

Karen Gallagher

From: Chris Wood
Sent: Wednesday, January 18, 2023 1:33 PM
To: Karen Gallagher
Subject: FW: ** EXTERNAL **OPRA request - Disciplinary Charges

RECEIVED

JAN 18 2023

City Clerk's Office

-----Original Message-----

From: Jonathan <opra+request-39248-b2d86c83@requests.opramachine.com>
Sent: Wednesday, January 18, 2023 1:32 PM
To: Chris Wood <cwood@wildwoodnj.org>
Subject: ** EXTERNAL **OPRA request - Disciplinary Charges

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Wildwood City,

This is a request for public records made under OPRA and the common law right of access. I am not required to fill out an official form. Please acknowledge receipt of this message.

Records requested: Any and All documentation, Disciplinary documents, suspensions, letters of reprimand, class action suits, settlements, pertaining to Ryan Troiano . Including any and all documentation from Former Commissioner Anthony Leonetti and Fire Chief Daniel Spiegel as to the recommendation for dismissal of employment of Ryan Troiano.

Any and all documentation By Chief Ernest Troiano 3rd or Deputy Daniel Dunn to dismiss disciplinary charges and recommendations of dismissal and to the reinstatement Ryan Troiano as Firefighter.

Any documentation pertaining to Resolution of Disciplinary Charges, and or Settlement Agreement that may have taken place in reference to the above name individual Ryan Troiano.

Yours faithfully,
Jonathan

Please deliver records electronically via email to the below UNIQUE address for all replies to this request:
opra+request-39248-b2d86c83@requests.opramachine.com

Is cwood@wildwoodnj.org the wrong address for OPRA requests to Wildwood City? If so, please contact us using this form:

https://opramachine.com/change_request/new?body=wildwood_city

Disclaimer: This message and any reply that you make will be published on the internet. Our privacy and copyright policies:

<https://opramachine.com/help/officers>

View this OPRA request & responses online:

https://opramachine.com/request/disciplinary_charges

City of Wildwood
City Clerk's Office
4400 New Jersey Avenue
Wildwood, NJ 08260
(609) 522-2444

January 25, 2023

Mr. Jonathan
Opra+request-39248-b2d86c83@requests.opramachine.com

Dear Mr. Jonathan:

The City of Wildwood received your Open Public Records Act (OPRA) request on January 18, 2023 and was received by the proper Office on January 18, 2023. The official Records Custodian, City of Wildwood received your OPRA request January 18, 2023. As such, the seven (7) business day deadline to respond to your request is January 27, 2023. This response to your request is being provided to you on the 5th business day after the custodian's receipt of said request.

The table below identifies the records that being denied in whole or in part as well as the legal basis for each denial, as is required by N.J.S.A. 47:1A-6.

List of all records responsive to OPRA request (include the number of pages for each record).	List of all records provided, <u>with redactions</u>, or denied in their entirety.	If records are disclosed with redactions, give a general nature description of the redactions.	If records were denied in their entirety, give a general nature description of the record.	List the legal explanation and statutory citation for the denial of access to records in their <u>entirety</u> or <u>with redactions</u>.
Any and all documentation, disciplinary documents, suspensions, letters of reprimand, class action suits, pertaining to Ryan Troiano. Including any and all documentation from former Commissioner Anthony Leonetti and Fire Chief Daniel Speigel as			As per the City Solicitor the correspondence received by Commissioner Mikulski is privileged.	In accordance with the State of New Jersey Statue N.J.S.A. 47:1A-10, any disciplinary documentation pertaining to Firefighter Ryan Troiano, along with any other City of Wildwood employee, is exempt from an OPRA request as these are personnel records.

to the recommendation for dismissal of employment of Ryan Troiano. Any and all documentation by Chief Ernest Troiano, 3 rd or Deputy Daniel Dunn to dismiss disciplinary charges and recommendations of dismissal and to the reinstatement Ryan Troiano as Firefighter. Any documentation pertaining to Resolution of Disciplinary Charges, that may have taken place in reference to the above name individual Ryan Troiano.				
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* A list of OPRA's exemptions is attached to this response letter.

