



FINAL DETERMINATION

DATE ISSUED AND MAILED: April 24, 2026

IN RE: *William Gaines v. Pennsylvania Human Relations Commission*, OOR Dkt. AP 2026-1414

Upon review of the appeal filed with the Office of Open Records (“OOR”) to the above-referenced docket number, it is determined that the appeal is **DISMISSED**:

On April 9, 2026, the OOR issued an Order notifying William Gaines (“Requester”) that the appeal was deficient because it failed to include a copy of the Request and a complete copy of the Commission’s response. The OOR informed the Requester that the documents were required to cure the deficiency and directed the Requester to file a copy of the Request and a complete copy of the Commission’s response by April 23, 2026, pursuant to 65 P.S. § 67.1303(b). However, to date, the Requester has failed to comply with the OOR’s Order. Therefore, the appeal is not sufficient and without these documents, the OOR does not have a complete record upon which to base its determination. Additionally, the OOR would be unable to present a complete record on appeal to an appellate court as required by Section 1303(b) of the RTKL. As the Requester has failed to comply with the OOR’s Order, this matter is **dismissed**.

For this reason, the Commission is not required to take any further action. Within thirty days of the mailing date of this Final Determination, either party may appeal or petition for review with the Commonwealth Court. 65 P.S. § 67.1301(a). All parties must be served with notice of the appeal. The OOR also shall be served notice and have an opportunity to respond according to court rules as per 65 P.S. § 67.1303, but 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. All documents or communications following the issuance of this Final Determination shall be sent to oor-postfd@pa.gov. This Final Determination shall be placed on the website at: <http://openrecords.pa.gov>.¹

Issued by:

/s/ Joshua T. Young

JOSHUA T. YOUNG
SENIOR DEPUTY CHIEF COUNSEL

Sent via E-File Portal to: William Gaines; Debbie L. Water, AORO

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