

NEW JERSEY GOVERNMENT RECORDS COUNCIL Administrative Complaint Disposition – Motion to File Within Time Denied

Anne Vukicevich Complainant GRC Complaint No. 2023-241

v.

Moorestown Township (Burlington) Custodial Agency

Custodian of Record: Patricia Hunt

Request Received by Custodian: June 27, 2023 GRC Complaint Received: September 25, 2023

Complaint Disposition: The Complainant verified the instant complaint on September 10, 2023, alleging she was denied access to her OPRA request on July 11, 2023. However, the Complainant did not actually submit her Denial of Access Complaint until September 12, 2023, or the first (1st) business day after the expiration of the sixty (60) calendar day statute of limitations. The Complainant asserted in her motion that she misinterpreted how the sixty (60) day period was calculated, and was awaiting a response to a separate OPRA request before deciding to pursue the complaint. 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: January 30, 2024

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¹ The Complainant first submitted her complaint on September 12, 2023; however, the GRC returned same stating the complaint could not be opened due to a technical error; the GRC also noted that because it appeared that the complaint would exceed 50 pages, a hard copy would need to be submitted. On September 13, 2021, the GRC returned the complaint again as out of time. The Complainant then resubmitted her complaint including a motion to file within time on September 25, 2023.



Prepared By: Samuel A. Rosado

Staff Attorney

Date: January 23, 2024

Distribution Date: February 1, 2024