



Regina Armitage – Bucks County Open Records Officer
Senate State Government Committee
Concerning The Right-To-Know Law

Monday, October 21, 2013 - Harrisburg, PA

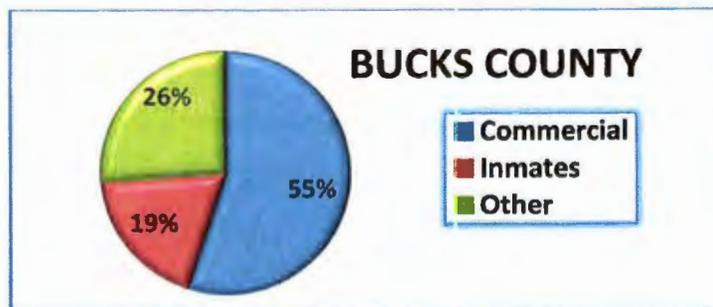
My name is Regina Armitage and I thank you for the opportunity to testify today on behalf of Bucks County. In 2009, I was appointed as Open Records Officer and in addition to other duties, I serve as a liaison between the various County departments and requesters who wish to obtain public records in possession of this agency.

As the Open Records Officer (“ORO”), I take my job very seriously, I am as diligent as I can possibly be, and regardless of how much work a request involves, I strive to handle each response in a professional and ethical manner. In 2009 and 2010, this office logged in approximately 250 requests, and in 2011 and 2012, that number increased to over 400. So far, I have about 330 requests logged for 2013 and since its inception, this office has responded to over 1,700 requests and 30 appeals, 10 of which are from this year alone.

While the County clearly understands the need for transparency and its obligation to produce records, the County must also respect its commitment to minimize waste and utilize tax dollars in the best interest of its citizens. However, trying to balance these two important priorities continues to be an incredible challenge.

With that in mind, I am here today to provide to the Committee a better understanding of the problems this agency encounters and bring attention to areas of the Right-To-Know Law (“RTKL”) which the County feels need to be addressed.

In reviewing statistics I put together earlier this year (January – April), I broke down approximately 150 requests by percentages into three categories of requestors: Inmates (19%) which include only individuals still housed in county/state facilities; Commercial (55%) includes request received from various individuals/entities who obtain records to be used for profit; and Other (26%) which is the remaining category and includes all requests that do not fall under the prior two.



Inmate Requests

Inmate and frivolous requests have been on an ongoing problem since the new law was implemented. To date this office has handled over 100 requests from inmates and although that number may seem small percentage-wise, it should be noted that one single request will usually seek various items. What also adds to the problem is often these records are not in the County's possession, have no rationale, and don't even exist, making these some of the most time consuming matters to work on.

In order to provide an idea of what we're dealing with, I have attached a log of requests sought from one inmate by the name of Joseph Guarrasi. As you can see, he has sought an array of items that range from oaths of office for County employees, transcripts and testimony recording the oaths, rules setting forth requirements to become an officer of the Courts, rules regarding the Wiretap Act enforced by Bucks County, and a copy of the serially numbered receipts, deposit slip and daily record of \$2000 seized by the D.A.'s office on 2/26/2004.

One in particular sought **"a copy of the purchase receipts, vouchers, contracts, and the final documents recording the purchase of, rental and acquisition of the cassette recorders, the Sony N.T. digital recorders utilized, issued or used by the District Attorney's Office and Detective Carroll to intercept and record oral communications from 1/1/04 through 1/1/2005 and the user operation manuals for the same."**

In an attempt to comply, both the Controller and District Attorneys' Office tried to locate something in the form of receipts or vouchers, but they were unable to find anything. In order to save a trip to the warehouse, I researched Sony products online and although no specific type of recorder was identified by Mr. Guarrasi, I found the best possible match to the equipment described in his request. I downloaded a Sony N.T. user manual, printed it out and sent it to Mr. Guarrasi, but he mailed it back informing me that it was not the correct one. Again, in an effort to comply, Lt. Detective Robert Gorman went down to the warehouse to conduct a search of old files stored and located a manual for a Sony recorder, however, it happened to be identical to the manual I had already provided. I ask, is this the transparency we are seeking in government?

As you can see by the list, Mr. Guarrasi can be very creative with his requests. To date, he accounts for 34 requests that I have recorded, as well as 5 of my 30 appeals. In addition, he has sent numerous requests to other County departments, most of which are duplicates for items already sought, and he is responsible for 29 appeals listed in the Open Records database.

I have also had situations when an inmate, after being informed that a record does not exist, has submitted duplicate RTK's using another inmate's name. Section 506(a)(1) provides an exception for disruptive requests and states that "an agency may deny a requester access to a record if the requester has made repeated requests for that same record and the repeated requests have placed an unreasonable burden on the agency." Unfortunately, that language is not helpful in the below examples.

On January 21, 2013, I received a request from an inmate housed in Somerset, PA by the name of Gerald Saylor (RTK#1402) seeking **"copies of all emails in the County server that contain my name"**.

As the request was too broad to identify any specific record, it was denied, but he appealed it to the Office of Open Records ("OOR"). Along with the appeal response submitted by this office, the County's Chief Information Officer prepared an affidavit explaining why such a record could not be located. It was a time-consuming effort on his part as well mine, but we were successful in defending our appeal.

Then, on March 25, 2013, I received another request from an inmate housed in Somerset by the name of Charles Hoyer (RTK#1477). The handwriting on the request was identical to the one submitted by Gerald Saylor and this one sought **"copies of all emails from the County's server that contain the name Gerald Saylor . . . from December 5th 2011 until June 17th, 2012."** Again it was denied and the County sent a response explaining why these records could not be located.

Gerald Saylor and Charles Hoyer account for 10 requests and 3 appeals in my log, but there are numerous appeals in the OOR database associated with these individuals.

