



LOWER TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT

William Mastriana
Chief of Police

CAPTAIN WILLIAM PRIOLE
Executive Officer

LIEUTENANT DONALD VANAMAN
Operations Lieutenant

LIEUTENANT DOUGLAS WHITTEN
Investigative Lieutenant

LIEUTENANT KEVIN LEWIS
Administrative Lieutenant

SFC. ROBERT HARTMAN, JR.
Administrative Sergeant

HEADQUARTERS
Cape May County Airport
405 Breakwater Road
Erma, NJ 08204

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June 11, 2020

UC Research
OPRA Machine

Dear UC Research,

Your Open Public Records Act (OPRA 20-091) request dated May 27, 2020 was received by the Lower Township Police Department's official Records Custodian, Captain William Priole, on May 27, 2020. As such, the seven (7) business day deadline to respond to your request was June 5, 2020. I previously sent you a letter advising this request would take additional time.

Your OPRA request sought access to the following:

"1. A list of all lawsuits and cases in which any officer of the police department was involved between 2012 and 2019. For each lawsuit/case, please provide the date (month and year) of the alleged incident at issue, whether the alleged incident was excessive force, settlement amount (if any), and final compensation amount ruled (if any).

2. Please provide copies of the complaint in any lawsuits and cases described above."

Regarding item number 1, There are no records responsive to this request. Under OPRA, agencies are required to disclose only "identifiable" governmental records not otherwise exempt. Wholesale requests for general information to be analyzed, collated and compiled by the responding government entity are not encompassed therein. In short, OPRA does not countenance open-ended searches of an agency's files." *MAG Entertainment, LLC v. Division of Alcoholic Beverage Control*, 375 N.J. Super. 534 (App. Div. 2005). "OPRA does not require record custodians to conduct research among its records for a requestor and correlate data from various government records in the custodian's possession." *Reda v. Tp. of West Milford*, GRC Complaint No. 2002-58 (January 17, 2003).

Regarding item number 2. Copies of complaints of any lawsuits and cases described above. They will be provided with this letter. I would also note that in the Smith complaint, he withdrew his action.

I believe this fulfills your request, if I can be of any further assistance in this matter, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Captain William Priole

Captain William Priole 139
Lower Township Police Department
405 Breakwater Road
Erma, NJ 08204