

OPRA REQUEST

submitted to

Records Custodian
New Jersey Firemen's Association
1700 Galloping Hill Road
Kenilworth, NJ 07033-1303

sent via certified mail, # 7010 3090 0000 6410 7714
on September 23, 2011.

Please accept this writing as my request for government records in accordance with the Open Public Records Act (OPRA) and the common law right of access. Please respond and send all responsive documents to me via regular mail to

John Paff
P.O. Box 5424
Somerset, NJ 08875-5424

Background:

I am both a Life Member of the Association and a citizen who is very interested in open and transparent government. I have often sought enforcement of the provisions of the Open Public Records Act (OPRA) and the common law right of access.

The New Jersey Supreme Court's August 23, 2011 decision holding that the League of Municipalities is subject to OPRA has caused me to wonder whether the Firemen's Association is also within OPRA's scope.

The first numbered request below seeks the Association's request form, if it has one, that OPRA requires government agencies to adopt for public use. If the Association provides me with its OPRA request form (or advises me in writing that it considers itself subject to OPRA but has not yet created a form) I will conclude that response dispositive of the issue of whether the Association considers itself bound by the provisions of OPRA. Suffice it to say that my first numbered request is intended to require the Association to clearly declare, in writing, whether or not it believes that it is subject to OPRA.

Requested Records:

No. 1. N.J.S.A. 47:1A-5(f) requires the custodian of every public agency to adopt a records request form for the public to use for requesting records. I'd like a copy of the form adopted by the custodian for the Firemen's Association.

No. 2. I am informed, perhaps erroneously, that after a person who is selected by a county caucus to serve on the Executive Committee serves in that position for more than one term, he or she is eligible for a pension. I would like two specific classes records: a) records that shows the amount and type of pension received by each

member of the Executive Committee who served immediately prior to the current members of the Executive Committee (see N.J.S.A. 47:1A-10); b) any record that establishes the number of years that a member of the Executive Committee must serve in order to be entitled to a pension.

No. 3. The detailed bills for legal services rendered during March of 2011 submitted by any and all attorneys and law firms retained by or on behalf of the Association. I have requested these records from numerous government agencies and they typically show the date of service, a brief description of the specific services rendered and the amount of time spent on that service.

Thank you very much for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

John Paff
732-873-1251