



November 21, 2024

Ciaran Johnson

E-Mail: opra+request-69059-efcf0ce5@requests.opramachine.com

Re: OPRA 2024-280

Dear Ms. Johnson:

The County of Salem received your Open Public Records Act (OPRA) request on November 21, 2024. As such, the seven (7) business day deadline to respond to your request is December 4, 2024. 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:

"CAD Detail Reports with Officer narratives from 11/08/2024 to 11/15/2024."

Your request fails to identify with reasonable clarity the specific government records sought, as is required by Moore v. Twp. of Old Bridge, GRC Complaint No. 2005-80 (August 2005): The custodian responded to the complainant's request by seeking clarification because she believed the request was over broad. In accordance with MAG Entm't, LLC v. Div. of Alcohol Beverage Control, 375 N.J. Super. 534 (App. Div. 2005), "OPRA is not intended as a research tool litigants may use to force government officials to identify and siphon useful information. Rather, OPRA simply operates to make identifiable government records "readily accessible for inspection, copying or examination." N.J.S.A. 47:1A-1. The Court further held that under OPRA, agencies are required to disclose only "identifiable" government records not otherwise exempt... In short, OPRA does not countenance open-ended searches of an agency's files. Id. At 549. See also Bent v. Stafford Police Department, 381 N.J. Super. 30, 37 (App. Div. 2005), NJ Builders Assoc. v. NJ Council on Affordable Hous., 390 N.J. Super. 166, 180 (App. Div. 2007), Schuler v. Borough of Bloomsbury, GRC Complaint No. 2007-151 (Interim Order dated December 19, 2007). At this time, we request clarification of your OPRA request. We are unsure of the specific government records sought so that we may process your request. You indicate that the reports you are requesting are for the Salem County Sheriff's Office from 11/08/2024 to 11/15/2024. Please advise if you are requesting a specific municipality in the County where the Sheriff's Office reports for this time were generated or are you requesting records for the entire county. Failure to provide written clarification of your request will result in the closure of this OPRA request.

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