

Chief of Police
George K. Baumann

Captain of Police
Daniel Pasquinucci

Captain of Police
Lawrence Loos



TOWNSHIP OF FREEHOLD POLICE DEPARTMENT

Police Department Records Bureau

April 25, 2025

Freehold Patch

(Via e-mail opra+request-75091-d41a63a0@requests.opramachine.com)

To Whom It May Concern:

I am in receipt of your OPRA request sent to the Freehold Township Clerk dated April 24, 2025 for:

“ the status of any Internal Affairs investigation being conducted by the Police Department for the Snapchat Story video posted by Officer Austin Payne, on April 19, 2025, where he publicly posted a video of him in the nudity, along with a female who is a Freehold Township Municipal Court Clerk, where Officer Payne used derogatory language to describe the female present”

Your request for “the status of any Internal Affairs investigation...” is denied as it fails to specify the government records sought and instead amounts to a request for information. A request for “information” as opposed to identifiable government records is invalid under OPRA. See, e.g., James v. NJ Dep’t of Corrections, GRC Complaint No. 2009-283 (June 2010). Please be further advised that “The nature and source of internal allegations, the progress of internal affairs investigations, and the resulting materials are confidential information and remain exempt from access under the New Jersey Open Public Records Act, N.J.S.A. 47:1A-1.1 to -13.” Internal Affairs Policy & Procedures (November 2022) at Section 9.6.1.

Best regards;

Kenneth S. Kleinman

Lt. Kenneth S. Kleinman (ret.) CPM
Custodian of Police Records
Freehold Township Police Department
(732) 294-2112 (Desk)
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