These records are being transmitted to you via Email as per your 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 [insert name of agency] 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,



Karen M. Gallagher
Deputy City Clerk

OPRA EXEMPTIONS

(Exceptions are noted in italics)

N.J.S.A. 47:1A-1.1

- 1) Inter-agency or intra-agency advisory, consultative or deliberative material (Note: generally refers to draft documents or documents used in a deliberative process).
- 2) Legislative records. Specifically:
 - a. information received by a member of the Legislature from a constituent or information held by a member of the Legislature concerning a constituent, including but not limited to information in written form or contained in any e-mail or computer data base, or in any telephone record whatsoever, *unless it is information the constituent is required by law to transmit;*
 - b. any memorandum, correspondence, notes, report or other communication prepared by, or for, the specific use of a member of the Legislature in the course of the member's official duties, *except that this provision shall not apply to an otherwise publicly-accessible report which is required by law to be submitted to the Legislature or its members.*
- 3) Medical examiner records – photographs, negatives, print, videotapes taken at the scene of death or in the course of post mortem examination or autopsy, *except:*
 - a. *when used in a criminal action or proceeding in this State which relates to the death of that person,*
 - b. *for the use as a court of this State permits, by order after good cause has been shown and after written notification of the request for the court order has been served at least five days before the order is made upon the county prosecutor for the county in which the post mortem examination or autopsy occurred,*
 - c. *for use in the field of forensic pathology or for use in medical or scientific education or research, or*
 - d. *or use by any law enforcement agency in this State or any other state or federal law enforcement agency.*
- 4) Criminal investigatory records - records which are not required by law to be made, maintained or kept on file that are held by a law enforcement agency which pertain to any criminal investigation or related civil enforcement proceeding. (Note: N.J.S.A. 47:1A-3.b. lists specific criminal investigatory information which must be disclosed).
- 5) Victims' records - an individually-identifiable file or document held by a victims' rights agency which pertains directly to a victim of a crime except that a victim of a crime shall have access to the victim's own records. "Victims' rights agency" means a public agency, or part thereof, the primary responsibility of which is providing services, including but not limited to food, shelter, or clothing, medical, psychiatric, psychological or legal services or referrals, information and referral services, counseling and support services, or financial services to victims of crimes, including victims of sexual assault, domestic violence, violent crime, child endangerment, child abuse or child neglect, and the Victims of Crime Compensation Board.
- 6) Trade secrets and proprietary commercial or financial information obtained from any source. Includes data processing software obtained by a public agency under a licensing agreement which prohibits its disclosure.
- 7) Any record within the attorney-client privilege.
- 8) Administrative or technical information regarding computer hardware, software and networks which, if disclosed would jeopardize computer security.

- 9) Emergency or security information or procedures for any buildings or facility which, if disclosed, would jeopardize security of the building or facility or persons therein.
- 10) Security measures and surveillance techniques which, if disclosed, would create a risk to the safety or persons, property, electronic data or software.
- 11) Information which, if disclosed, would give an advantage to competitors or bidders.
- 12) Information generated by or on behalf of public employers or public employees in connection with:
 - a. Any sexual harassment complaint filed with a public employer;
 - b. Any grievance filed by or against an individual; or
 - c. Collective negotiations, including documents and statements of strategy or negotiating position.
- 13) Information which is a communication between a public agency and its insurance carrier, administrative service organization or risk management office.
- 14) Information which is to be kept confidential pursuant to court order.
- 15) Certificate of honorable discharge issued by the United States government (Form DD-214) filed with a public agency, *except that a veteran or the veteran's spouse or surviving spouse shall have access to the veteran's own records.*
- 16) Personal identifying information. Specifically:
 - a. Social security numbers, *except that a social security number contained in a record required by law to be made, maintained or kept on file by a public agency shall be disclosed when access to the document or disclosure of that information is not otherwise prohibited by State or federal law, regulation or order or by State statute, resolution of either or both houses of the Legislature, Executive Order of the Governor, rule of court or regulation promulgated under the authority of any statute or executive order of the Governor.*
 - b. Credit card numbers
 - c. Unlisted telephone numbers
 - d. Drivers' license numbers.

