



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

June 22, 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.

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 and ongoing operations in response to the COVID-19 global pandemic. In accordance with New Jersey Executive Order No.103, University employees, including the OPRA staff, began operating remotely on March 18, 2020.

By letters dated March 25, 2020, April 3, 2020, April 27, 2020, May 18, 2020, and June 8, 2020, the University extended its response time until June 22, 2020, because remote operations continued to impact the scope and timing of the University's ability to respond due to the ongoing State of Emergency implemented in New Jersey related to the COVID-19 global pandemic.

Your OPRA Request 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

OPRA allows custodians extensions of time 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." Please note that on March 20, 2020, New Jersey Governor Phil 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).

On June 4, 2020, New Jersey Governor Phil Murphy issued Executive Order 151, which extends the Public Health Emergency declared on March 9, 2020 under Executive Order 103, and extended on April 7 under Executive Order 119, and extended on May 6, 2020 under Executive Order 138. All previously entered Executive Orders remain "in full force and effect" under Executive Order 151. University employees, including the OPRA staff, continue to operate remotely in accordance with the Executive Orders.

Regretfully, the scope and timing of the University's OPRA responses continue to be impacted by remote operations. Your request requires a further extension of four (4) business days to respond until June 26, 2020. We are mindful of and appreciate your patience during this time.

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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