Another example of repetitive requests is one where three inmates housed and at the same prison in Albion, PA, all sent requests for identical items. David Donaghy submitted his on 10/10/12 (# 1202), Christopher Glunt on 12/3/12 (#1352) and Christopher Fenati on 1/17/13 (#1395). All sought oaths of office and employment records for the same employees and contracts and information for a law firm where a Common Pleas Judge used to work. Again, this tactic not only prevents us from citing language regarding disruptive request but it demonstrates a clear abuse of the system.

In matters dealing with requests for criminal records, inmates have repeatedly directed requests to me even though they know I do not retain these records. In one particular matter, I received a request from an inmate seeking **"docket numbers (civil & criminal) of all files the County has in its possession for Christopher Bush"**. Criminal and Civil docket information is available in the Bucks County Prothonotary and Clerk of Courts, which are Row offices open to the public. Due to the fact that he wasn't specific on what he was seeking, I did not forward the request, but in fact sent a response suggesting he resubmit his requests to the proper offices and provide more detail on the records he was trying to locate. I included contact information, but instead of resubmitting, he filed an appeal.

Based on the fact that the records were not under my jurisdiction, I sought a dismissal from the OOR and it was denied. I submitted a response along with my affidavit explaining that docket numbers are not administrative records of the County and therefore, did not fit the term "Record" as defined by the RTKL and below was the response I received from the OOR.

Thank you for your affidavit attesting that records reflecting docket numbers for Christopher Bush are subject to the jurisdiction of the Court of Common Pleas; however, the OOR is attempting to determine whether any records which may reflect docket numbers for Christopher Bush are in the possession of the administrative branch of county government. For example, a document such as a complaint filed against the county by Christopher Bush which indicates a docket number and is in the possession of the administrative branch of the county government would potentially be responsive to the request notwithstanding the fact that the same document was also filed with the judiciary.

In order to bring this matter to a conclusion, kindly provide an affidavit which answers the question of whether the administrative branch of the county government is in the possession of any documents which indicate a docket number for any matter involving Christopher Bush. We understand that there may be

records reflecting docket numbers and Christopher Bush in the Prothonotary or Clerk of Courts. We are not concerned with any records in the possession of those entities, but are attempting to develop a proper evidentiary record with respect to any documents which may or may not be in the possession of the administrative branch of the county government.

I was required to submit an affidavit of nonexistence of the record, but this example certainly calls attention to the appeals process and time wasted on matters that should fall outside the OOR's jurisdiction.

The question we pose to the Committee is – how far is an agency to go, how deep do we dig, and how far do we reach to handle these requests. Right now, as the law is written, we must respond no matter how outlandish or burdensome the request may be, and there is no recourse to agencies that are struggling to meet these demands.

Although changes were proposed in SB444 that would limit access to records sought by inmates, such a change would not prevent other individuals (e.g., relatives) from requesting records on their behalf. Such an example would be requests received from a citizen by the name of William Sarr who is a friend of an individual housed at a correctional facility. His request sought a copy of all documents appointing Assistant District Attorneys from 1990–2005 (RTK #1174), the insurance policy for District Attorneys (RTK # 361), an employee directory and email addresses (#227) and a list of all employee cell phone numbers (#226). Three out of the four requests were appealed.

Frivolous Requests

My reason for coming today is to focus on request from inmates, but I would also like to bring to the Committee's attention the amount of frivolous requests that again call into question the true intent of the RTKL. The statistics I provided show that 26% of requests fall under the category of "other" and that figure encompasses everything outside of the inmate and commercial category. It includes legitimate requests for incident reports, elected officials, 911 call logs, assessment data, etc. but it also includes many requests that seem to be exploiting the RTK process simply because the law allows it.

Geoffrey Alan Smith - I have received requests from people who declare themselves as "sovereign citizens" and "freemen on the land" who claim that law is contractual and only applies if an individual consents to be governed. Accordingly, Mr. Smith submitted 7 separate requests seeking dozens of contracts between him the government. The contracts are nonexistent and requests (some of which I have attached) are nonsensical.

Request for All Emails - Last week, I received a request for "email correspondence from any and every Bucks County agency and employee" that references various entities. As the County has over 80 departments and employs over 2400 people, how does one even begin to respond to this request?

Simon Campbell - One repeat requester is Simon Campbell. He is the president of 2 organizations: Stop Teachers Strikes and Pennsylvanians for Union Reform and he is also a member of the Pennsbury School Board located in Bucks County.

On June 24, 2013, Mr. Campbell requested assessment data for a 2 townships. The data is available free of charge on the County's public access system, but the Board of Assessment also provides a service that can export data from the system and format it in categories based on the requestors needs. This is what the RTLK refers to "integrated assessment data" and fees permitted under Section 1307 will apply.

After his initial request, Mr. Campbell sent supplemental emails to the Open Records Office specifically asking that the data be exported into Excel. To be exact, his statement was that ***"the system returns too many records (11,206) for Falls Township and caps out at 1,000. So I am unable to get what I'm after. Could I ask you/the IT dept. to export the data for both municipalities into Excel and e-mail it to me. If there's a fee to do this I can pre-pay it. The County did this for me a couple of years ago."***

In other words, the system couldn't produce the data in the format he needed so he wanted the County to prepare it for him. Mr. Campbell had requested and paid for this data in the past and was well aware of the fees, yet he argued when he received the invoice along with the data. He claimed that the County acted in "bad faith" by not informing him of our intent to charge more than \$100 and by not seeking prepayment, we waived our right to collect more than \$100. Additional emails were sent to me, as well as the Commissioners, demanding we waive the fee and if we did not, he would file an appeal, which he did. The County was successful in the appeal and Mr. Campbell paid the invoice, but on July 9, he filed another request, this time seeking the full County assessment data instead of just specific townships.

