, and the Mercer County Prosecutor's office, to ensure the protections of those of us who are senior citizens and citizens living with disabilities, living off fixed incomes. This information is not being sought for commercial purposes.

The New Jersey Open Public Records Act/New Jersey Freedom of information Act requires a response time of seven business days. If access to the records and or information I am requesting takes longer than this amount of time, please contact me with information about when I might expect copies or ability to inspect the requested records. If you deny any or all of this request, please cite each specific exemption you feel justifies the refusal to release the information and notify me of the appeal procedures available to me under the Law. Thank you for considering my request(s).

Sincerely,

  
ABUSSAMAA RASUL RAMZIDDIN,

CC: ABUSSAMAA RASUL RAMZIDDIN.

CUSTODIAN OF RECORDS; FOR THE NEW JERSEY ATTORNEY GENERALS  
OFFICE.

CUSTODIAN OF RECORDS FOR THE MERCER COUNTY PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE.

NEW JERSEY FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT REQUEST

PROTECTING YOUR RIGHT TO OPEN GOVERNMENT

ABUSSAMAA RASUL RAMZIDDIN,  
207 HERITAGE COURT  
PENNINGTON, NEW JERSEY 08534-5285  
609.815.9187  
abussamaaramziddin@gmail.com

RECEIVED  
MERCER COUNTY  
PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE  
2023 MAY 12 A 9:00

MERCER COUNTY PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE:

CUSTODIAN OF RECORDS: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT REQUEST; [OPRA]  
OPEN PUBLIC RECORDS REQUEST  
209 SOUTH BROAD STREET  
P.O. BOX; 8068  
TRENTON, NEW JERSEY, 08650-0068

May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Dear, Custodians of Records:

I HEREBY REQUEST THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

Under the New Jersey Open Public Records Act, N.J.S.A. 47:1A-1 et seq., also known as the New Jersey Freedom of Information Act. I am requesting an opportunity to inspect or obtain copies of Public Records of each individual, and or agencies, listed and named, in the request of New Jersey Freedom Of Information Act Request, also known as [OPRA] Open Public Records Request. The requests(s) include length of employment, disciplinary records, salary of current and prior employment, history of writing citations, past and present, adjudications of formal and Informal administrative dispositions, for duties executed, performing enforcement of duties or administrative or post orders, past and present, and or most recent educational training, and or qualifications. Past and present, enhancements, to certify individuals referenced status of expert and or investigator, all awards and promotions, disciplinary referrals

1 | Page

to the New Jersey Bar Association & Ethics Committee, including full dispositions of the New Jersey Bar Association & Ethics Committee decisions, and actions taken by the New Jersey Bar Association & Ethics Committee. All Telephone communications and or telephone call from all Attorney's, & and or Mercer County Prosecutor's office Detectives, of the Mercer County Prosecutor's office, all inter office and external telephone calls including outside the office telephone calls, including the dates and times, of all calls and or telephone calls from Assistant Mercer County Prosecutor; Heather Hadley pertaining; and or referencing the INDICTMENT NO: 18-09-0550-I; FILE NO. 18-0891; In the matter of ABUSSAMAA RASUL RAMZIDDIN, to Attorney of record SKYLAR S. WEISSMAN ESQ of Helmer, Conley & Kasselmann, from March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2018, until July 15<sup>th</sup>, 2019, also film footage, and or dashcam and "BWC" body worn camera of Mercer County Prosecutor's office Detective; Alicia Bergondo, Mercer County Detective, an also the entire employment record and or service record of Skylar S. Weissman, Esq. length of employment, with the Mercer County Prosecutor's, also Attorney Skylar S. Weissman Esq, disciplinary records, also Attorney Skylar S. Weissman Esq, Ethics Committees and or the New Jersey Bar disciplinary decisions. This

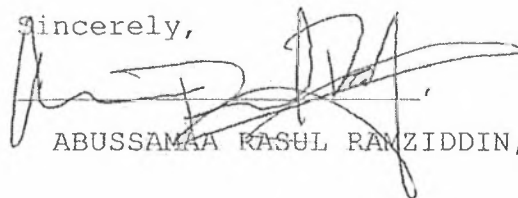
information is pertinent to the matter of Abussamaa Rasul Ramziddin.

