



December 14, 2023

CR

E-Mail: opra+request-56082-2e1615b7@requests.opramachine.com

Re: OPRA NO. 2023-265

Dear CR:

The County of Salem received your Open Public Records Act (OPRA) request on December 14, 2023. As such, the seven (7) business day deadline to respond to your request is December 26, 2023. This response to your request is being provided to you on the same business day after the custodian's receipt of said request.

Your OPRA request sought access to the following:

"Records requested: Probate records for the months of September and October 2023, including but not limited to decedent names, case numbers, and any associated documents."

The records that you are requesting are being denied based on the following:

The Surrogate's Court is a judicial office and does not fall under the OPRA window. If you would like information on their records, you will need to contact them directly and they will advise you of their procedure. The Surrogate's Office can be reached at 856-935-7510 X8121 or on their website address at <https://surrogate.salemcountynj.gov/>.

If your request for access to a government record has been denied or unfilled within the seven (7) business days required by law, you have a right to challenge the decision by the County of Salem 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 web site at www.state.nj.us/grc. The Council 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.

Sincerely,

Sharon Whittick

OPRA Custodian

County of Salem

110 Fifth Street, Suite 400, Salem, NJ 08079

Phone: 856-935-7510 X8108