



30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, NY 10122

April 4, 2022

Township of Clark
430 Westfield Ave
Clark, NJ 07066

To Whom It May Concern,

Pursuant to the state open records law N.J.S.A. 47:1A-1 through 13, I am requesting the following:

Please provide me with a list of all settlement agreements and their amounts, approved by city council, in the year 2020.

I agree to pay any reasonable copying and postage fees of not more than \$30.00 If the cost would be greater than this amount, please notify me. Please provide a receipt indicating the charges for each document.

As provided by the open records law, I will expect your response within five (5) business days.

If you choose to deny this request, please provide a written explanation for the denial including a reference to the specific statutory exemption(s) upon which you rely. Also, please provide all segregable portions of otherwise exempt material.

I would note that an unreasonable violation of the open records law can result in the award of court costs and reasonable attorney fees.

Thank you for your assistance.

Courtney Copenhagen
Producer, WNBC News
(773) 440-2229
courtney.copenhagen@nbcuni.com

Clerk's Dept.

From: Clerk's Dept.
Sent: Tuesday, April 05, 2022 4:54 PM
To: Copenhagen, Courtney (NBCUniversal)
Subject: RE: WNBC OPRA Request
Attachments: Redacted Settlement Agreement.pdf; Res 20-34 Auth Manata Settlement.pdf

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

To: Courtney Copenhagen, WNBC
From: Edith Merkel, Township Clerk, Township of Clark
Re: OPRA dated April 4, 2022
Date: April 5, 2022

The Township of Clark received your Open Public Records Act (OPRA) request on April 4, 2022. The official Records Custodian, Edith Merkel, received your OPRA request on April 4, 2022. As such, the seven (7) business day deadline to respond to your request is April 13, 2022. This response to your request is being provided to you on the 1st business day after the custodian's receipt of said request.

There was only one insurance settlement authorized by the Governing Body in 2020 (resolution attached). Predicated upon N.J.S.A. 47:1A-10 and the opinions of the Supreme Court of New Jersey in *Libertarians for Transparent Government v. Cumberland County*, (A-34-20) (084956) and *Richard Rivera v. Union County Prosecutor's Office*, (A-58-20) (084867), and the opinion of the Superior Court of New Jersey, Appellate Division, in *Asbury Park Press v. County of Monmouth*, 406 N. J. Super. 1 (App. Div. 2009), see enclosed redacted Confidential Settlement Agreement and Release.

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 Township of Clark 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 <https://nam12.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.state.nj.us%2Fgrc&data=04%7C01%7Cmpd%40tbwdlaw.com%7C1f03b64cfe504a8abdeb08d969857a9f%7C5f51087d3109471d86b1eddc5fcf066a%7C0%7C0%7C637656844432475041%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWljoIMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTil6lk1haWwiLCJXVCi6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=4RVjHVijikvJOH%2F%2FfIcpc4cP1V6Es1RgahK18CAOPq6g%3D&reserved=0>. 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.

From: Copenhagen, Courtney (NBCUniversal) <Courtney.Copenhagen@nbcuni.com>
Sent: Monday, April 04, 2022 6:00 PM
To: Clerk's Dept. <clerk@ourclark.com>
Subject: WNBC OPRA Request

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Please see attached OPRA request

Thank You,

Courtney Copenhagen
Investigative Producer



C. 773-440-2229

courtney.copenhagen@nbcuni.com

TOWNSHIP OF CLARK
Resolution 20-34
February 3, 2020

BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the Township of Clark, County of Union, New Jersey that it hereby authorizes the Insurance Settlement of the Manata personnel dispute and the execution of necessary attendant documents.

ATTEST:


EDITH L. MERKEL, RMC
Township Clerk

APPROVED:


PATRICK J. O'CONNOR
Council President

Res20/2-3AuthInsSettlement-personnel

	Motion	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Albanese			✓			
Barr		✓	✓			
Hund			✓			
Mazzarella	✓		✓			
Smith			✓			
Toal			✓			
O'Connor			✓			
Entire Council						
TOTAL			7			

ANTONIO

MANATA,

[REDACTED]

1. Manata is a Lieutenant in the Township's Police Department. He has been employed by the Township since July 1, 2007.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

■ [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

■ [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

■ [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



shall forever be terminated on and as of February 28, 2022 (his "Retirement Date").