If there are any fees pursuant to N.J.S.A 47:1-A-5(c), for searching or copying these records, please contact me to inform me if the cost will exceed [\$25] twenty-five dollars. However, I would also like to request a waiver of all fees incurred in the disclosure of the requested information that is in the public interest and related to news gathering purposes, as it will contribute significantly to the public's understanding of the investigations process and measures utilized by the New Jersey Attorney General's office, and the Mercer County Prosecutor's office, to ensure the protections of those of us who are senior citizens and citizens living with disabilities, living off fixed incomes. This information is not being sought for commercial purposes.

The New Jersey Open Public Records Act/New Jersey Freedom of information Act requires a response time of seven business days. If access to the records and or information I am requesting takes longer than this amount of time, please contact me with information about when I might expect copies or ability to

inspect the requested records. If you deny any or all of this request, please cite each specific exemption you feel justifies the refusal to release the information and notify me of the appeal procedures available to me under the Law. Thank you for considering my request(s).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Abussamaa Rasul Ramziddin', written over a horizontal line.

ABUSSAMAA RASUL RAMZIDDIN,

CC: ABUSSAMAA RASUL RAMZIDDIN.

CUSTODIAN OF RECORDS; FOR THE NEW JERSEY ATTORNEY GENERALS  
OFFICE.

CUSTODIAN OF RECORDS FOR THE MERCER COUNTY PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE.

NEW JERSEY FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT REQUEST

PROTECTING YOUR RIGHT TO OPEN GOVERNMENT

ABUSSAMAA RASUL RAMZIDDIN,  
207 HERITAGE COURT  
PENNINGTON, NEW JERSEY 08534-5285  
609.815.9187  
abussamaaramziddin@gmail.com

RECEIVED  
MERCER COUNTY  
PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE  
2023 MAY 12 A 9:01

MERCER COUNTY PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE:

CUSTODIAN OF RECORDS: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT REQUEST; [OPRA]  
OPEN PUBLIC RECORDS REQUEST  
209 SOUTH BROAD STREET  
P.O. BOX; 8068  
TRENTON, NEW JERSEY, 08650-0068

May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Dear, Custodians of Records:

Under the New Jersey Open Public Records Act, N.J.S.A. 47:1A-1 et seq., also known as the New Jersey Freedom of Information Act. I am requesting an opportunity to inspect or obtain copies of Public Records of each individual, and or agencies, listed and named, in the request of New Jersey Freedom Of Information Act Request, also known as [OPRA] Open Public Records Request.

REQUESTS THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION (2). Seeks MERCER COUNTY PROSECUTOR ANGELO J. ONOFRI, ESQ. (A) Past Present, Educational History and Training, (B) Past and Present, Enhancement(s) (C) Past and Present Training for any Certifications, Awards and Promotions received (D) Present and Past, Qualifications and training Received to Certify as an Expert Investigator & Evidence Collector, (E) Any Referrals to the New Jersey Bar Association & Ethics Committee, Including Full Dispositions of the New Jersey Bar Association & Ethics Committee and/or any actions taken by the New Jersey Bar & Ethics Committees. (F)

ENTIRE Employment Records Start to Completion, (G) Including Disciplinary History, (H) Current and Prior Salaries, (I) Citations and Administrative History including all and/or any and/or all received written Infractions, OR INFRACTIONS, Written, BOTH Past Present, (J) Past and Present Formal and Informal Sanctions or Administrative Dispositions, Including any Adjudications. (K) The ENTIRE request Pertains to Professional Duties Performed while Enforcing the Law and/or enforcing Administrative Orders for and/or against, any EMPLOYEE OF OR EMPLOYEED THROUGH AND OR WITH THE MERCER COUNTY PROSECUTORS' OFFICE, or any MERCER COUNTY PROSECUTOR, & MERCER COUNTY PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE DETECTIVES & ASSISTANT MERCER COUNTY PROSECUTOR.

If there are any fees pursuant to N.J.S.A 47:1-A-5(c), for searching or copying these records, please contact me to inform me if the cost will exceed [\$25] twenty-five dollars. However, I would also like to request a waiver of all fees incurred in the disclosure of the requested information that is in the public interest and related to news gathering purposes, as it will contribute significantly to the public's understanding of obtaining discovery, and the investigations process and measures utilized by the New Jersey Attorney General's office, and the Mercer County Prosecutor's office, to ensure the protections of those of us who are senior citizens and citizens living with disabilities, living off fixed incomes. This information is not being sought for commercial purposes.

