

NEW JERSEY GOVERNMENT RECORDS COUNCIL Administrative Complaint Disposition – Not a Valid OPRA Request

Tripp Kendall Complainant GRC Complaint No. 2024-217

v.

New Jersey Department of Children and Families Custodial Agency

Custodian of Record: Roxana Levin¹

Request Received by Custodian: August 7, 2024 GRC Complaint Received: September 3, 2024

Complaint Disposition: The Complainant submitted a written request that did not reference OPRA. The Custodian certified that she responded to the Complainant stating that the requested records were exempt from access except under limited circumstances, but also did not reference OPRA. OPRA is invoked only when a requestor submits a valid OPRA request for "government records." Thus, the request as written is invalid under OPRA, and this complaint shall be dismissed.

Applicable OPRA Provision: "A person who is denied access to a government record by the custodian of the record, at the option of the requestor, may . . . in lieu of filing an action in Superior Court, file a complaint with the Government Records Council established pursuant to [OPRA]." N.J.S.A. 47:1A-6.

"The Government Records Council shall . . . receive, hear, review and adjudicate a complaint filed by any person concerning a denial of access to a government record by a records custodian . . ." N.J.S.A. 47:1A-7(b).

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: December 10, 2024

Prepared By: Samuel A. Rosado

Senior Staff Attorney

Date: December 3, 2024 Distribution Date: December 12, 2024

¹ Ms. Levin certified that she was not the Records Custodian for DCF but was its Records Inquiry Program Liaison.