

NEW JERSEY GOVERNMENT RECORDS COUNCIL Administrative Order – In Camera Review

Donna Popowich Complainant

GRC Complaint No. 2023-242

v.

City of Camden (Passsaic) Custodial Agency

Custodian of Record: Nancy Ferrigno Request Received by Custodian: August 16, 2023 GRC Complaint Received: October 5, 2023

Order: The GRC must conduct an *in camera* review of all text messages identified as responsive to determine the validity of the Custodian's assertion that those records did not fall within the definition of a "government record" for purposes of OPRA. <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 47:1A-1.1. <u>See Paff v. N.J.</u> <u>Dep't of Labor, Bd. of Review</u>, 379 <u>N.J. Super.</u> 346, 355 (App. Div. 2005). Thus, The Custodian shall deliver to the Council in a sealed envelope nine (9) copies of the requested unredacted text messages, and a document index.

This is an Administrative Order requiring compliance within ten (10) business days after receipt thereof. The Custodian shall also simultaneously deliver certified confirmation of compliance with this Order, in accordance with <u>N.J. Court Rules</u>, <u>R.</u> 1:4-4, to the Executive Director that the records provided are the records requested by the Council for the *in camera* inspection.

Effective Date of Disposition: March 26, 2024

Prepared By: Frank F. Caruso Executive Director

Date: March 19, 2024

Distribution Date: March 28, 2024