



STOCKTON UNIVERSITY
Office of The Open Public Records Custodian
101 Vera King Farris Drive
Galloway, New Jersey 08205
Phone: 609-652-4874
OPRArequest@stockton.edu
www.stockton.edu

September 3, 2020

Via Email at opra+request-14969-5d27def9@requests.opramachine.com

Patrick Duff

Re: OPRA Request No. 071320-1

Dear Patrick Duff:

Stockton University's Open Public Records Act (OPRA) Custodian received your OPRA Request on July 13, 2020. As such, the seven (7) business day deadline to respond to your request was July 22, 2020.

By letter dated July 22, 2020, the OPRA Custodian extended the response date to August 14, 2020, due to the ongoing State of Emergency implemented in New Jersey related to the COVID-19 global pandemic and the implementation of remote operations, and furloughs of State employees. By letters August 14, 2020, and August 28, 2020, the OPRA Custodian extended the response time until September 3, 2020 due to the volume of documents requested and the corresponding review .

Your OPRA Request sought access to the following:

All email communications, as well as all attachments, to and from President Harvey Kesselman regarding MLK research study commissioned by the NJ DEP.

Please search the following terms for the period of time from 1-1-2016 through 7-10-2020:

" MLK House"
"753 Walnut"
"Martin Luther King" plus "Camden"
"Martin Luther King" plus "Maple Shade"
"MLK" plus "Camden"
"MLK" plus " Maple Shade"
"Patrick Duff"
"Mr. Duff"
"historic preservation office"

OPRA allows custodians extensions of time to respond pursuant to N.J.S.A. 47:1A-5.i. Specifically, OPRA states that, "the requestor shall be advised by the custodian when the record can be made available. If the record is not made available by that time, access shall be deemed denied."

On March 9, 2020, New Jersey Governor Phil Murphy issued Executive Order 103 which declared a Public Health emergency, and the Declaration was extended on April 7 under Executive Order 119, on May 6, 2020 under Executive Order 138, on June 4, 2020 under Executive Order 151, on July 2, 2020 under Executive Order 162, on August 1, 2020 under Executive Order 171, and on August 27, 2020 under Executive Order 180 which also continued previously entered Executive Orders "in full force and effect."

Correspondingly, on March 20, 2020, Governor Murphy signed into law P.L. 2020, c. 10, which amends OPRA to suspend the 7-day response deadline when "a state of emergency, public health emergency, or state of local disaster emergency" has been declared. N.J.S.A. 47:1A-5(i)(2).

The volume of records under review require an extension of ten (10) business days to respond, until September 18, 2020. Please be advised the University will be closed on September 7, 2020 in observance of Labor Day. We appreciate your patience.

If your request for access to a government record has been denied, you have a right to challenge the decision to deny access. At your option, you may either institute a proceeding in the Superior Court of New Jersey or file a complaint with the Government Records Council ("GRC") by completing the Denial of Access Complaint Form. You may contact the GRC by toll-free telephone at 866-850-0511; by mail at P.O. Box 819, Trenton, NJ, 08625; by e-mail at grc@dca.state.nj.us; or, at its web site located at www.state.nj.us/grc. The GRC can also answer other questions about OPRA. All questions regarding complaints filed in Superior Court should be directed to the Court Clerk in your County.

Sincerely,

Dawn Livingston

Dawn Livingston

On behalf of the OPRA Custodian

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