



City of Bridgeton
Office of Municipal Clerk
181 E. Commerce St, Bridgeton NJ 08302

Nichole Almanza, RMC, CMR
Municipal Clerk & Registrar of Vital Statistics

856-455-3230 ex. 227
almanzan@cityofbridgeton.com

August 9, 2024

Nick

Via Email: opra+request-64563-fad56809@requests.opramachine.com

My office received your OPRA for the below items on August 7, 2024. The 7-business day response deadline is set for August 16, 2024.

Your request was for the following:

Dear Bridgeton City,

This is a request for public records made under OPRA and the common law right of access. I am not required to fill out an official form. Please acknowledge receipt of this message.

Records requested:

On 09/02/2023 at 2348 hours, Bridgeton PD officers were dispatched to a unit block on Clarke Road and arrested Raheem Stubbs. Would you please provide the arresting officer(s) body cam footage?

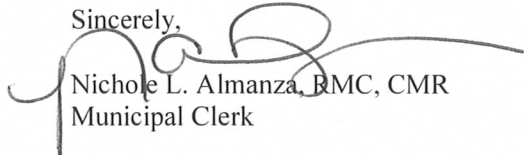
Please be advised that your request is being **Denied** as the incident involves domestic violence. N.J.S.A. 2C:25-33(a) of the New Jersey Prevention of Domestic Violence Act of 1991 specifically provides that "All records maintained pursuant to this act shall be confidential and shall not be made available to any individual or institution except as otherwise provided by law." Further, N.J.S.A. 47:1A-9 upholds exemptions contained in other State statutes, including but not limited to, N.J.S.A. 2C:25-33(a).

Additionally, N.J.S.A. 47:1A-1.1 specifically exempts from disclosure victim's records, which would include records associated with domestic violence, and criminal investigatory records. That provision states: "A government record shall not include the following information which is deemed to be confidential for the purposes of P.L.1963, c.73 (C.47:1A-1 et seq.) as amended and supplemented ... criminal investigatory records; victims' records, except that a victim of a crime shall have access to the victim's own records;"

Your request is also denied under the common law because the State's interest in confidentiality outweighs the requestor's interest in obtaining the document(s).

If you believe there is some legal authority that supports your position, please notify us and we will be happy to reconsider our response or denial of access as the case may be.

Sincerely,


Nichole L. Almanza, RMC, CMR
Municipal Clerk

Mandatory Disclaimer:

If your request for access to a government record has been denied or unfilled within seven (7) business days required by law, you have the right to challenge the decision by the City of Bridgeton to deny access. At your option, you may either institute a proceeding in the Superior Court of New Jersey or file a complaint with the Government Records Council (GRC) by completing the Denial of Access Complaint Form. 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 grc@dca.state.nj.us, or at their website at www.state.nj.us/grc. The GRC can also answer other questions about the law. All questions regarding complaints filed in Superior Court should be directed to the Court Clerk in your County.