

FINAL DETERMINATION

DATE ISSUED AND MAILED: October 26, 2026

IN RE: *Douglas S. Sepic and Sepic Law v. Municipal Authority of Washington Township*, OOR Dkt. AP 2026-4480

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** because:

The appeal is premature. On October 23, 2026, the Municipal Authority of Washington Township (“MAWT”) submitted an attestation from Jan Amoroso (“Amoroso Attestation”), the Agency Open Records Office (“AORO”), wherein she attests that to date the MAWT has not received the September 30, 2026, RTKL Request. Amoroso Attestation, ¶¶4, 11. The appeal was submitted to the OOR on October 9, 2026. As the MAWT affirms it has not received the Request, the appeal is premature. The Requester is not prohibited from filing a new appeal to the OOR of any denial or deemed denial stemming from the Request, pursuant to the requirements of 65 P.S. § 67.1101(a)(1).

For this reason, the MAWT is not required to take any further action on this appeal. Within thirty days of the mailing date of this Final Determination, either party may appeal or petition for review with the Fayette 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, 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.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/ Meryl M. Peterman
MERYL M. PETERMAN, ESQ.
APPEALS OFFICER

Sent via portal to:

Douglas Sepic, Esq.; Michael Witherel, Esq.

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