Except for:

 - a. Use by any government agency, including any court or law enforcement agency, in carrying out its functions,
 - b. or any private person or entity acting on behalf thereof,
 - c. or any private person or entity seeking to enforce payment of court-ordered child support; *except with respect to the disclosure of driver information by the Division of Motor Vehicles as permitted by section 2 of P.L.1997, c.188 (C.39:2-3.4);*
- 17) Certain records of higher education institutions:
 - a. Pedagogical, scholarly and/or academic research records and/or the specific details of any research project, *except that a custodian may not deny inspection of a government record or part thereof that gives the name, title, expenditures, source and amounts of funding and date when the final project summary of any research will be available.*
 - b. Test questions, scoring keys and other examination data pertaining to the administration of an examination for employment or academic examination.
 - c. Records of pursuit of charitable contributions or records containing the identity of a donor of a gift if the donor requires non-disclosure of the donor's identity as a condition of making

the gift provided that the donor has not received any benefits of or from the institution of higher education in connection with such gift other than a request for memorialization or dedication.

- d. Valuable or rare collections of books and/or documents obtained by gift, grant, bequest or devise conditioned upon limited public access.
- e. Information contained on individual admission applications.
- f. Information concerning student records or grievance or disciplinary proceedings against a student to the extent disclosure would reveal the identity of the student.

N.J.S.A. 47:1A-1.2

- 18) Biotechnology trade secrets.

N.J.S.A. 47:1A-2.2

- 19) Limitations to convicts - personal information pertaining to the person's victim or the victim's family, including but not limited to a victim's home address, home telephone number, work or school address, work telephone number, social security account number, medical history or any other identifying information. *Information may be released only if the information is necessary to assist in the defense of the requestor. A determination that the information is necessary to assist in the requestor's defense shall be made by the court upon motion by the requestor or his representative.*

N.J.S.A. 47:1A-3.a.

- 20) Ongoing investigations – any records pertaining to an investigation in progress by any public agency if disclosure of such record or records shall be detrimental to the public interest. *This provision shall not be construed to allow any public agency to prohibit access to a record of that agency that was open for public inspection, examination, or copying before the investigation commenced.*

N.J.S.A. 47:1A-5.k.

- 21) Public defender records that relate to the handling of any case, *unless authorized by law, court order, or the State Public Defender.*

N.J.S.A. 47:1A-9

- 22) Upholds exemptions contained in other State or federal statutes and regulations, Executive Orders of the Governor, Rules of Court, Constitution of this State, or judicial case law.

N.J.S.A. 47:1A-10

- 23) Personnel and pension records, *except specific information identified as follows:*
- a. *An individual's name, title, position, salary, payroll record, length of service, date of separation and the reason for such separation, and the amount and type of any pension received,*
 - b. *When required to be disclosed by another law, when disclosure is essential to the performance of official duties of a person duly authorized by this State or the United States, or when authorized by an individual in interest.*
 - c. *Data contained in information which disclose conformity with specific experiential, educational or medical qualifications required for government employment or for receipt of a public pension, but not including any detailed medical or psychological information.*

N.J.S.A. 47:1A-1 (Legislative Findings)

- 24) Privacy Interest - “a public agency has a responsibility and an obligation to safeguard from public access a citizen's personal information with which it has been entrusted when disclosure thereof would violate the citizen's reasonable expectation of privacy.”