The New Jersey Open Public Records Act/New Jersey Freedom of information Act requires a response time of seven business days. If access to the records and or information I am requesting takes longer than this amount of time, please contact me with information about when I might expect copies or ability to inspect the requested records. If you deny any or all of this request, please cite each specific exemption you feel justifies the refusal to release the information and notify me of the appeal procedures available to me under the Law. Thank you for considering my request(s).

Sincerely,

  
ABUSSAMAA RASUL RAMZIDDIN,

CC: ABUSSAMAA RASUL RAMZIDDIN.

CUSTODIAN OF RECORDS;FOR THE NEW JERSEY ATTORNEY GENERALS  
OFFICE.

CUSTODIAN OF RECORDS FOR THE MERCER COUNTY PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE.

NEW JERSEY FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT REQUEST

PROTECTING YOUR RIGHT TO OPEN GOVERNMENT

ABUSSAMAA RASUL RAMZIDDIN,  
207 HERITAGE COURT  
PENNINGTON, NEW JERSEY 08534-5285  
609.815.9187  
abussamaaramziddin@gmail.com

RECEIVED  
MERCER COUNTY  
PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE  
2023 MAY 12 A 9:01

MERCER COUNTY PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE:

CUSTODIAN OF RECORDS: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT REQUEST; [OPRA]  
OPEN PUBLIC RECORDS REQUEST  
209 SOUTH BROAD STREET  
P.O. BOX; 8068  
TRENTON, NEW JERSEY, 08650-0068

May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Under the New Jersey Open Public Records Act, N.J.S.A. 47:1A-1 et seq., also known as the New Jersey Freedom of Information Act. I am requesting an opportunity to inspect or obtain copies of Public Records of each individual, and or agencies, listed and named, in the request of New Jersey Freedom Of Information Act Request, also known as [OPRA] Open Public Records Request.

REQUESTS THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION (2). FORMER ASSISTANT, MERCER COUNTY PROSECUTOR SKYLAR S. WEISSMAN ESQ, (A) Past Present, Educational History and Training, (B) Past and Present, Enhancement(s) (C) Past and Present Training for any Certifications, Awards and Promotions received (D) Present and Past, Qualifications and training Received to Certify as an Expert Investigator & Evidence Collector, (E) Any Referrals to the New Jersey Bar Association & Ethics Committee, Including Full Dispositions of the New Jersey Bar Association & Ethics Committee and/or any actions taken by the New Jersey Bar & Ethics Committees. (F) ENTIRE Employment Records Start to Completion, (G) Including Disciplinary History, (H) Current and Prior Salaries, (I) Citations and Administrative History

1 | Page



including all and/or any and/or all received written  
Infractions, OR INFRACTIONS, Written, BOTH Past Present, (J)  
Past and Present Formal and Informal Sanctions or Administrative  
Dispositions, Including any Adjudications. (K) The ENTIRE  
request Pertains to Professional Duties Performed while  
Enforcing the Law and/or enforcing Administrative Orders for  
and/or against, any EMPLOYEE OF OR EMPLOYEED THROUGH AND OR  
WITH THE MERCER COUNTY PROSECUTORS' OFFICE, or any MERCER COUNTY  
PROSECUTOR, & MERCER COUNTY PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE DETECTIVES &  
ASSISTANT MERCER COUNTY PROSECUTOR.

If there are any fees pursuant to N.J.S.A 47:1-A-5(c), for  
searching or copying these records, please contact me to inform  
me if the cost will exceed [\$25] twenty-five dollars. However, I  
would also like to request a waiver of all fees incurred in the  
disclosure of the requested information that is in the public  
interest and related to news gathering purposes, as it will  
contribute significantly to the public's understanding of  
obtaining discovery, and the investigations process and measures  
utilized by the New Jersey Attorney General's office, and the  
Mercer County Prosecutor's office, to ensure the protections of  
those of us who are senior citizens and citizens living with  
disabilities, living off fixed incomes. This information is not  
being sought for commercial purposes.