In an effort to get the records for free, he sent it on behalf of Pennsylvanians for Union Reform ("PFUR") and stated that it was a non-profit corporation and the materials would be used to conduct educational research. Usually Mr. Campbell sends his communications via email and the request actually said **"please know that I prefer communication via e-mail"**, but this particular request was faxed from a 307 area code which I researched as being a registered landline in Jackson Wyoming. I sent a response along with the County's fee schedule and although I did not send it to the email listed on the request, I did respond in a timely fashion to a known email for Mr. Campbell at scampbell@stopteacherstrikes.org He then claimed it was deemed denied and filed an appeal arguing that that it should have been sent to his Pennsylvanians for Union Reform organization, and therefore, a response was not received. He subsequently withdrew the appeal.

In the course of 3 months, Mr. Campbell submitted 4 requests for "integrated assessment data" and worked every possible angle to get it for free. Another request for assessment data was submitted on August 29, 2013 by Mr. Campbell's attorney and this time he submitted documentation identifying PFUR as a non-profit 501(c)(4) organization and that the information obtained will be used for educational purposes. Aside from the fact that he doesn't want to pay for it, one could not possibly add up the cost of time and manpower poured into requests submitted by Simon Campbell, yet the educational purpose he claims the information will be used for is to educate the public about government spending.

In addition to assessment data, Mr. Campbell and his organizations have also requested the names and home addresses of all collective bargaining employees who pay fair share fees to unions. When this information is sought, part of my responsibility as the ORO is to reach out to department heads and

identify the individuals whose home address is going to be disclosed. I let them know what options they have and what RTK exceptions "may" apply if they meet the criteria outlined in the law.

As a result of the last request for addresses submitted by PFUR, I spent almost two weeks dealing with calls from employees and department heads that had legitimate concerns about the disclosure of home addresses. Department heads for Area Agency on Aging, Mental Health and Children & Youth explained to me that their employees, who by the nature of what they do, put themselves at risk every day and are frequently threatened by family members of the clients they serve. In order to be exempt, Affidavits were prepared and department heads had to compile data identifying specific situations that would be reasonably likely to result in the physical harm or the personal security of an individual.

The County understands that case law has determined that home address are public but my question to the Committee is to what length and at what costs do agencies have to go in order to comply with this law. The time expended in preparing affidavits is unbelievably time consuming and it's another task added to the workload of already busy department heads .

I recently became aware of a request submitted by Simon Campbell/PFUR to the State Employee Retirement System ("SERS") requesting the name and home address of all employees in the SERS database. Last week, I spoke to the Open Records Officer for that agency and similar to my process, individuals on their list were informed that their address was requested under the RTKL. According to the data provided in our conversation, an initial mailing went out to over 101,000 members and the costs for printing, postage & envelopes came to \$55,369.18. Additionally, mailings went out informing 17,251 members that they were in a protected class and their information would not be released and that one cost \$9,435. As a result, this request costs SERS about \$64,000 and this significant financial burden does not include man hours involved in preparing the mailings, nor does it include newly created duties for staff that responded to calls and letters that came into the agency.

It should also be noted that Mr. Campbell and his organizations account for over 100 appeals filed with the Office of Open Records.

Requests for Commercial Purposes

Finally, I would like to touch base on the amount of commercial requests received under the RTKL. While there is no argument that many of the records requested for commercial purposes are indeed public, it is hard to imagine that anyone could have foreseen the degree that RTK's would be used for business purposes. Of the 1700 requests I have logged since 2009, over half have been used for commercial purposes which means the percentage of citizens seeking records are minimal compared to the amount of records requested by service providers, businesses and individuals attempting to make a profit.

Tax Duplicates – Signature Solutions is a company that routinely sends requests for all tax duplicates submitted by tax collectors for each municipality. We do provide the data but under the law, the only cost that can be imposed is the \$5 fee to copy the records to a CD. We are not allowed to inquire as to why a record is being sought or the intended use of the material, but in researching the website for

Signature Solutions, I see that they offer a service for Pennsylvania tax certifications which is based on the data they receive via government agencies.

Certified Payroll – All contractors and subcontractors who perform government work are required to submit Certified Payroll sheets. These records identify the employee, their classification (carpenter, laborer, electrician, etc.), pay rate, hours worked and deductions. In order to verify that non-union contractors are in compliance with prevailing wage laws, union representatives routinely request copies of certified payroll. Prior to 2009, a union representative would contact the Public Works department and the records would be pulled and made available for review. Now that the law changed, the records are pulled and sent to me to review and redact confidential information. Again, the County acknowledges that these are public, but instead of the union reps travelling to review it themselves, the open records office is producing this information at the expense of taxpayers.

Requests for Proposals – When a county project is put out to bid, interested vendors submit a response to a Request for Proposals (“RFP”). Once the contract is awarded, I often receive requests from unsuccessful vendors who want to see all the RFP’s submitted for the project. Most of the material submitted is public, but there are usually portions of the RFP’s that contain confidential and/or proprietary information, so I contact each of the vendors and ask them to review their submission to identify material that should not be disclosed. I provide exceptions regarding confidential, proprietary and trade secrets and explain that in order to qualify under these exceptions, certain criteria must be met. I also inform them that the requester has the option to appeal if they disagree with any redactions.

These RFP’s are requested so that vendors can conduct their own due diligence by cross referencing submissions to see how they can improve and be successful on future bids. While this is good homework on their part, reviewing these proposals to redact the confidential sections requires an enormous amount of time. Keep in mind that one bid can yield multiple responses by vendors and an RFP can range from under 100 pages to over 1,000 with exhibits. One particular proposal I reviewed was over 1,000 pages and contained layers of information relating to the County’s Emergency Communications system which if disclosed, would pose a threat to the security. The request was denied and an appeal was filed which resulted in weeks of ongoing research and preparation of affidavits by directions of the County’s Emergency Communications and Emergency Management Services.

