



Township of Warren

Somerset County

46 Mountain Boulevard • Warren, New Jersey 07059
(908) 753-8000 • Fax (908) 757-9173 • www.warrennj.org

May 27, 2025

Levia Spingarn-Gabel
Levia.spingarn@gmail.com

RE: OPRA 25-0367

Dear Ms. Spingarn-Gabel:

Donna Hands, the Official Records Custodian for the Township of Warren received your Open Public Records Act (OPRA) request on May 15, 2025. As such, the seven (7) business day deadline to respond to your request is May 27, 2025. This response to your request is being provided to you on the 7th business day after the custodian's receipt of said request.

Your request for *any complaint filed with the police department between April 15, 2025 and May 14, 2025* fails to identify with reasonable clarity the specific government records sought, as is required by Bent v. Stafford Police Department, 381 N.J.Super. 30, 37 (App. Div. 2005). As such, your request is an invalid OPRA request and is denied. When a request is "complex" because it fails to specifically identify the documents sought, then that request is not "encompassed" by OPRA. See New Jersey Builders Association v. New Jersey Council on Affordable Housing, 390 N.J.Super. 166, 180 (App. Div. 2007). A proper request under OPRA must identify with reasonable clarity those documents that are desired, and a party cannot satisfy this requirement by simply requesting all of an agency's documents. See Bent v. Stafford Police Department, 381 N.J.Super. 30, 37 (App. Div. 2005). Custodians are not required to conduct research or create new records in response to an OPRA request.

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 Township of Warren 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,

Donna Hands
Township Clerk
Township of Warren
dhands@warrennj.org
908-753-8000 ext. 222