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◆ TOWNSHIP OF STAFFORD ◆
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Refer To:
Municipal
Clerk's
Office

October 18, 2024

Ms. Anna Ormond

[https://opramachine.com/request/police reports re elaine piel ak#incoming-114833](https://opramachine.com/request/police%20reports%20re%20elaine%20piel%20aka%20incoming-114833)
[https://opramachine.com/request/police reports kenneth h reed](https://opramachine.com/request/police%20reports%20kenneth%20h%20reed)

RE: OPRA Requests – Police Reports
Elaine Piel aka Elaine Hurley (OPRA 2024-728)
and Kenneth H. Reed (OPRA 2024-770)

Dear Ms. Ormond:

On September 25, 2024 and October 3, 2024 you submitted two separate OPRA requests via opramachine. Both requests were for police reports for the period of May, 2022 to September, 2024. On October 2, 2024 the Clerk's office emailed the responsive documents for OPRA 2024-728 which included redactions. On October 10, 2024 the Clerk's emailed the responsive documents for OPRA 2024-770 which included redactions. On October 9, 2024 you left a voicemail message questioning the redactions on the documents for OPRA 2024-728 and on October 17, 2024 you emailed the Clerk's office questioning the redactions on the documents of OPRA 2024-770. Both requests and responsive documents were forward to the Township Attorney for review and consult.

After counsel review it is determined that the redaction of personal information is permitted. Redaction of the incident reports is permissible under OPRA as the Township's interest in the privacy of the involved parties outweighs the requestor's need for access. The Township has an interest in protecting the disclosure of police reports and information pertaining to third parties not charged with any crimes or involved in incidents. The allegations and events that occurred within the police reports are severe and the Township has an interest in protecting these parties. The reports also contain allegations and potential incidents involving domestic violence which the Township has an interest in protecting the involved parties. The requestor does not appear to be a victim in any of the incidents that would entitle her to access under OPRA. The parties with the privacy interest that are named in the police reports may be able to articulate their interests better than the Township. In conclusion the redactions of personal information such as the social security numbers and phone numbers are valid under OPRA. The redaction of the reports is also permitted as the Township's interest under the Doe factors outweighs the requestors interest in accessing the reports.

Based off Township Attorney review the redactions made on the two OPRA requests are justifiable; therefore, both requests are deemed complete.

Sincerely,



Susan M. Farrell, RMC
Township Clerk