



pennsylvania
OFFICE OF OPEN RECORDS

ORDER

IN THE MATTER OF

:

**ALPHONSO PEW,
Requester**

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:

:

v.

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Docket No.: AP 2016-1309

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**PHILADELPHIA COUNTY OFFICE
OF JUDICIAL RECORDS,
Respondent**

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On July 11, 2016, Alphonso Pew (“Requester”) an inmate at the State Correctional Institution at Greene (“SCI-Greene”), submitted a request (“Request”) to the Philadelphia County Office of Judicial Records (“Office”) pursuant to the Right-to-Know Law (“RTKL”), 65 P.S. §§ 67.101 *et seq.*, seeking criminal court records. The Requester states he did not receive a response from the Office. On August 5, 2016, the Requester appealed to the Office of Open Records (“OOR”).

The Office is a judicial agency that is not subject to the jurisdiction of the OOR. *See* 65 P.S. § 67.102; 65 P.S. §67.503(b). The OOR does not have jurisdiction to hear appeals related to records of judicial agencies. *See* 65 P.S. § 67.503(b). Instead, appeals involving a judicial agency are to be heard by an appeals officer designated by the judicial agency. *Id.* (“A judicial agency shall designate an appeals officer to hear appeals under Chapter 11”).

For the foregoing reasons, Requester's appeal is **transferred** to Appeals Officer for the Philadelphia County Office of Judicial Records. This Final Determination is binding on all parties. Within thirty days of the mailing date of this Final Determination, either party may appeal to the Philadelphia County Court of Common Pleas. 65 P.S. § 67.1302(a). All parties must be served with notice of the appeal. The OOR also shall be served notice and have an opportunity to respond as per Section 1303 of the RTKL. However, as the quasi-judicial tribunal adjudicating this matter, the OOR is not a proper party to any appeal and should not be named as a party.¹ This Order shall be placed on the OOR website at: <http://openrecords.pa.gov>.

ISSUED AND MAILED: August 9, 2016

/s/ Charles Rees Brown

Charles Rees Brown
Chief Counsel

Sent to: Alphonso Pew (BT 7263) SCI-Greene;
Appeals Officer – Philadelphia County Office of Judicial Records

¹ *Padgett v. Pa. State Police*, 73 A.3d 644, 648 n.5 (Pa. Commw. Ct. 2013).