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]





[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

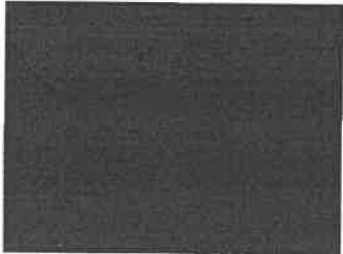
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] [REDACTED]

[illegible]



[REDACTED]

1	2	3	4	5	6
---	---	---	---	---	---



[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]

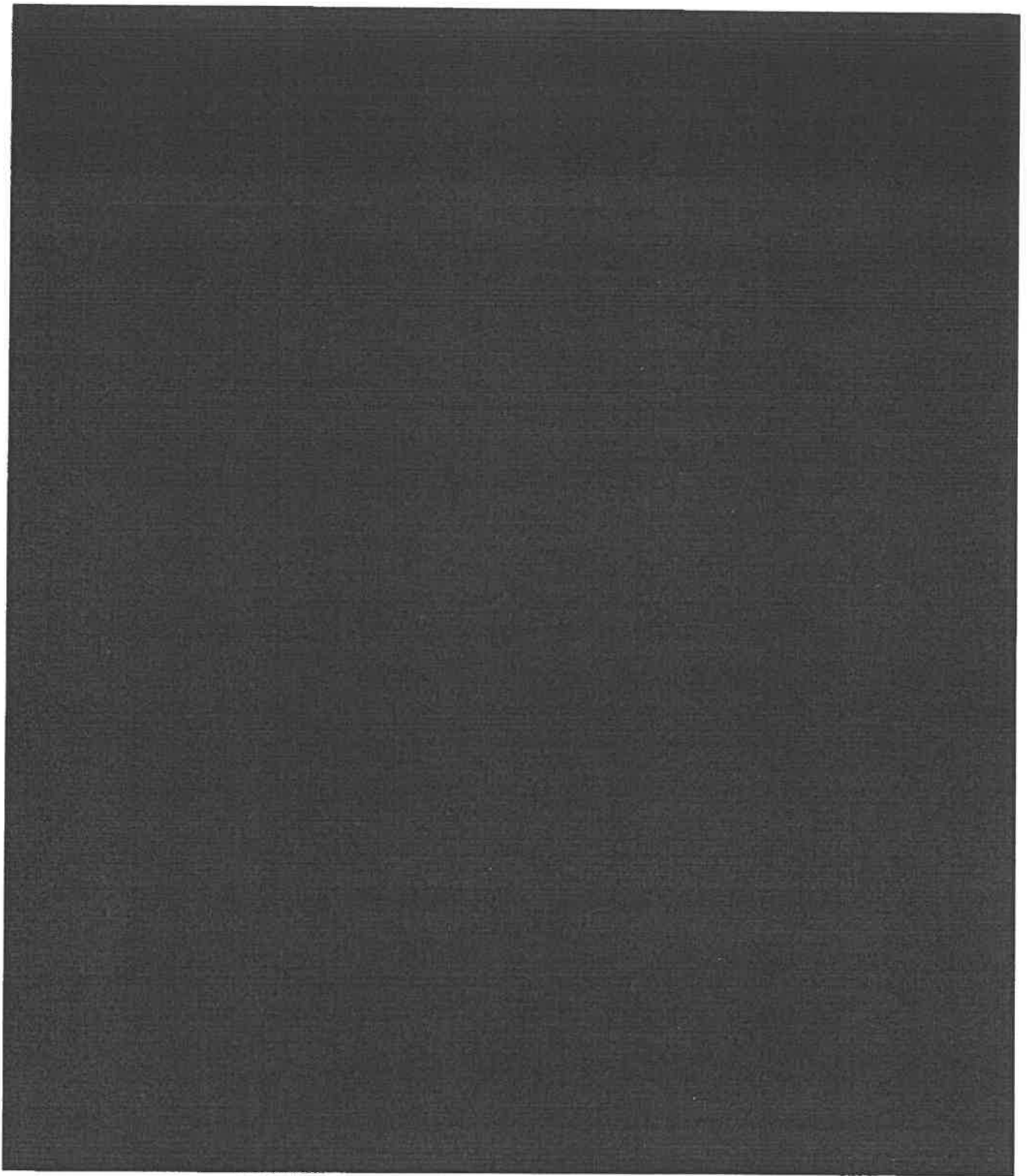
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]