Final determinations issued by the Office of Open Records repeatedly state that the “The objective of the Right to Know Law ... is to empower citizens by affording them access to information concerning the activities of their government” and that this important open-government law is “designed to promote access to official government information in order to prohibit secrets, scrutinize the actions of public officials and make public officials accountable for their actions.” In theory this all sounds good, but one needs to ask, how do the above examples fit into this objective of open government?

Thank you again for your time and attention to the proposed changes. I am available to provide additional information and again, I appreciate the opportunity to speak today.

Exhibits

Joseph Guarrasi (Inmate)

| RTK# | Rec'd | Dept. | Requested Items |
|-------|----------------|-----------------------------|---|
| | Never Received | | Copy of the receipts, vouchers, contracts and operation manuals for the purchase of the cassette recorders used by the DA for wiretapping 1/1/04 - 1/1/2005 . |
| 1226 | 02-Nov | Security | Copy of information documenting the presence of individuals in the Courthouse in 2004. |
| 987 | 08-Mar | NA | Copies of transcripts, testimony or recording of DA Oaths of Office. (Gibbons, Gambardella Zellis, Carroll, Mosiniak & McAteer) |
| 981 | 27-Feb | NA | Copy of equipment issuance and return sheets for cassette equipment from 2004. |
| 961 | 02-Feb | Oaths | Oaths of Office, Statement of Financial Interest and job description for for DA, Chris McAteer (2000 - 2006) |
| 911 | 12-Dec | Oaths | Oaths of Office for DA, David Zellis (1999 - 2005) |
| 881 | 21-Nov | Oaths | Oaths of Office for DA, Karen Diaz (2002 - 2011) |
| 869 | 14-Nov | Oaths | Oaths of Office for DA, Tim Carroll (1998-2011) |
| 858 | 03-Nov | Oaths | Oaths of Office for DA, Tim Carroll (1998-2011) and Judge Cepparulo (2003- 2011) |
| 842 | 17-Oct | Clk of Courts/ Solicitor | Statements of financial interest for Solicitor Tina Mazaheri (2008-2011) |
| 819 | 26-Sep | DA | Desingation of DA, David Zellis |
| 780a. | 22-Aug | DA/ Solicitor | Job Description for DA Dectective and copy of Governor's Commission for DA Heckler. |
| 780.b | 02-Sep | N/A | Governor's Commission for Judge Heckler. |
| 768 | 03-Aug | DA/ Solicitor | Oaths of Office for DA's from 1998 - 2006 (Gambardella, Mosiniak and Carroll) |
| 748 | 15-Jul | DA/ Solicitor | Statements of financial interest for DA's (Gambardella and Carroll) |
| 556 | 17-Feb | DA/ Solicitor | Certified copies of various documents already provided to requestor. |
| 555 | 17-Feb | HR | Certified copy of the DA Employee List including name, title and salary. (1999-2001) |

| | | | |
|-----|--------|-------------------|---|
| 554 | 17-Feb | ROD/ Solicitor | Certified copy of Oaths, Bonds and Statements of Financial Interest for DA, Diane Gibbons (1999 - 2002) |
| 542 | 02-Feb | ROD | Oaths of Office filed prior to 2000. (Fritch, Zellis, Jenei) |
| 532 | 07-Jan | Courts | Titles, positions and job descriptions of Judge Biehn (2003 - 2005) and Judge Boylan (2009 - 2010) |
| 531 | 07-Jan | Solicitor | Copy of Statements of Financial Interest for Diane Gibbons (1998 - 2010) |
| 526 | 04-Jan | N/A | Desingation of Authority from 1998 - 2005 designating DA's to act pursuant to Wiretap and Electronic Surveillance Act) |
| 524 | 04-Jan | ROD | Copy of DA Oaths of Office (All DA's for years 1999 - 2004) |
| 521 | 29-Dec | HR/ ROD | DA employees and salary Copies of DA Oaths (Jan 1 - Mar 1, 2004) |
| 460 | 25-Oct | Courts | Copy of job description for a County Criminal Administrative Judge |
| 392 | 04-Aug | N/A | Copy of the serially numbered receipts, deposit slip and daily record of the \$2000 seized on 2/26/2004 by the DA's office. |
| 343 | 12-May | N/A | Court of Common Pleas records |
| 337 | 03-May | N/A | Court of Common Pleas records |
| 264 | 14-Jan | N/A | District Attorney Records |
| 255 | 06-Jan | N/A | Copy of Statutes and Orders granted in the BCCP |
| 250 | 23-Dec | N/A | Copy of published Legal Rules adopted/ enforced by Bucks County |
| 229 | 02-Dec | N/A | Copy of published Legal Rules adopted/ enforced by Bucks County |
| 228 | 02-Dec | Controller | Copy of any funds paid in Guarassi trial |
| 213 | 12-Nov | N/A | Copy of published Legal Rules Re: Wiretap Act enforced by Bucks County |
| | 06-Oct | Clk of Courts | Pre-migration Docket Entry Sheet |

Pennsylvania

RIGHT-TO KNOW-LAW REQUEST

To: Open Records Officer
Bucks County Courthouse
55, E. Court St.
Doylestown PA 18901

#1402

DATE REQUESTED: January 21ST, 2013

REQUEST SUBMITTED BY: U.S. MAIL

NAME OF REQUESTOR: Gerald Saylor KL-0360
SCI Laurel Highlands
5706 Glades Pike
P.O. Box 631
Somerset PA 15501-0631

RECORDS REQUESTED:

*Provide as much specific detail as possible so the agency can identify the information.

