



**FINAL DETERMINATION**

DATE ISSUED AND MAILED: September 16, 2026

IN RE: *John Carey v. Pa. Department of Corrections*; OOR Dkt. AP 2026-3808

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 **DENIED** for the following reason:

**The Request does not seek records.** While the Requester’s request form was directed to the Pennsylvania Department of Corrections (“Department”) Open Records Officer, the request form reads only “Recidivism [sic] Desistance Initiative ‘RDI’” and does not describe or identify any records. Therefore, because the request form does not constitute a valid request under the RTKL, the OOR does not have jurisdiction to hear the appeal.

For this reason, the Department is not required to take any further action. Within thirty days of the mailing date of this Final Determination, you 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. 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.<sup>1</sup> All documents or communications following the issuance of this Final Determination shall be sent to [oor-postfd@pa.gov](mailto:oor-postfd@pa.gov). This Final Determination shall be placed on the website at: <http://openrecords.pa.gov>.

Issued by:

/s/ *Joshua T. Young*

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Senior Deputy Chief Counsel  
Joshua T. Young, Esq.

Sent to: Requester (Via USPS);  
Agency Open Records Officer, Pa. Department of Corrections (Via E-File Portal)

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