

December 10, 2019

Via E-Mail

S. G. Riccardi

Re: OPRA Request received November 29, 2019

Dear Ms. Riccardi:

The Morris County Sheriff's Office ("Sheriff's Office") records custodian received your Open Public Records Act ("OPRA") request on November 29, 2019. The seven business day deadline to respond to your OPRA request is December 10, 2019. As such, the Sheriff's Office is timely responding to your request.

Your request seeks the following:

Entire files, including but not limited to, copies of any and all reports, photos, and videos prepared and/or generated from a motor-vehicular accident on May 17, 2018 at approximately 10:20am located near mile marker 25.10 on Route 80 West.

As a threshold matter, please be advised that your request primarily fails to identify with reasonable clarity the specific government records sought. See Bent v. Stafford Police Department, 381 N.J. Super. 30, 37 (App. Div. 2005) (noting that OPRA allows requests for specific records, not requests for general information, data or statistics). The request may not be a broad generic description of documents that requires the custodian to search the agency's files and "analyze, compile and collate" the requested information. Id.; see also Lagerkvist v. Office of Governor of State, 443 N.J. Super. 230, 237 (App. Div. 2015) (holding that OPRA does not convert a custodian into a researcher, which would have been the effect of the request). Consequently, a proper request "must identify with reasonable clarity those documents that are desired." Burke v. Brandes, 429 N.J. Super. 169, 174 (App. Div. 2012). Additionally, please be advised that **it is the "the requestor's obligation 'to specifically describe the document sought.'" New Jersey Builders Association v. New Jersey Council on Affordable Housing**, 390 N.J. Super. 166, 178 (App. Div.), certif. denied, 190 N.J. 394 (2007) (quoting Gannett N.J. Partners, L.P. v. Cty. of Middlesex, 379 N.J. Super. 205, 212, (App. Div. 2005)) (emphasis added).

Notwithstanding the invalidity of you request, the Sheriff's Office has identified three (3) pages of records as responsive to your request.

Your OPRA request is now deemed answered and closed. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Very truly yours,

Katherine A. Rogers
Confidential Assistant to Undersheriff
Morris County Sheriff's Office