The New Jersey Open Public Records Act/New Jersey Freedom of  
information Act requires a response time of seven business days.  
If access to the records and or information I am requesting  
takes longer than this amount of time, please contact me with  
information about when I might expect copies or ability to  
inspect the requested records. If you deny any or all of this  
request, please cite each specific exemption you feel justifies  
the refusal to release the information and notify me of the  
appeal procedures available to me under the Law. Thank you for  
considering my request(s).

Sincerely,

ABUSSAMAA RASUL RAMZIDDIN,

CC: ABUSSAMAA RASUL RAMZIDDIN.

CUSTODIAN OF RECORDS; FOR THE NEW JERSEY ATTORNEY GENERALS  
OFFICE.

CUSTODIAN OF RECORDS FOR THE MERCER COUNTY PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE.

NEW JERSEY FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT REQUEST

PROTECTING YOUR RIGHT TO OPEN GOVERNMENT

ABUSSAMAA RASUL RAMZIDDIN,  
207 HERITAGE COURT  
PENNINGTON, NEW JERSEY 08534-5285  
609.815.9187

abussamaaramziddin@gmail.com

MAY 2<sup>ND</sup>, 2023,

CUSTODIAN OF RECORDS: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT REQUEST; [OPRA]

OPEN PUBLIC RECORDS REQUEST

DIVISION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE

25 MARKET STREET

P.O. BOX 085

TRENTON, NEW JERSEY 08625

---

MERCER COUNTY PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE:

CUSTODIAN OF RECORDS: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT REQUEST; [OPRA]

OPEN PUBLIC RECORDS REQUEST

209 SOUTH BROAD STREET

P.O. BOX; 8068

TRENTON, NEW JERSEY, 08650-0068

May 8<sup>th</sup> , 2023

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Dear, Custodians of Records:

Under the New Jersey Open Public Records Act, N.J.S.A. 47:1A-1 et seq., also known as the New Jersey Freedom of Information Act. I am requesting an opportunity to inspect or obtain copies of Public Records of each individual, and or agencies, listed and named, in the request of New Jersey Freedom Of Information Act Request, also known as [OPRA] Open Public Records Request.

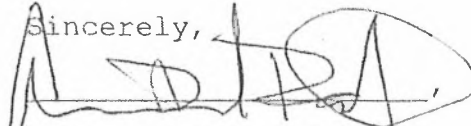
REQUESTS THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION (3). MERCER COUNTY PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE DETECTIVE; MERCER COUNTY DETECTIVE; DETECTIVE ALICIA BERGONDO, (A) Past Present, Educational History and Training, (B) Past and Present, Enhancement(s) (C) Past and Present Training for any Certifications, Awards and Promotions received (D) Present and Past, Qualifications and training Received to Certify as an Expert Investigator & Evidence Collector, (E) Any Referrals to the New Jersey Bar Association & Ethics Committee, Including Full Dispositions of the New Jersey Bar Association & Ethics Committee and/or any actions taken by the New Jersey Bar & Ethics Committees. (F) ENTIRE Employment Records Start to Completion, (G) Including Disciplinary History, (H) Current and Prior Salaries, (I) Citations and Administrative History including all and/or any and/or all received written Infractions, OR INFRACTIONS, Written, BOTH Past Present, (J) Past and Present Formal and Informal Sanctions or Administrative Dispositions, Including any Adjudications. (K) The ENTIRE request Pertains to Professional Duties Performed while Enforcing the Law and/or enforcing Administrative Orders for and/or against, any EMPLOYEE OF OR EMPLOYEED THROUGH AND OR WITH THE MERCER COUNTY PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE, or any MERCER COUNTY PROSECUTOR, & MERCER COUNTY PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE DETECTIVES & ASSISTANT MERCER COUNTY PROSECUTOR.

If there are any fees pursuant to N.J.S.A 47:1-A-5(c), for searching or copying these records, please contact me to inform me if the cost will exceed [\$25] twenty-five dollars. However, I would also like to request a waiver of all fees incurred in the disclosure of the requested information that is in the public interest and related to news gathering purposes, as it will contribute significantly to the public's understanding of obtaining discovery, and the investigations process and measures utilized by the New Jersey Attorney General's office, and the Mercer County Prosecutor's office, to ensure the protections of those of us who are senior citizens and citizens living with disabilities, living off fixed incomes. This information is not being sought for commercial purposes.

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the refusal to release the information and notify me of the appeal procedures available to me under the Law. Thank you for considering my request(s).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Abussamaa Rasul Ramziddin', written over a horizontal line.

