



September 8, 2023

Concerned Citizen

Re: OPRA NO. 2023-187

Dear Sir or Madam:

The County of Salem received your Open Public Records Act (OPRA) request on September 8, 2023. As such, the seven (7) business day deadline to respond to your request is September 19, 2023. This response to your request is being provided to you on the same business day after the custodian's receipt of said request.

Your OPRA request sought access to the following:

"A list of which political party occupied the first column at the left of the ballot in the November General Election from 2012-2022."

The following records are being provided in their entirety and are responsive to your request: Salem County does NOT use the "line" layout for our ballots however, we perform a ballot draw with Democrat & Republican parties, and whichever "party" is chosen first, the candidates from that selected party will appear "first" in EACH respective race.

Here are the "Party" ballot draw results for each of the requested General Elections:

2012 - R
2013 - R
2014 - D
2015 - R
2016 - D
2017 - D
2018 - D
2019 - R
2020 - R
2021 - R
2022 - R

If your request for access to a government record has been denied or unfilled within the seven (7) business days required by law, you have a right to challenge the decision by the County of Salem 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 their web site at www.state.nj.us/grc. The Council can also answer other questions about the law.

All questions regarding complaints filed in Superior Court should be directed to the Court Clerk in your County.

Sincerely,
Sharon Whittick, OPRA Custodian
County of Salem
110 Fifth Street, Suite 400, Salem, NJ 08079
Phone: 856-935-7510 X8108