



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

Gawargyous Shind
Complainant

GRC Complaint No. 2026-107

v.

Essex County Correctional Facility
Custodial Agency

Custodian of Record: George Seylaz
Request Received by Custodian: N/A
GRC Complaint Received: March 3, 2026

Complaint Disposition: The Complainant verified the instant complaint on February 26, 2026, alleging he was denied access to his OPRA request on January 2, 2026, or fifty-five (55) days prior. The Complainant asserted that he was not aware of the statute of limitations, he did not sit on his rights based on a January 2, 2026 e-mail to the Custodian, no response has yet to be given, the records sought are “material to pending federal litigation”, and acceptance will not prejudice the Custodian.¹ However, none of the above provides “good cause” for the Complainant to delay his filing beyond fifty-five (55) calendar days. 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: “A person who is denied access to a government record by the custodian of the record, at the option of the requestor who is accurately identified by name, may, within 45 days of the date of denial . . . file a complaint with the Government Records Council” N.J.S.A. 47:1A-6.

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: April 28, 2026

Prepared By: Brenda B. Alves
Staff Attorney

Date: April 21, 2026

Distribution Date: April 30, 2026

¹ On March 10, 2026, the Custodian e-mailed the GRC asserting that he could not locate the OPRA request.