ABUSSAMAA RASUL RAMZIDDIN,

CC: ABUSSAMAA RASUL RAMZIDDIN.

CUSTODIAN OF RECORDS; FOR THE NEW JERSEY ATTORNEY GENERALS  
OFFICE.

CUSTODIAN OF RECORDS FOR THE MERCER COUNTY PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE.

# Exhibit B

## NEW JERSEY FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT REQUEST

### PROTECTING YOUR RIGHTS TO OPEN GOVERNMENT

---

ABUSSAMAA RASUL RAMZIDDIN  
207 HERITAGE COURT  
PENNINGTON, NEW JERSEY 08534-5285  
609.815.9187  
[abussamaaramziddin@gmail.com](mailto:abussamaaramziddin@gmail.com)

JULY 28<sup>TH</sup>, 2023

CUSTODIAN OF RECORDS: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT REQUEST-OPRA.

OPEN PUBLIC RECORDS REQUEST

DIVISION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE

25 MARKET STREET P.O. 085

TRENTON, NEW JERSEY 08625

---

MERCER COUNTY PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT REQUEST-OPRA.

CUSTODIAN OF RECORDS: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT REQUEST-OPRA.

OPEN PUBLIC RECORDS REQUEST

209 SOUTH BROAD STREET P.O.BOX 8068

TRENTON, NEW JERSEY, 08650-0068

---

Dear, Custodian of Records:

Under the New Jersey OPEN PUBLIC RECORDS ACT, N.J.S.A. 47:1A-1 et seq. in accordance with Attorney General Law Enforcement Directive. I am requesting an opportunity to inspect or obtain copies of public records of the requested individuals, and agencies.

CUSTODIAN OF RECORDS: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT REQUEST-OPRA.

OPEN PUBLIC RECORDS REQUEST

DIVISION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE

25 MARKET STREET P.O. 085

TRENTON, NEW JERSEY 08625

MERCER COUNTY PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT REQUEST-OPRA.

CUSTODIAN OF RECORDS: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT REQUEST-OPRA.

OPEN PUBLIC RECORDS REQUEST

209 SOUTH BROAD STREET P.O.BOX 8068

TRENTON, NEW JERSEY, 08650-0068

Dear, Custodian of Records:

Under the New Jersey OPEN PUBLIC RECORDS ACT, N.J.S.A. 47:1A-1 et seq. in accordance with Attorney General Law Enforcement Directive. I am requesting an opportunity to inspect or obtain copies of public records of the requested individuals, and agencies.

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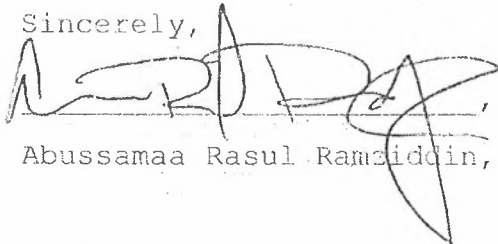
I REQUEST THE RECORDS AND FOLLOWING INFORMATION. Of The Mercer Prosecutors' Office. Which resulted in litigations, lawsuits, and or settlements and payouts. From the year beginning of 2018, to the present and current year of 2023.

1. Records and Information from litigation and lawsuits filed in State or Federal Courts, from the year beginning of 2018 to the present and current year of 2023.
2. Records and information from settlements and sums of payouts from litigation from the year beginning of 2018 to the present and current year of 2023.
3. Records and information from litigation and lawsuits filed as results of police misconducts, and police brutality. Beginning from the year 2018 until the current and present year 2023.
4. Records and information of officers who have been terminated due to official misconducts, abuse of the badge authority, and police brutality. Beginning from the year 2019 until the current and present year 2023.
5. If there are any fees pursuant to N.J.S.A. 47:1-A-5(c) for searching or copying these records, please contact me to inform me if the cost will exceed (25) twenty-five dollars. However, I would also like to request a waiver of all fees

incurred in the disclosure of the requested information that is in the public interest and related to news gathering purposes, as it will contribute significantly to the public's understanding of obtaining discovery, and the investigations process and measures utilized by the New Jersey Attorney General's Office, and the Mercer County Prosecutors' Office, to ensure the protections of those of us who are senior citizens' and citizens living with disabilities, living off of fixed incomes. This information is not being sought for commercial purposes.

