

## NEW JERSEY GOVERNMENT RECORDS COUNCIL Administrative Complaint Disposition – Invalid OPRA Request

Jonathan Donnell Williams Complainant GRC Complaint No. 2017-83

v.

Mercer County Correctional Center Custodial Agency

Custodian of Record: Paul R. Adezio, Esq. Request Received by Custodian: March 21, 2017 GRC Complaint Received: April 20, 2017

Complaint Disposition: The Complainant submitted a request for records via a Mercer County Correctional Center ("MCCC") "Consent for Release of Information" form to Charles Ellis, received on or around March 21, 2017. The form does not cite to OPRA, therefore not constituting a valid OPRA request. The GRC's authority is limited to adjudicating denial of access complaints based on valid OPRA requests. *See* Bragg v. Mercer Cnty. Corr. Center, GRC Complaint No. 2015-396 (May 2016).

**Applicable OPRA Provision:** "A request for access to a government record shall be in writing and hand-delivered, mailed, transmitted electronically, or otherwise conveyed to the appropriate custodian." N.J.S.A. 47:1A-5(g).

"The council shall make a determination as to whether the complaint is within its jurisdiction or frivolous or *without any reasonable factual basis*." N.J.S.A. 47:1A-7(e) (emphasis added).

This is the final administrative determination in this matter. Any further review should be pursued in the Appellate Division of the Superior Court of New Jersey within forty-five (45) days. Information about the appeals process can be obtained from the Appellate Division Clerk's Office, Hughes Justice Complex, 25 W. Market St. PO Box 006, Trenton, NJ 08625-0006.

**Effective Date of Disposition:** June 27, 2017

Prepared By: Samuel A. Rosado

Staff Attorney

Date: June 20, 2017

**Distribution Date: June 28, 2017**