I would like copies of all emails in the
County server that contain my name.
(I do not want copies printed of any
attatchments that are documents to the court)

Thank You

DO YOU WANT COPIES? YES

DO YOU WANT TO INSPECT THE RECORDS? NO

DO YOU WANT CERTIFIED COPIES OF RECORDS? NO

(For Internal Use Only)

RIGHT TO KNOW OFFICER:

DATE RECEIVED BY THE AGENCY:

AGENCY FIVE (5)-DAY RESPONSE DUE:

Rec'd 1/24/13
5-day 1/31/13

**public bodies may fill anonymous verbal or written requests. If the requestor wishes to pursue the relief and remedies provided for in this Act, the request must be in writing. (Section 702.) Written requests need not include an explanation why information is sought or the intended use of the information unless otherwise required by law. (Section 703.)

CC. file

Pennsylvania

RIGHT-TO KNOW-LAW REQUEST

#1479

DATE REQUESTED: 3/22/2013

REQUEST SUBMITTED BY: U.S. MAIL

NAME OF REQUESTOR: Charles Hoyer JH1287
SCI Laurel Highlands
5706 Glades Pike
P.O. Box 631
Somerset PA 15501-0631 →

RECORDS REQUESTED:

**Provide as much specific detail as possible so the agency can identify the information.*

I would like copies of all emails from the County's server that contain the name Gerald Saylor from all areas, including but not limited to outlook inbox and emails that require restoration, etc., for Brian Joseph Scanlon from December 5th 2011 until June 1st 2012.

Thank You

DO YOU WANT COPIES? YES

DO YOU WANT TO INSPECT THE RECORDS? NO

DO YOU WANT CERTIFIED COPIES OF RECORDS? NO

(For Internal Use Only)

RIGHT TO KNOW OFFICER:

DATE RECEIVED BY THE AGENCY:

AGENCY FIVE (5)-DAY RESPONSE DUE:

Rec'd 3/25/13
5 day 4/2/13

***public bodies may fill anonymous verbal or written requests. If the requestor wishes to pursue the relief and remedies provided for in this Act, the request must be in writing. (Section 702.) Written requests need not include an explanation why information is sought or the intended use of the information unless otherwise required by law. (Section 703.)*

CC. file

To: Right-To-Know

10-10-12

#1202

1) I AM REQUESTING THE OATH(S) OF OFFICE ON A.D.A. MR. HOUKA AND MS. SEIGLE FOR THE YEARS OF 2006 TO 2010, OR, THE OATH(S) THAT WOULD COVER 2008 TO 2009.

2) I AM REQUESTING THE OATH OF OFFICE AND, APPLICATION AND, SOME KINDA DOCUMENT STATING MR. WILLIAM C. PENGLASE WORKED FOR THE COUNTY OF DOYLESTOWN IN D.A.'S OFFICE FOR THE YEARS OF 2000 TO 2003.

3) I AM REQUESTING DOCUMENT(S) STATING JUDGE HECKLER WAS A JUDGE (PRESIDENT) DURING 2008 TO 2009

Rec'd 10/15/12
5-day 10/22/12

4) I AM REQUESTING A PRINT-OUT ON LAW FIRMS THAT WERE ON CONFLICT OF INTEREST CASES, P.C.R.A. (A CONTRACT BY THE COUNTY OF BUCKS TO REPRESENT INDIVIDUALS WHO WOULD OTHERWISE, QUALIFY FOR REPRESENTATION BY THE PUBLIC DEFENDER'S OFFICE BUT FOR REASONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST THEY CAN'T DO IT) FOR 2008, 2009. WAS MCNAMARA, Bolla WILLIAMS AND PANZEN ALSO ON THIS LIST?

I AM REQUESTING THE ABOVE UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION LAW. PLEASE MAIL THIS LETTER

→

back along with requested material to:

David J. Downaghy #HY-5736

10745 Route 18, Abblon, PA. 16425-0002

Sincerely,

David J. Downaghy

To: Right-To-Know
OFFICER

12-3-12

#1352

55 EAST COURT ST.
DOYLESTOWN, PA. 18901

To: whom IT MAY CONSENT:

I AM REQUESTING THE FOLLOWING

- 1) OATH(S) OF OFFICE ON A.D.A. MR. LOUKA AND MS. SEIGLE FOR THE YEARS OF 2006 TO 2010, OR, THE OATH(S) THAT WOULD COVER 2008-2009.
- 2) I AM REQUESTING THE OATH OF OFFICE AND APPLICATION, OR, PREVIOUS EMPLOYMENT RECORD(S) ON WILLIAM C. PENGLASE FROM 2000, OR.
- 3) I AM REQUESTING DOCUMENT(S) THAT STATE JUDGE HECKLEN WAS A JUDGE FOR BUCKS COUNTY DURN 2008 TO 2009

Please, send the requested to: Christopher
GHUNT 10745 ROUTE 18, ALBION, PA. 16475

Sincerely,

Rec'd 12/5/12
5-day 12/12/12

Christopher Fenati AJ2997
10745 Route 18
Albion, PA 16475-0002

#1395

January 17, 2013

Regina Armitage
Open Records Officer
Office of the Solicitor
55 East Court Street
Doylestown, PA 18901

RE: REQUEST FOR DOCUMENTS

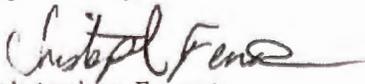
Dear Ms. Armitage:

Pursuant to the PA Right-To-Know Law, I respectfully am requesting a copy of each of the following documents:

1. The Oath of Office signed by Assistant District Attorney Mr. Louka that he had to sign according to law (Oath of Office § 3403) when taking his position (2006-2009) in the D.A.'s Office;
2. The Oath of Office signed by Assistant District Attorney Ms. Laura Siegle that she had to sign according to law (Oath of Office § 3403) when taking her position (2006-2009) in the D.A.'s Office;
3. The employment record showing when William C. Penglase was hired by the County D.A.'s Office (2000-2003);
4. The Oath of Office signed by the Honorable Judge Heckler that he had to sign according to law (Oath of Office § 3403) when taking his position as a judge in the County (stating he was a judge in 2009);
5. Any contract that Bucks County has with any area law firm(s) to provide legal services to indigent defendants and/or when appointed by the Court.