6. The New Jersey Open Public Records Act and the New Jersey Freedom of Information Act require a response time of Seven (7) business days. If access to the records and information I am requesting takes longer than this amount of time, please contact me with information about when I might expect copies, or the ability to inspect the requested records. If you DENY any or all this request, please CITE each specific exemption you feel justifies the refusal in Writing to release the information and notify me of the appeal procedures available to me under the law. Thank you for considering my requests.'

Sincerely,



Abussamaa Rasul Ramziddin,

CC: Abussamaa R. Ramziddin,

Custodian of Records, New Jersey Attorney General's Office.

Custodian of Records for the Mercer County Prosecutor's Office.



NEW JERSEY FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT REQUEST

PROTECTING YOUR RIGHTS TO OPEN GOVERNMENT

---

ABUSSAMAA RASUL RAMZIDDIN  
207 HERITAGE COURT  
PENNINGTON, NEW JERSEY 08534-5285  
609.815.9187  
[abussamaaramziddin@gmail.com](mailto:abussamaaramziddin@gmail.com)

JULY 28<sup>TH</sup>, 2023

CUSTODIAN OF RECORDS: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT REQUEST-OPRA.

OPEN PUBLIC RECORDS REQUEST

DIVISION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE

25 MARKET STREET P.O. 085

TRENTON, NEW JERSEY 08625

MERCER COUNTY PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT  
REQUEST-OPRA.

CUSTODIAN OF RECORDS: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT REQUEST-OPRA.

OPEN PUBLIC RECORDS REQUEST

209 SOUTH BROAD STREET P.O.BOX 8068

TRENTON, NEW JERSEY, 08650-0068

Dear, Custodian of Records:

Under the New Jersey OPEN PUBLIC RECORDS ACT, N.J.S.A. 47:1A-1  
et seq. in accordance with Attorney General Law Enforcement  
Directive. I am requesting an opportunity to inspect or obtain  
copies of public records of the requested individuals, and  
agencies.

CUSTODIAN OF RECORDS: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT REQUEST-OPRA.

OPEN PUBLIC RECORDS REQUEST

DIVISION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE

25 MARKET STREET P.O. 085

TRENTON, NEW JERSEY 08625

MERCER COUNTY PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT REQUEST-OPRA.

CUSTODIAN OF RECORDS: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT REQUEST-OPRA.

OPEN PUBLIC RECORDS REQUEST

209 SOUTH BROAD STREET P.O.BOX 8068

TRENTON, NEW JERSEY, 08650-0068

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I REQUEST THE RECORDS AND FOLLOWING INFORMATION. Of the Mercer Prosecutors' Office. Which resulted in litigations, lawsuits, and or settlements and payouts. From the year beginning of 2018, to the present and current year of 2023. Of MERCER COUNTY PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE DETECTIVE ALICIA BERGONDO. Beginning from the year of 2018 to the present and current year of 2023.

1. I also further request all disciplinary records, including written warnings, reprimands, and any administrative reviews, beginning from the year of 2018 to the present and current year of 2023.

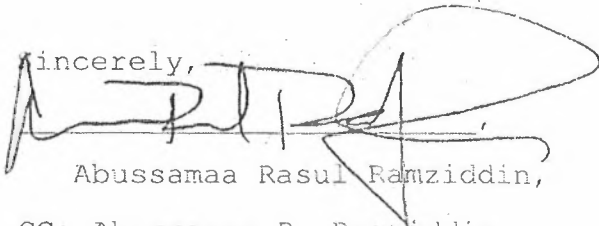
Under the New Jersey OPEN PUBLIC RECORDS ACT, N.J.S.A. 47:1A-1 et seq. in accordance with Attorney General's Law Enforcement Directive's pursuant to Attorney General Law Enforcement Directive NO. 2022-14, and also Rivera v. Union County Prosecutor's Office. 250 N.J. 124(2022), requires that a range of internal affairs reports may be publicly accessible under the common law right of access upon request. I am requesting an opportunity to inspect or obtain copies of public records of the requested individuals, and agencies.

