



STOCKTON UNIVERSITY
Office of The Open Public Records Custodian
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Phone: 609-652-4874
OPRArequest@stockton.edu
www.stockton.edu

July 9, 2020

Via Email at opra+request-10205-21ff3086@requests.opramachine.com
Patrick Duff

Re: OPRA Request No. 030520-1

Dear Mr. Duff:

Stockton University's Open Public Records Act (OPRA) Custodian received your OPRA Request on March 5, 2020. As such, the seven (7) business day deadline to respond to your request was March 16, 2020.

OPRA allows custodians extensions of time pursuant to N.J.S.A. 47:1A-5.i, as follows: "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, and on June 4, 2020 under Executive Order 151, which also stated that previously entered Executive Orders remain "in full force and effect". On March 20, 2020, Governor Murphy also signed into law P.L. 2020, c. 10, which amended 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).

By letter dated March 13, 2020, the OPRA Custodian extended the response time by nine (9) business days, until March 27, 2020, because of the volume of documents under review, and the impact of the University's emergent operations in response to the COVID-19 global pandemic. University employees, including the OPRA staff, began operating remotely on March 18, 2020 (and continue to do so), in accordance with the above-mentioned Executive Orders and the University's precautionary measures to protect its students, employees, and community during the COVID-19 global pandemic.

The implementation of remote operations significantly impacted the scope and timing of the University's ability to respond to OPRA Requests, and required further extensions of our response time, as stated in our correspondence to you dated March 25, 2020, April 3, 2020, April 27, 2020, May 18, 2020, June 8, June 22, and July 2, extending the University's response time until July 6, 2020.

We appreciate your patience and courtesies and offer our sincere apologies for the delay in responding to your OPRA request, which sought access to the following:

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:

Email communications to and from Stockton employee Paul Schopp's email address pwschopp@comcast.net regarding the following terms from 1-1-2015 through 3-3-2020.

Patrick Duff
753 Walnut
Martin Luther King
Maple Shade
Hunt family

We appreciate your many courtesies regarding the production of these documents, including the time to consult internally and with our representative Deputy Attorney General to attempt a compromise related to the redacted material. I regret that we were unable to do so.

This response is being timely provided. As applicable, the attached index identifies the records produced, redacted and/or denied, in whole or in part, as well as the legal basis for subject action, as required by N.J.S.A. 47:1A-6. A list of OPRA's exemptions also is attached to this response letter. This response is being transmitted to you via email, as per your request, at **opra+request-10205-21ff3086@requests.opramachine.com**.

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,



Ellen Bailey, Esq.

On behalf of the OPRA Custodian

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