I respectfully request that you time- and date-stamp this letter and return a copy to me. Thank you for your time and attention regarding this important matter.

Respectfully,


Christopher Fenati

Rec'd 1/18/13
5 day 1/28/13



99-2012-0614

pennsylvania
OFFICE OF OPEN RECORDS

STANDARD RIGHT-TO-KNOW REQUEST FORM

2012 SEP 18 A 9 41
BUCKS COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY

DATE REQUESTED: SEPTEMBER 17, 2012

REQUEST SUBMITTED BY: E-MAIL U.S. MAIL FAX IN-PERSON

NAME OF REQUESTER: WILLIAM SARR

STREET ADDRESS : 347 SALY RD.

CITY/STATE/COUNTY/ZIP(Required): YARDLEY, PA 19067

TELEPHONE (Optional): --

RECORDS REQUESTED:

**Provide as much specific detail as possible so the agency can identify the information.*

I REQUEST A COPY OF THE DOCUMENTS, IN WHICH THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY APPOINTS THE ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEYS, FROM 1990 THROUGH 2005. THIS DOCUMENT MAY BE ENTITLED: "IN RE: THE APPOINTMENT OF ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEYS AND DESIGNATION OF AUTHORITY".

Rec'd 9/18/12
5day 9/25/12

DO YOU WANT COPIES? YES or NO
DO YOU WANT TO INSPECT THE RECORDS? YES or NO
DO YOU WANT CERTIFIED COPIES OF RECORDS? YES or NO

FOR AGENCY USE ONLY

RIGHT TO KNOW OFFICER:

DATE RECEIVED BY THE AGENCY:

AGENCY FIVE (5) BUSINESS DAY RESPONSE DUE:

***Public bodies may fill anonymous verbal or written requests. If the requestor wishes to pursue the relief and remedies provided for in this Act, the request must be in writing. (Section 702.) Written requests need not include an explanation why information is sought or the intended use of the information unless otherwise required by law. (Section 703.)*



pennsylvania
OFFICE OF OPEN RECORDS

#361

STANDARD RIGHT-TO-KNOW REQUEST FORM

DATE REQUESTED: MAY 31, 2010

REQUEST SUBMITTED BY: E-MAIL U.S. MAIL FAX IN-PERSON

NAME OF REQUESTER: WILLIAM SARR

STREET ADDRESS : 875 BRIGHTON PLACE

RECEIVED

CITY/STATE/COUNTY/ZIP(Required): WARMINSTER, PA 18974

JUN - 8 2010

TELEPHONE (Optional): - - -

OFFICE OF OPEN RECORDS

RECORDS REQUESTED:

**Provide as much specific detail as possible so the agency can identify the information.*

A copy of the insurance policy or policies (including the terms and conditions.), which the County of Bucks carries for liability and punitive damage claims, for when a Bucks County Official or employee violates a person's Constitutional or civil rights, and/or causes a person harm. This would be only policies that would cover members of the Bucks County district attorney's office and the Bucks County Detectives.

DO YOU WANT COPIES? YES or NO

DO YOU WANT TO INSPECT THE RECORDS? YES or NO

DO YOU WANT CERTIFIED COPIES OF RECORDS? YES or NO

FOR AGENCY USE ONLY

RIGHT TO KNOW OFFICER:

DATE RECEIVED BY THE AGENCY: 6/8/10

AGENCY FIVE (5) BUSINESS DAY RESPONSE DUE: 6/15/10

***Public bodies may fill anonymous verbal or written requests. If the requestor wishes to pursue the relief and remedies provided for in this Act, the request must be in writing. (Section 702.) Written requests need not include an explanation why information is sought or the intended use of the information unless otherwise required by law. (Section 703.)*



pennsylvania

OFFICE OF OPEN RECORDS

#227

STANDARD RIGHT-TO-KNOW REQUEST FORM

DATE REQUESTED: November 4 2009

REQUEST SUBMITTED BY: E-MAIL U S MAIL FAX IN-PERSON

NAME OF REQUESTER William Sarr

STREET ADDRESS 875 Brighton Pl.

CITY/STATE/COUNTY/ZIP(Required) Warminster, PA 18974

TELEPHONE (Optional): 215 603 9074

RECORDS REQUESTED:

**Provide as much specific detail as possible so the agency can identify the information.*

A copy of any directory, list or indices of all County of Bucks, and associated agencies, cellular phones, including each phone number and identifying whom each phone is issued. This includes all county (and it's agencies) paid cellular phone numbers or cellular phones of which the bills may be reimbursed by the county or agency and the person who uses or is assigned the phone. This is for county (and it's agencies) phones or those fully reimbursed.

DO YOU WANT COPIES? YES or NO

DO YOU WANT TO INSPECT THE RECORDS? YES or NO

DO YOU WANT CERTIFIED COPIES OF RECORDS? YES or NO (continued on P.2)

FOR AGENCY USE ONLY

RIGHT TO KNOW OFFICER:

DATE RECEIVED BY THE AGENCY: 11/30/09

AGENCY FIVE (5) BUSINESS DAY RESPONSE DUE: 12/7/09

11/6/10

***Public bodies may fill anonymous verbal or written requests. If the requestor wishes to pursue the relief and remedies provided for in this Act, the request must be in writing. (Section 702.) Written requests need not include an explanation why information is sought or the intended use of the information unless otherwise required by law. (Section 703)*

Cellular
P1



pennsylvania
OFFICE OF OPEN RECORDS

226

STANDARD RIGHT-TO-KNOW REQUEST FORM

DATE REQUESTED: November 1 2009

REQUEST SUBMITTED BY: E-MAIL U S MAIL FAX IN-PERSON

NAME OF REQUESTER William Sarr

STREET ADDRESS 875 Brighton Pl.