Burnette v. County of Bergen, 198 N.J. 408 (2009). Without ambiguity, the court held that the privacy provision “is neither a preface nor a preamble.” Rather, “the very language expressed in the privacy clause reveals its substantive nature; it does not offer reasons why OPRA was adopted, as preambles typically do; instead, it focuses on the law’s implementation.” “Specifically, it imposes an obligation on public agencies to protect against disclosure of personal information which would run contrary to reasonable privacy interests.”

Executive Order No. 21 (McGreevey 2002)

- 1) Records where inspection, examination or copying would substantially interfere with the State's ability to protect and defend the State and its citizens against acts of sabotage or terrorism, or which, if disclosed, would materially increase the risk or consequences of potential acts of sabotage or terrorism.
- 2) Records exempted from disclosure by State agencies' promulgated rules are exempt from disclosure by this Order.
- 3) Executive Orders No. 9 (Hughes), 11 (Byrne), 79 (Byrne) and 69 (Whitman) are hereby continued to the extent that they are not inconsistent with this Executive Order.

Executive Order No. 9 (Hughes) exemptions that are still active:

- a. Questions on examinations required to be conducted by any State or local governmental agency;
- b. Personnel and pension records (same as N.J.S.A. 47:1A-10);
- c. Records concerning morbidity, mortality and reportable diseases of named persons required to be made, maintained or kept by any State or local governmental agency;
- d. Records which are required to be made, maintained or kept by any State or local governmental agency which would disclose information concerning illegitimacy;
- e. Fingerprint cards, plates and photographs and other similar criminal investigation records which are required to be made, maintained or kept by any State or local governmental agency;
- f. Criminal records required to be made, maintained and kept pursuant to the provisions of R. S. 53:1-20.1 and R. S. 53:1- 20.2;
- g. Personal property tax returns required to be filed under the provisions of Chapter 4 of Title 54 of the Revised Statutes; and
- h. Records relating to petitions for executive clemency.

Executive Order No. 11 (Byrne) exemptions are the same as N.J.S.A. 47:1A-10.

Executive Order No. 79 (Byrne) exemptions are the similar to # 8, 9, and 10 above under N.J.S.A. 47:1A-1.1.

Executive Order No. 69 (Whitman) exemptions that are still active: Fingerprint cards, plates and photographs and similar criminal investigation records that are required to be made, maintained or kept by any State or local governmental agency.

Executive Order No. 26 (McGreevey 2002)

- 1) Certain records maintained by the Office of the Governor:
 - a. Any record made, maintained, kept on file or received by the Office of the Governor in the course of its official business which is subject to an executive privilege or grant of confidentiality

established or recognized by the Constitution of this State, statute, court rules or judicial case law.

- b. All portions of records, including electronic communications, that contain advisory, consultative or deliberative information or other records protected by a recognized privilege.
 - c. All portions of records containing information provided by an identifiable natural person outside the Office of the Governor which contains information that the sender is not required by law to transmit and which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy if disclosed.
 - d. If any of the foregoing records shall contain information not exempted by the provision of the Open Public Records Act or the preceding subparagraphs (a), (b) or (c) hereof then, in such event, that portion of the record so exempt shall be deleted or excised and access to the remainder of the record shall be promptly permitted.
- 2) Resumes, applications for employment or other information concerning job applicants while a recruitment search is ongoing. *The resumes of successful candidates shall be disclosed once the successful candidate is hired. The resumes of unsuccessful candidates may be disclosed after the search has been concluded and the position has been filled, but only where the unsuccessful candidate has consented to such disclosure.*
 - 3) Records of complaints and investigations undertaken pursuant to the Model Procedures for Internal Complaints Alleging Discrimination, Harassment or Hostile Environments.
 - 4) Information relating to medical, psychiatric or psychological history, diagnosis, treatment or evaluation.
 - 5) Information in a personal income or other tax return
 - 6) Information describing a natural person's finances, income, assets, liabilities, net worth, bank balances, financial history or activities, or creditworthiness, except as otherwise required by law to be disclosed.
 - 7) Test questions, scoring keys and other examination data pertaining to the administration of an examination for public employment or licensing.
 - 8) Records in the possession of another department (including NJ Office of Information Technology or State Archives) when those records are made confidential by a regulation of that department or agency adopted pursuant to N.J.S.A. 47:1A-1 et seq. and Executive Order No. 9 (Hughes 1963), or pursuant to another law authorizing the department or agency to make records confidential or exempt from disclosure.
 - 9) Records of a department or agency held by the Office of Information Technology (OIT) or the State Records Storage Center of the Division of Archives and Records Management (DARM) in the Department of State, or an offsite storage facility outside of the regular business office of the agency. Such records shall remain the legal property of the department or agency and be accessible for inspection or copying only through a request to the proper custodian of the department or agency. In the event that records of a department or agency have been or shall be transferred to and accessioned by the State Archives in the Division of Archives and Records Management, all such records shall become the legal property of the State Archives, and requests for access to them shall be submitted directly to the State Archives.