2. If there are any fees pursuant to N.J.S.A. 47:1-A-5(c) for searching or copying these records, please contact me to

inform me if the cost will exceed (25) twenty-five dollars. However, I would also like to request a waiver of all fees incurred in the disclosure of the requested information that is in the public interest and related to news gathering purposes, as it will contribute significantly to the public's understanding of obtaining discovery, and the investigations process and measures utilized by the New Jersey Attorney Generals' Office, and the Mercer County Prosecutors' Office, to ensure the protections of those of us who are senior citizens' and citizens living with disabilities, living off of fixed incomes. This information is not being sought for commercial purposes.

3. The New Jersey Open Public Records Act and the New Jersey Freedom of Information Act require a response time of Seven (7) business days. If access to the records and information I am requesting takes longer than this amount of time, please contact me with information about when I might expect copies, or the ability to inspect the requested records. If you DENY any or all this request, please CITE each specific exemption you feel justifies the refusal in Writing to release the information and notify me of the appeal procedures available to me under the law. Thank you for considering my requests.'

Sincerely,



Abussamaa Rasul Ramziddin,

CC: Abussamaa R. Ramziddin,

Custodian of Records, New Jersey Attorney General's Office.

Custodian of Records for the Mercer County Prosecutor's Office.

NEW JERSEY FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT REQUEST

PROTECTING YOUR RIGHTS TO OPEN GOVERNMENT

ABUSSAMAA RASUL RAMZIDDIN  
207 HERITAGE COURT  
PENNINGTON, NEW JERSEY 08534-5285  
609.815.9187  
abussamaaramziddin@gmail.com

JULY 28<sup>TH</sup>, 2023

CUSTODIAN OF RECORDS: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT REQUEST-OPRA.

OPEN PUBLIC RECORDS REQUEST

DIVISION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE

25 MARKET STREET P.O. 085

TRENTON, NEW JERSEY 08625

MERCER COUNTY PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT  
REQUEST-OPRA.

CUSTODIAN OF RECORDS: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT REQUEST-OPRA.

OPEN PUBLIC RECORDS REQUEST

209 SOUTH BROAD STREET P.O.BOX 8068

TRENTON, NEW JERSEY, 08650-0068

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CUSTODIAN OF RECORDS: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT REQUEST-OPRA.

OPEN PUBLIC RECORDS REQUEST

DIVISION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE

25 MARKET STREET P.O. 085

TRENTON, NEW JERSEY 08625

MERCER COUNTY PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT REQUEST-OPRA.

CUSTODIAN OF RECORDS: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT REQUEST-OPRA.

OPEN PUBLIC RECORDS REQUEST

209 SOUTH BROAD STREET P.O.BOX 8068

TRENTON, NEW JERSEY, 08650-0068

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I REQUEST THE RECORDS AND FOLLOWING INFORMATION. Of the Mercer Prosecutors' Office. Which resulted in litigations, lawsuits, and or settlements and payouts. From the year beginning of 1991, to the year of 2017. FORMER ASSISTANT MERCER COUNTY PROSECUTOR SKYLAR S. WEISSMAN ESQ. Beginning from the year of 1991 to the year of 2017.

1. I also further request all disciplinary records, including written warnings, reprimands, and any administrative reviews, beginning from the year of 1991 to the year of 2017.

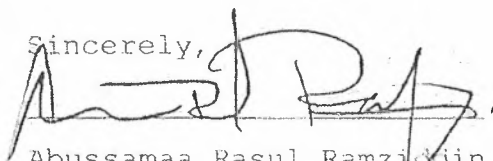
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2. If there are any fees pursuant to N.J.S.A. 47:1-A-5(c) for searching or copying these records, please contact me to

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Sincerely,



Abussamaa Rasul Ramziddin,

CC: Abussamaa R. Ramziddin,

Custodian of Records, New Jersey Attorney General's Office.

Custodian of Records for the Mercer County Prosecutor's Office.

NEW JERSEY FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT REQUEST

PROTECTING YOUR RIGHTS TO OPEN GOVERNMENT

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JULY 28<sup>TH</sup>, 2023

CUSTODIAN OF RECORDS: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT REQUEST-OPRA.

OPEN PUBLIC RECORDS REQUEST

DIVISION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE

25 MARKET STREET P.O. 085

TRENTON, NEW JERSEY 08625

MERCER COUNTY PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT  
REQUEST-OPRA.

CUSTODIAN OF RECORDS: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT REQUEST-OPRA.