CITY/STATE/COUNTY/ZIP(Required) Warminster, PA 18974

TELEPHONE (Optional) 215 603 9074

RECORDS REQUESTED

**Provide as much specific detail as possible so the agency can identify the information.*

A copy of any directory, list or indices of All County of Bucks and associated agencies, employee WORK email addresses. This includes work related email addresses of employees, agents and entities, such as the open records officer of an agency.

DO YOU WANT COPIES? YES or NO
DO YOU WANT TO INSPECT THE RECORDS? YES or NO
DO YOU WANT CERTIFIED COPIES OF RECORDS? YES or NO

(continued on p 2)

FOR AGENCY USE ONLY

RIGHT TO KNOW OFFICER:

DATE RECEIVED BY THE AGENCY: 11/30/09

RECEIVED

11/6/09

AGENCY FIVE (5) BUSINESS DAY RESPONSE DUE: 12/7/09

SOLICITOR'S OFFICE

***Public bodies may fill anonymous verbal or written requests. If the requestor wishes to pursue the relief and remedies provided for in this Act, the request must be in writing (Section 702) Written requests need not include an explanation why information is sought or the intended use of the information unless otherwise required by law (Section 703)*

email
PI



Bucks County Open Records Office
55 East Court Street, 5th Floor
Doylestown, PA 18901
215-348-6464 - Office
215-340-8206 - Fax
openrecordsofficer@co.bucks.pa.us

#1514

Standard Open Records Request Form #3

Name: Geoffrey Alan: Smith April 25, 2013

Mailing Location:

c/o: non-domestic
108 North Main Street; near
Richlandtown, Pennsylvania
United States of America

Records Requested:

1. Provide a certified and verified copy of the personal property tax list document/record created, signed and dated under penalties of perjury, with full disclosure, by Geoffrey A. Smith or Rose M. Smith that placed my personal property on the tax rolls. Provide the submission date for the document/record described above.
2. Provide a certified and verified copy of the personal property tax list document/record created, signed and dated under penalties of perjury, with full disclosure, by the Chief Tax Assessor that placed my personal property on the tax rolls. Provide the submission date for the document/record described above.
3. Provide a certified and verified copy of the personal property tax list document /record (signed by Geoffrey A. Smith, Rose M. Smith or the Chief Tax Assessor) described above verifying my personal property is located within the territorial composition the District of Pennsylvania or the County of Bucks.
4. Provide a certified and verified copy of the written contract or agreement with the County of Bucks/Bucks County, wherein Geoffrey A. and Rose M. Smith have agreed to pay Real Estate Tax assessments voluntarily with full consent and knowledge to the Bucks County Tax Claim Bureau as a contract obligation.
5. Provide a certified and verified copy of the original contract whereby Geoffrey A. and Rose M. Smith have agreed to be governed by the County of Bucks a political sub-division of the United States.

Please place an X:

I am requesting access to the documents identified above.

I am requesting copies of the documents identified above.

I am requesting certified copies of the documents identified above.

Other Format (please specify) _____

Signature: /s/ Geoffrey Alan: Smith

(If attaching electronically, please type name)

For Office Use Only:

Date Received: 4/26/13 Five Day Response Due: 5/3/13

**Public bodies may fill anonymous verbal or written requests. If the requestor wishes to pursue the relief and remedies provided for in this Act, the request must be in writing (Section 702). Written requests need not include an explanation why information is sought or the intended use of the information unless otherwise required by law (Section 703).

CC: Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Attorney General



Bucks County Open Records Office
55 East Court Street, 5th Floor
Doylestown, PA 18901
215-348-6464 - Office
215-340-8206 - Fax

openrecordsofficer@co.bucks.pa.us

Standard Open Records Request Form #1

#1519

Name: Geoffrey Alan: Smith

May 21, 2013

Mailing Location:

c/o: non-domestic
108 North Main Street; near
Richlandtown, Pennsylvania
United States of America

Records Requested:

1. According to the United States Code Chapter 5 Title 28, "Sections 81-131 of this chapter show the territorial composition of districts and divisions by counties as of January 1, 1945". Section 2 Title 1 defines the word "county" by statute to be territory owned by and ceded to the United States of America. It is my understanding that the County of Bucks, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania are political subdivisions of the United States and are thereby bound to the United States Code and Constitution as the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania is an inseparable part of the United States of America. Provide all records that demonstrate that Geoff Smith and Rose Smith are one or any of the following: US Citizen, a resident, a resident of the County of Bucks, individual, corporation, employee, an Office holder or government official within the territorial composition as defined by Chapter 5 Title 28 or Title 1 Section 2 of the United States Code.
2. On April 16, 2010 Geoff and Rose Smith submitted a voter registration rescission letter to the Election Manager in Bucks County upon discovery that we were neither domiciliaries nor residents within the County of Bucks or Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, a political subdivision of the United States, per Chapter 5 Title 28 and Section 2 Title 1 of the United States Code, and therefore were disqualified from being registered voters or petit or grand juror members within the United States. Provide all records that demonstrate that Geoff Smith or Rose Smith were registered voters of the body politic and rescinded their privilege to be registered voters within the United States due to being disqualified for the reasons cited above.
3. Provide all records that demonstrate that Geoff Smith or Rose Smith is currently included in the juror pool for County of Bucks/Bucks County and or Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.
4. Provide all records that demonstrate that Geoff Smith or Rose Smith were a member of any petite or grand jury for any local, state or Federal court case within the judicial district or Commonwealth of Pennsylvania since 1997.
5. Provide all payroll records for Geoff Smith and Rose Smith that will demonstrate that they have been or are currently a government official, government employee or Office holder within County of Bucks/Bucks County.
6. According to the United States Codes cited above, provide all records that demonstrate specific land, property or real estate that have been ceded to the United States of America within the exterior boundaries of Richlandtown Borough, recorded in the County of Bucks/Bucks County land records since 2011. The land records will identify the grantee as the "United States of America".