[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

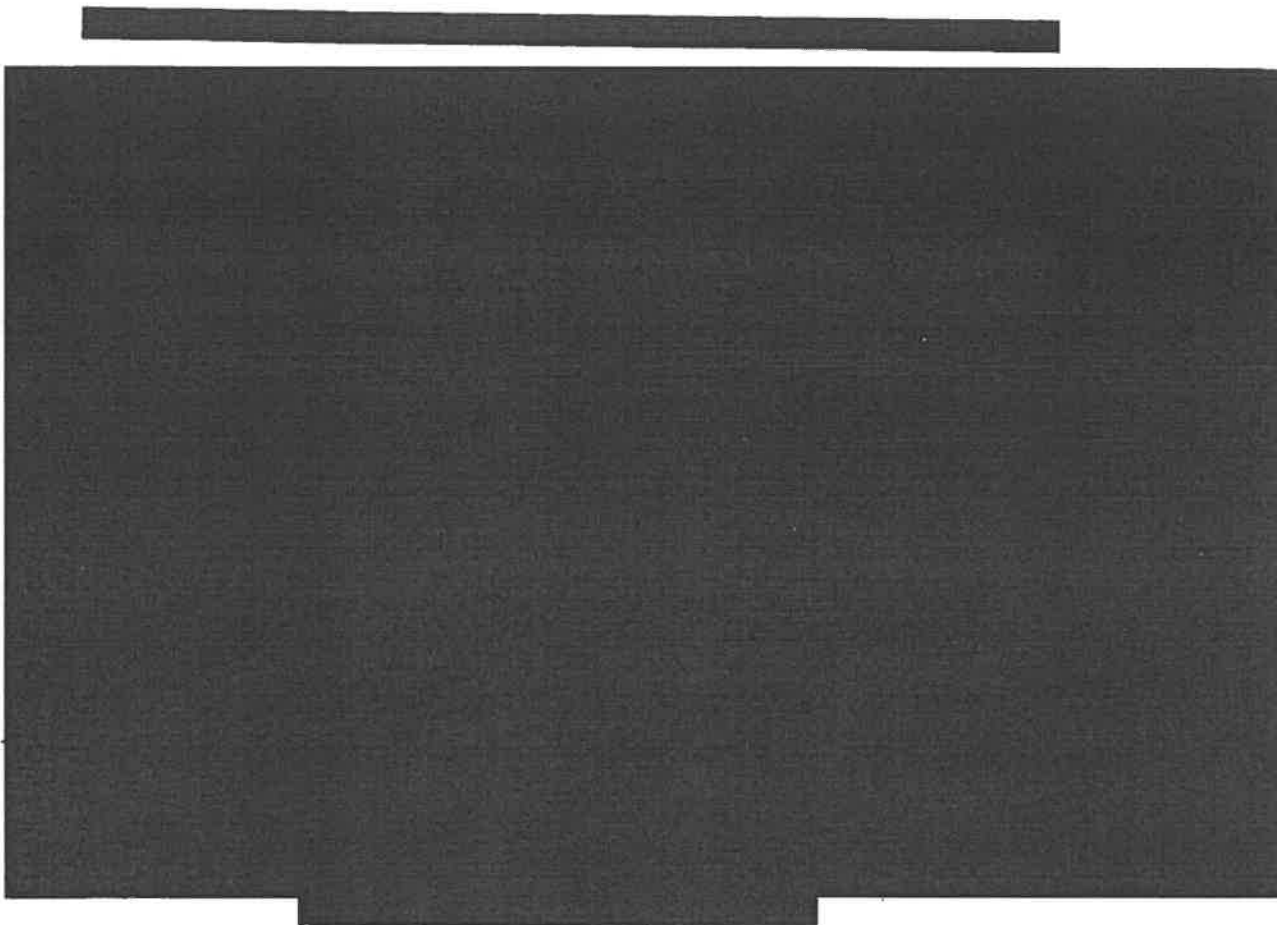
ANTONIO MANATA

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

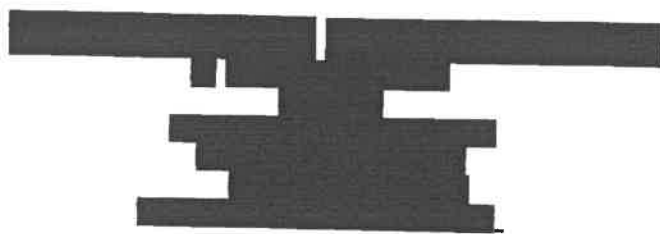
[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

1. I am a Clark Police Lieutenant. [Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

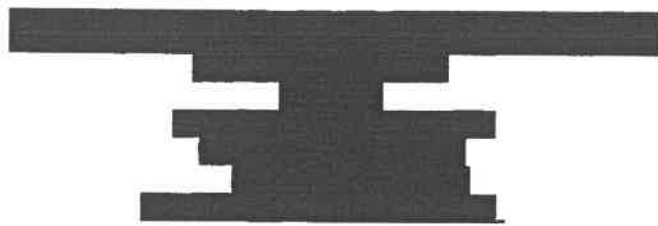
[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Antonio Manata



[Redacted text]

[Redacted text]

[Redacted text]

[Redacted text]

[Redacted text]

[Redacted text]

[Redacted text]

[Redacted text]

[Redacted text]

[Redacted text]

[Redacted text]

[Redacted text]

[Redacted text]

[Redacted text]



[Redacted text]