

FILED

MAR 01 2016

PREPARED BY THE COURT

**SUPERIOR COURT OF NJ
MERCER VIGNAGE
CIVIL DIVISION
SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY
LAW DIVISION-
MERCER COUNTY**

JOHN PAFF,

Plaintiff,

v.

**NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF LAW
AND PUBLIC SAFETY DIVISION OF
STATE POLICE, DETECTIVE
SERGEANT FIRST CLASS MARCO
RODRIGUEZ in his official capacity as
Records Custodian of the Division of State
Police, and NEW JERSEY STATE
TROOPER JOHN DOE,**

Defendants.

and

**NEW JERSEY STATE TROOPERS
FRATERNAL ASSOCIATION,**

Defendant-Intervenor.

DOCKET NO. MER L-1685-15

**FINAL JUDGMENT DISMISSING THE
COMPLAINT WITH PREJUDICE**

Attorney for Plaintiff:

Walter M. Luers, Esq.
Law Office of Walter M. Luers, LLC
Suite C202
23 West Main Street
Clinton, New Jersey 08809

Attorney for Defendants:

Nicole E. Adams, DAG
Richard J. Hughes Justice Complex
P.O. Box 112
25 Market Street
Trenton, NJ 08625-0080

Attorney for Defendant-Intervenor:


Corey M. Sargeant, Esq.
Locke, Correia & Bukosky
24 Salem Street
Hackensack, New Jersey 07601

THIS MATTER having been opened to the court by way of a Verified Complaint and an Order to Show Cause filed by Plaintiff John Paff after Defendants denied his OPRA request for

the name, letter of resignation, and plea agreement of Trooper Doe, who had been the subject of a State internal investigation for allegedly failing to make an arrest in exchange for sexual favors; and the court having heard oral argument on December 3, 2015; and the court determining at that time to conduct an *in camera* review of the documents and directing the defendant State Police to file a certification explaining its policy concerns regarding the confidentiality of the documents in order to determine and then balance the interests of Plaintiff and Defendants for purposes of OPRA and the common law right of access to public records; and the court having conducted the *in camera* review and having reviewed the certification submitted by Major Mark Wondrack of the New Jersey State Police; and for good cause shown, for the reasons set forth on the record on March 1, 2016:

IT IS on this 1st day of March, 2016, **HEREBY ORDERED** that:

1. Judgment is hereby entered in favor of Defendants affirming their decision not to disclose the documents sought by Plaintiff.
2. The complaint is dismissed with prejudice.


Mary C. Jacobson, A.J.S.C.