Please place an X:

I am requesting certified copies of the documents identified above.

Signature: /s/ Geoffrey Alan: Smith

(If attaching electronically, please type name)

For Office Use Only

Date Received: 5/29/13 Five Day Response Due: 6/5/13

**Public bodies may fill anonymous verbal or written requests. If the requestor wishes to pursue the relief and remedies provided for in this Act, the request must be in writing (Section 702). Written requests need not include an explanation why information is sought or the intended use of the information unless otherwise required by law (Section 703).

CC: Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Attorney General

Armitage, Regina

From: openrecordsofficer
Subject: FW: Open Records Request

#1720

From: Gregory Bulfaro [mailto:gbulfaro@aol.com]
Sent: October 15, 2013 11:01 AM
To: openrecordsofficer
Subject: Open Records Request

Bucks County Open Records Office 55 East Court Street, 5th Floor
Doylestown, PA 18901
215-348-6464 - Office
215-340-8206 - Fax
openrecordsofficer@co.bucks.pa.us

Standard Open Records Request Form

Name: Gregory Bulfaro
Address: 108 Mews Drive, Sellersville, PA 18960
Telephone Number: (443) 941-7019
Email Address: gbulfaro@aol.com

Records Requested: (Provide as much specific detail as possible for each record so the agency can identify the information.)

1. Copies of handwritten tax parcel note cards for the following tax parcel number series:

- All 39-009 numbers
- All 33-008 numbers

2. All email correspondence from any and every Bucks County agency and employee that references the following entities:

- Selsie Village
- Wyckford Commons
- The Mews at Wyckford Commons
- Wyckford Mews Condominium Association
- United States Gauge Company (aka U.S. Gauge)
- American Machine and Metals (Sellersville, PA)
- AMETEK Inc.

Rec'd 10/15/13
5-day 10/02/13

Please note that a search of subject lines is not sufficient for this request due to the fact that past communications between myself and certain Bucks County employees have had the subject line (i.e. "The Mews at Wyckford Commons") removed in their reply email, which has been documented and retained accordingly.

3. All tax parcel and land ownership map pages prior to 1991 for Sellersville Borough, Perkasio Borough, Hilltown Township, and East Rockhill Township. Land ownership maps and maps that list tracts by lot numbers (i.e. "Lot 26A," "Lot 12A 144P") prior to the implementation of tax parcel numbers should be included. **Please note:** These records are on file somewhere within the county's archives, so the previous response I received when requesting similar information of "We no longer have them on file" is not acceptable and will be countered with appeals to the highest level judiciary agency possible. To save all parties the time and work involved, it would be in everyone's best interest to provided the documents as requested.



PRODUCTS & SERVICES

About Us

[Signature Information Solutions](#)

[Joint venture partners](#)

Products & Services

[Charles Jones Corporate and UCC Searches](#)

[Corporate Service Solutions](#)

[Status Report](#)

[Franchise Tax/Corporate Tax Lien Report](#)

[Good Standing Certificate](#)

[Legal Existence \(Good Standing\) Certificate](#)

[Corporate copies](#)

[UCC PLUS](#)

[UCC State Certified](#)

[UCC State Report](#)

[Data Trace County Search Services](#)

[County Search Service](#)

[Charles Jones Flood and Tideland Searches](#)

[Flood Search](#)

[Life-of-Loan Flood Monitoring](#)

[Tideland Claim Search](#)

[Tideland Grant Search](#)

[Wetland Determination](#)

[Charles Jones Name Searches](#)

[Child Support Judgment Search](#)

[Judgment Lien Search](#)

[Patriot Name Search](#)

[Data Trace Tax Searches](#)

[Tax and Assessment Search](#)

[Tax and Utility Search](#)

[Other Services](#)

[1099-S Reporting Service](#)

[Corporate Document Filing and Retrieval](#)

[Registered Agent Service](#)

[Forms](#)

[Forms](#)

[Contact Us](#)

[Contact Us](#)

[Open an Account](#)

Tax Searches

New Jersey Tax Search and Assessment

More than 25 Years of New Jersey Tax Search experience is at your fingertips with our Data Trace Tax and Assessment Search. Our Tax Search begins with access to an expansive property database that allows you to correctly identify properties you want to research. Then after the quick work of experienced professionals, your certificates will be concise, comprehensive and easy to read. New Jersey searches are generated in your choice of formats and are backed by one of the largest tax databases in our industry. Expect your certificates to be concise, comprehensive and easily readable.

Pennsylvania Tax Certifications

With more than 15 years experience in Pennsylvania Tax Searching we take the guesswork out of searching with a network of experienced searchers, certified results and consistent formatting. Our statewide coverage allows you to obtain a Tax Certification and Utility Search statewide right online.

- Write just one check for your tax and utility needs.
- Concise consistent formatting means you can spend less time reviewing the search since the information is provided the same way each time and in each municipality.

[Home](#) | [Privacy Policy](#) | [Legal Statement](#) | [Links](#) | [Forms](#) | [Mortgage Calculator](#) |

Copyright © 2009 Signature Information Solutions LLC. All rights reserved