



FINAL DETERMINATION

DATE ISSUED AND MAILED: September 21, 2026

IN RE: *Joseph Donahue v. Northampton Township*, OOR Dkts. AP 2026-3919 and 2026-3920

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

The appeals are premature. The Requests were submitted to Northampton Township (“Township”) on September 8, 2026. The Township has five (5) business days upon receipt of the Requests to respond, or until 11:59:59 p.m. on September 15, 2026. 65 P.S. § 67.901. The appeals were submitted to the OOR on September 15, 2026; thus, the Requester did not allow sufficient time before filing the appeals. The Requester is not prohibited from filing a new appeal to the OOR of any denial or deemed denial stemming from the Requests, pursuant to the requirements of 65 P.S. § 67.1101(a)(1).

For this reason, the Township 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 Bucks 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 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.¹ 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>.

Issued by:

/s/ *Joshua T. Young*

Senior Deputy Chief Counsel
Joshua T. Young, Esq.

Sent to: Requester; Agency Open Records Officer, Northampton Township

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