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

**CITY OF WILDWOOD
4400 NEW JERSEY AVENUE
WILDWOOD, NJ 08260
(609) 522-2444**

January 25, 2023

Mr. Jonathan
Opra+request-39248-b2d86c83@requests.opramachine.com

Dear Mr. Jonathan:

We are in receipt of your OPRA request pertaining to "Settlement Agreements pertaining to Ryan Troiano". As far as any types of settlement agreements are concerned, the City of Wildwood doesn't have anything kept, made or maintained on file.

Should you have any questions or concerns please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Karen M. Gallagher,
Deputy City Clerk

KG



THE CITY OF WILDWOOD
OFFICE OF HUMAN RESOURCES

January 25, 2023

Karen Gallagher
City of Wildwood
Deputy Clerk

Karen,

This letter is regarding the OPRA request received on January 18, 2023 from "Jonathan". In accordance with the State of New Jersey Statue N.J.S.A. 47:1A-10, any disciplinary documentation pertaining to Firefighter Ryan Troiano, along with any other City of Wildwood employee, is exempt from an OPRA request as these are personnel records.

As far as any types of settlement agreements are concerned, there is nothing kept, made or maintained on file.

Respectfully,

Hope Pinto

The City of Wildwood Fire Department

4400 New Jersey Avenue
Wildwood, New Jersey 08260
Phone 609-846-2061
Fax 609-522-4965

Ernest Troiano III, CPM
Fire Chief

Daniel M. Dunn, CPM
Deputy Fire Chief

19 January 2023

Karen,

Please allow this letter to serve as a response to "Jonathan's" OPRA request received on 18 January 2023. Any and all disciplinary documentation pertaining to Firefighter Ryan Troiano, along with any other Firefighter or employee of the City of Wildwood Fire Department, is exempt from an OPRA request. At no point were any disciplinary charges dismissed by Deputy Chief Dunn or myself, as there were no disciplinary charges or recommendations for dismissal against Firefighter Ryan Troiano on file with the City of Wildwood Fire Department. For all other requests pertaining to this OPRA request, I will defer to the Office of Human Resources.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ernie Troiano III
Chief of Department

The City of Wildwood Fire Department

4400 New Jersey Avenue
Wildwood, New Jersey 08260
Phone 609-846-2061
Fax 609-522-4965

Ernest Troiano III, CPM
Fire Chief

Daniel M. Dunn, CPM
Deputy Fire Chief

January 20, 2023

Karen Gallagher
City of Wildwood
Deputy Clerk

Karen,

This letter is regarding the OPRA request received on January 18, 2023 from "Jonathan". In accordance with State of New Jersey Executive Order # 11, any disciplinary documentation pertaining to Firefighter Ryan Troiano, along with any other Firefighter, or employee of the City of Wildwood Fire Department, is exempt from an OPRA request as these are personnel records. For all other requests pertaining to this OPRA request, I will defer to the Office of Human Resources or the City Solicitor. Thank you.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'D. Dunn', with a large, stylized initial 'D'.

Daniel Dunn
Deputy Fire Chief