



TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA

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MAYOR

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TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE

October 10, 2019

VIA EMAIL: opra+request-7305-e1130adf@requests.opramachine.com

Mr. Smith:

Please have this letter serve as the written response to your OPRA request, specific to the following:

- 1) "All direct messages in Facebook Messenger"
- 2) "All deleted comments from the Mantua Township Police Department Facebook page"

1) For all Direct Messages in Facebook Messenger such messages are akin to emails and for which the GRC has established specific criteria deemed necessary under OPRA to request an e-mail communication. See *Elcavage v. West Milford Twp. (Passaic)*, GRC Complaint No. 2009-07 (April 2010). The Council determined that to be valid, such requests must contain: (1) the content and/or subject of the e-mail, (2) the specific date or range of dates during which the e-mail(s) were transmitted, and (3) the identity of the sender and/or the recipient thereof. See also *Sandoval v. N.J. State Parole Bd.*, GRC Complaint No. 2006-167 (Interim Order March 28, 2007); *Armenti v. Robbinsville Bd. of Educ. (Mercer)*, GRC Complaint No. 2009-154 (Interim Order May 24, 2011) and your request is therefore denied.

- 2) With respect to deleted comments, the Township is unable to retrieve those requested documents.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call.

Sincerely,

Pamela Levine
Township Deputy Clerk