



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

WHITTLESEY ROAD

PO Box 863

TRENTON NJ 08625-0863

PHILIP D. MURPHY

Governor

TAHESHA L. WAY

Lt. Governor

VICTORIA L. KUHN, ESQ.

Commissioner

December 12, 2025

Sent via Email to:

opra+request-83790-e70d06ac@requests.opramachine.com

Barbara Ann

No Physical Address Provided

Re: OPRA Request - Tracking #24020

Dear Barbara Ann:

The Department of Corrections has received your Government Records Request. Your request has been assigned Request ID No. 24020 for tracking purposes. You submitted a request for the following:

1. The most recent NJ DOC Annual Inspection Report for the New Jersey State Prison in Trenton, NJ
2. The most recent NJ DOC Annual Inspection Report for the Eastern New Jersey State Prison [*East Jersey State Prison*] in Rahway, NJ
3. The most recent NJ DOC Annual Inspection Report for the Northern New Jersey State Prison [*Northern State Prison*] in Newark, NJ

In response to your request, inspections of NJDOC facilities is conducted by the Office of the Corrections Ombudsperson. The OCO is an independent state agency that is separate from the NJDOC. You will need to contact them directly regarding the records you are seeking. Web links are provided below:

<https://www.nj.gov/correctionsombudsperson/>

<https://www.nj.gov/correctionsombudsperson/reports.shtml>

Barbara Ann
Re: OPRA Request – Tracking #24020
December 12, 2025
Page 2

You have a right to challenge the decision by the Department of Corrections. At your option, you may either institute a proceeding in the Superior Court of New Jersey or file a complaint in writing with the Government Records Council (GRC). 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 government.records@dca.nj.gov, or at their web site at www.nj.gov/grc. The Council can also answer other questions about the law.

Sincerely,



John Falvey
NJDOC Records Custodian

c.: OPRA Records File

Denial of Access Appeal Info

The New Jersey [Open Public Records Act](#) (N.J.S.A. 47:1A-1 et seq.) permits a person who believes he or she has been illegally denied access to a public record to file a complaint with the Government Records Council (GRC), or file suit in Superior Court to challenge the decision and compel disclosure. This poster describes the procedures for taking these actions.

To file a complaint with the Government Records Council:

Contact the GRC by phone at: 1-866-850-0511, by e-mail at government.records@dca.nj.gov, or review the GRC web site at www.nj.gov/grc for information and to register your complaint.

The GRC staff may be able to help resolve the problem over the phone. If not, you can receive a complaint form through the mail or from the web site.

When you file the written complaint, the GRC will offer you and the public agency non-adversarial, impartial mediation.

If mediation is not agreed to or fails, the GRC will investigate the complaint.

The investigation may result in findings or a formal decision by the GRC, which may include a hearing by the Council.

In some cases, the Council can award attorney's fees or fine a records custodian for failing to provide records.

Details of this process are available from the GRC.

There is no fee to file a complaint with the GRC.

To file a complaint in Superior Court:

A requester may start a summary (expedited) lawsuit in the Superior Court. A written complaint and order to show cause must be filed with the court.

The court requires a \$200 filing fee, and you must serve the lawsuit papers on the appropriate public officials.

The court will schedule a hearing and resolve the dispute.

If you disagree with the court's decision, you may appeal the decision to the Appellate Division of Superior Court.

If you are successful, you may be entitled to reasonable attorney fees.

You may wish to consult with an attorney to learn about initiating and pursuing a summary lawsuit in the Superior Court.

<http://www.nj.gov/grc/register/appeal/>