OPEN PUBLIC RECORDS REQUEST

209 SOUTH BROAD STREET P.O.BOX 8068

TRENTON, NEW JERSEY, 08650-0068

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CUSTODIAN OF RECORDS: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT REQUEST-OPRA.

OPEN PUBLIC RECORDS REQUEST

DIVISION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE

25 MARKET STREET P.O. 085

TRENTON, NEW JERSEY 08625

MERCER COUNTY PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT REQUEST-OPRA.

CUSTODIAN OF RECORDS: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT REQUEST-OPRA.

OPEN PUBLIC RECORDS REQUEST

209 SOUTH BROAD STREET P.O.BOX 8068

TRENTON, NEW JERSEY, 08650-0068

Dear, Custodian of Records:

Under the New Jersey OPEN PUBLIC RECORDS ACT, N.J.S.A. 47:1A-1 et seq. in accordance with Attorney General Law Enforcement Directive. I am requesting an opportunity to inspect or obtain copies of public records of the requested individuals, and agencies.

I REQUEST THE RECORDS AND FOLLOWING INFORMATION. Of the Mercer Prosecutors' Office. Which resulted in litigations, lawsuits, and or settlements and payouts. From the year beginning of 2018, to the present and current year of 2023. ASSISTANT MERCER COUNTY PROSECUTOR HEATHER HADLEY ESQ, Beginning from the year of 2018 to the present and current year of 2023.

1. I also further request all disciplinary records, including written warnings, reprimands, and any administrative reviews, beginning from the year of 2018 to the present and current year of 2023.

Under the New Jersey OPEN PUBLIC RECORDS ACT, N.J.S.A. 47:1A-1 et seq. in accordance with Attorney General's Law Enforcement Directive's pursuant to Attorney General Law Enforcement Directive NO. 2022-14, and also Rivera v. Union County Prosecutor's Office. 250 N.J. 124 (2022), requires that a range of internal affairs reports may be publicly accessible under the common law right of access upon request. I am requesting an opportunity to inspect or obtain copies of public records of the requested individuals, and agencies.

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Custodian of Records for the Mercer County Prosecutor's Office.

NEW JERSEY FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT REQUEST

PROTECTING YOUR RIGHTS TO OPEN GOVERNMENT

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207 HERITAGE COURT

PENNINGTON, NEW JERSEY 08534-5285

609.815.9187

abussamaaramziddin@gmail.com

JULY 28<sup>TH</sup>, 2023

CUSTODIAN OF RECORDS: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT REQUEST-OPRA.

OPEN PUBLIC RECORDS REQUEST

DIVISION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE

25 MARKET STREET P.O. 085

TRENTON, NEW JERSEY 08625

MERCER COUNTY PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT  
REQUEST-OPRA.

CUSTODIAN OF RECORDS: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT REQUEST-OPRA.

OPEN PUBLIC RECORDS REQUEST

209 SOUTH BROAD STREET P.O.BOX 8068

TRENTON, NEW JERSEY, 08650-0068

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CUSTODIAN OF RECORDS: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT REQUEST-OPRA.

OPEN PUBLIC RECORDS REQUEST

DIVISION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE

25 MARKET STREET P.O. 085

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MERCER COUNTY PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT REQUEST-OPRA.

CUSTODIAN OF RECORDS: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT REQUEST-OPRA.

OPEN PUBLIC RECORDS REQUEST

209 SOUTH BROAD STREET P.O. BOX 8068

TRENTON, NEW JERSEY, 08650-0068

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Under the New Jersey OPEN PUBLIC RECORDS ACT, N.J.S.A. 47:1A-1 et seq. in accordance with Attorney General Law Enforcement Directive. I am requesting an opportunity to inspect or obtain copies of public records of the requested individuals, and agencies.

I REQUEST THE RECORDS AND FOLLOWING INFORMATION. Of the Mercer Prosecutors' Office. Which resulted in litigations, lawsuits, and or settlements and payouts, Of MERCER COUNTY PROSECUTOR, ANGELO J. ONOFRI, ESQ. Beginning from the year of 2018 to the present and current year of 2023.

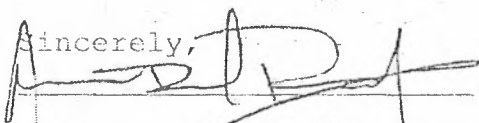
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Custodian of Records for the Mercer County Prosecutor's Office.