



pennsylvania

OFFICE OF OPEN RECORDS

FINAL DETERMINATION

IN THE MATTER OF	:	
	:	
KEVIN HARDEN AND	:	
HARDEN CRICHTON PC,	:	
Requester	:	
	:	
v.	:	Docket No: AP 2026-1396
	:	
CITY OF PHILADELPHIA LAW	:	
DEPARTMENT,	:	
Respondent	:	

The Office of Open Records (“OOR”) received the above-captioned appeal under the Right-to-Know Law (“RTKL”), 65 P.S. §§ 67.101 *et seq.* For the following reasons, the appeal is **dismissed**.

On March 26, 2026,¹ Kevin Harden, Esq. and Harden Crichton, PC (collectively “Requester”) submitted a request (“Request”) to the City of Philadelphia (“City”) Law Department (“Department”) pursuant to the RTKL, 65 P.S. §§ 67.101 *et seq.*, seeking the “[...e]xecuted settlement agreements entered into by the [City], or on behalf of Philadelphia Police Officers Ricardo Rosa, Eugene Roher, or Jeffrey Holden, and, in the same time frame, for any officers working in the Narcotics Strike Force, for damages caused by violations of state or federal civil

¹ While the Request is dated February 20, 2026, it was not received by the City until March 26, 2026.

rights laws, malicious prosecution, wrongful/false arrest, wrongful conviction or false imprisonment. [...].”²

On April 6, 2026, following a thirty-day extension during which to respond, 65 P.S. § 67.902(b), the Department denied the Request, arguing that it does not have records responsive to the Request. On April 7, 2026, Requester appealed to the Office of Open Records (“OOR”), challenging the denial and stating grounds for disclosure.³ The OOR invited both parties to supplement the record and directed the Department to notify the OOR if any third parties have a direct interest in the appeal. *See* 65 P.S. § 67.1101(c).

On April 30, 2026, the Department notified the OOR that it provided the Requester with responsive records. That same day, noting that the Department provided responsive records to the Requester, the OOR asked the Requester whether his Request has been satisfied and whether he will be seeking to withdraw the instant appeal or, in the alternative, to identify the remaining issues to be decided on appeal.⁴ To date, the Requester has not responded to this correspondence.⁵ Therefore, because there is no longer any case or controversy for the OOR to adjudicate, and the Department has provided records responsive to the Request, the appeal is **dismissed as moot**. *See Chester Water Auth. v. Pa. Dep’t of Cmty. & Econ. Dev.*, 249 A.3d 1106, 1114 (Pa. 2021) (finding that a matter was settled by provision of records and, thus, “the controversy has been mooted”).

The file is now closed and no further action will be taken. This Final Determination is binding on the parties. Within thirty days of the mailing date of this Final Determination, either

² The Request also included the timeframe of 2016 to the date of the Request, asked that the City exercise its discretion under Section 506(c), and asked that the documents be provided in electronic format.

³ The Requester granted the OOR a 30-day extension to issue a final determination. *See* 65 P.S. § 67.1101(b)(1) (“Unless the requester agrees otherwise, the appeals officer shall make a final determination which shall be mailed to the requester and the agency within 30 days of receipt of the appeal filed under subsection (a).”).

⁴ The OOR notes that the Department attached correspondence sent by the Requester *to the Department* indicating that he would “withdraw the appeal.”

⁵ The OOR notes that the Requester accessed the appeal portal on April 30, 2026.

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 according to court rules 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.⁶ 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 OOR website at: <http://openrecords.pa.gov>.

FINAL DETERMINATION ISSUED AND MAILED: May 8, 2026

/s/ Lyle Hartranft

APPEALS OFFICER
LYLE HARTRANFT

Sent to: Kevin Harden, Esq.; Margot Smith, Esq., AORO; Edward Skipton, Esq.

⁶ See *Padgett v. Pa. State Police*, 73 A.3d 644, 648 n.5 (Pa. Commw. Ct. 2013).