



350 Hudson Avenue, Township of Washington, NJ 07676-4799

Office of the Township Clerk, Susan Witkowski, RMC

switkowski@twpofwashington.us

Phone: 201-664-4425

Fax: 201-664-8281

October 30, 2025/OPRA 428

Subject: Internal Review – Emergency Personnel 10 year

Request: I am writing to request an internal review of Washington Township (Bergen)'s handling of my OPRA request 'Emergency Roster 10 year'. your response only seem to include records for the current year. My request clearly stated I wished for records for each year starting 2015 and ending 2025. The ambulance roster seems to be a printout of a website that by its nature would have been updated over the course of time. How come records were not provided for the other years requested?

Via email: opra+request-79393-934a9bbb@requests.opramachine.com

Concerned Citizen,

Please see attached the original reply dated August 20, 2025, and response.

Please also note that volunteer fire and ambulance services in New Jersey are generally not subject to OPRA requirements. The New Jersey Supreme Court established in Verry v. Franklin Fire District No. 1, 230 N.J. 285 (2017) that volunteer fire companies are not public agencies under OPRA because they are merely instrumentalities of instrumentalities rather than direct instrumentalities of political subdivisions. This principle extends to volunteer ambulance and rescue squads, as confirmed in Brooks v. Tabernacle Rescue Squad, 2015 WL 3669795 (App. Div. 2015). Not Reported in A.3d (2015).

Sincerely,

Susan Witkowski

Township Clerk

Township of Washington

201-664-4425/switkowski@twpofwashington.us



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August 20, 2025/OPRA 428

Via email: opra+request-79394-fc71f13d@requests.opramachine.com

Concerned Citizen,

The Township of Washington received your Open Public Records Act (OPRA) request on August 11, 2025. The official Records Custodian, Susan Witkowski, received your OPRA request on August 11, 2025. As such, the seven (7) business day deadline to respond to your request is August 20, 2025. This response to your request is being provided the 7th day after custodian's receipt of said request.

The following records are being provided in their entirety and are responsive to your request:

2025 Roster Washington Township Police Department

There is no such record responsive to your request (2015-2024).

2025 Roster Washington Township Ambulance Corps

There is no such record responsive to your request (2015-2024).

1972 – 2025 Roster Washington Township Fire Department

These records are being transmitted to you via electronic format as per your request. Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 47:1A-5. b., the cost associated with this request is no charge.

This OPRA is considered complete.

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 Washington 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 GRC 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,

/s/ Susan Witkowski

Susan Witkowski, RMC

Township Clerk

Township of Washington

201-664-4425/switkowski@twpofwashington.us

Susan Witkowski

02 428

From: concerned resident <opra+request-79393-934a9bbb@requests.opramachine.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 15, 2025 6:55 AM
To: Town Clerk
Subject: Internal review of OPRA request - Emergency Roster 10 year

Caution: External E-mail

Dear Washington Township (Bergen),

Please pass this on to the person who conducts Open Public Records Act reviews.

I am writing to request an internal review of Washington Township (Bergen)'s handling of my OPRA request 'Emergency Roster 10 year'.

your response only seem to include records for the current year. My request clearly stated I wished for records for each year starting 2015 and ending 2025. The ambulance roster seems to be a printout of a website that by its nature would have been updated over the course of time. How come records were not provided for the other years requested?

A full history of my OPRA request and all correspondence is available on the Internet at this address: https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__opramachine.com_request_emergency-5Froster-5F10-5Fyear&d=DwICaQ&c=euGZstcaTDllvimEN8b7jXrwqOf-v5A_Cdp gnVfiiMM&r=xe6LILGY4fBqf2qF2SfWyQPyzkOmFj7ck01xsbiI5ts&m=pBdYXhrLSDsQK30eVmuqkePr2yasXwAe-Ryjl6cPf-6TurJb1tAeYknJOaCTIE8f&s=3nHubDWFNmhthL7x--qmcG1TCm2kKmhS-mDhM6w7QWo&e=

Yours faithfully,

concerned resident

Please use this UNIQUE email address for all replies to this request and no other:
opra+request-79393-934a9bbb@requests.opramachine.com

Disclaimer: This message and any reply that you make will be published on the internet.
Our privacy and copyright policies:
https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__opramachine.com_help_officers&d=DwICaQ&c=euGZstcaTDllvimEN8b7jXrwqOf-v5A_Cdp gnVfiiMM&r=xe6LILGY4fBqf2qF2SfWyQPyzkOmFj7ck01xsbiI5ts&m=pBdYXhrLSDsQK30eVmuqkePr2yasXwAe-Ryjl6cPf-6TurJb1tAeYknJOaCTIE8f&s=LLgmb19dl7a8v4yxWTB_BCFpF52qq15RXKqrHZe0bQ4&e=

View this OPRA request & responses online:

https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__opramachine.com_request_emergency-5Froster-5F10-5Fyear&d=DwICaQ&c=euGZstcaTDllvimEN8b7jXrwqOf-v5A_Cdp gnVfiiMM&r=xe6LILGY4fBqf2qF2SfWyQPyzkOmFj7ck01xsbiI5ts&m=pBdYXhrLSDsQK30eVmuqkePr2yasXwAe-Ryjl6cPf-6TurJb1tAeYknJOaCTlE8f&s=3nHubDWFNm hthL7x--qmcG1TCm2kKmhs-mDhM6w7QWo&e=

Please note that in some cases publication of requests and responses will be delayed.

If you find this service useful as an OPRA custodian, please ask your web manager to link to us from your organisation's website.
