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September 7, 2023

Mr. T. Kim

Via email: opra+request-51012-afff2cb5@requests.opramachine.com

Dear Mr. Kim,

The Eatontown Police Department received your Open Public Records Act (OPRA) request for records on August 30, 2023, the official Police Records Custodian John T. Fay, received your request on August 31, 2023. This response to your request is being provided to you on the 4th business day after the custodian's receipt of said request.

Your request sought access to the following;

- ' 1. Total number of body cameras currently deployed in the police department. '*
- ' 2. Date on which body cameras were deployed to any of the police officers for the first time (year and month). '*
- ' 3. All invoices of body cameras purchases (if body cameras were purchased). '*
- ' 4. Dates of initial body camera assignment for each police officer currently employed. '*

In reference to your OPRA request, please be advised that your request is being returned to you because your request does not specify an identifiable government record as required in N.J.S.A. 47:1A-1.1a. In MAG Entertainment, LLC v. Division of Alcohol Beverage Control 375 N.J. Super. 534 (App. Div. 2005) the court ruled that while OPRA provides an alternative means of accessing a government document not otherwise exempted from its reach *"it is not intended as a research tool litigants may use to force government officials to identify and siphon useful information. Rather, OPRA simply operates to make identifiable government records "readily accessible for inspection, copy or examination"*. Only requested records will be sent to you so it is important that you the requestor be very specific as to what document(s) you are seeking. Requests such as "any and all" or "Discovery" will be denied Bent V. Stafford Police Department.

More specifically, requests 1,2, and 4 are worded as questions, therefore, it is not clear on what information / documents you may be seeking.

Please respond in writing and identify the specific government record sought so that we may process your request. The request should identify the department within the Borough of Eatontown who would maintain such record, specific type of record, date or date range and subject matter.

As stated in N.J.S.A 47:1A-11 only the custodian bears the burden of fines and disciplinary proceedings who knowingly and willfully violates OPRA therefore it must be clear with no question as to what the requestor is seeking.

Failure to provide written clarification of your request will result in the closure of this OPRA request.

Regards,

John T. Fay

John T. Fay
Division of Police Records



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