pennsylvania
OFFICE OF OPEN RECORDS

FINAL DETERMINATION

IN THE MATTER OF	:	
	:	
KAREN BARTON,	:	
Requester	:	
	:	
v.	:	**Docket No.: AP 2026-4046**
	:	
BUCKS COUNTY,	:	
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 September 11, 2026, Karen Barton ("Requester") submitted a request ("Request") to Bucks County ("County") pursuant to the RTKL, seeking:

> [A]ll communication between Bucks County Board of Health (D. Meadows) and Crown Pointe Development (Newtown, PA) HOA and management company (First Service Residential) regarding failure to pick up and dispose of trash. I am aware of communication week of 9/7/26.

On September 14, 2026, the County denied the Request "as overly broad and lacking specificity of specific dates and unknown representative information regarding Crown Pointe Development HOA and management company." *See* 65 P.S. § 67.703.

On September 21, 2026, the Requester filed an appeal with the OOR, challenging the County's denial and stating grounds for disclosure. *See* 65 P.S. § 67.901. The OOR invited both

parties to supplement the record and directed the County to notify the OOR if any third parties have a direct interest in the appeal. 65 P.S. § 67.1101(c).

On October 1, and 9, 2026, the County requested extensions to continue to identify and review responsive records, based on additional information provided by the Requester on appeal. The OOR granted the County's extension requests. 65 P.S. § 67.1102(b). On October 14, 2026, the County submitted a position statement made under the penalty of unsworn falsification to authorities[1] claiming that the County granted access to records responsive to the Request in the County's possession to the Requester on that same date.[2] The OOR issue correspondence requesting that the Requester review the records provided by the District and indicate whether the appeal should be withdrawn and, if not, to identify any outstanding appeal issues. The OOR informed the Requester that if the Requester did not provide a response to the OOR's inquiry by October 28, 2026, the appeal could be dismissed as moot. Except for the initial appeal filing, the Requester did not make any additional submissions to the record.

Here, the record demonstrates that the County provided access to records responsive to the Request to the Requester during the appeal. The Requester has not submitted any evidence to the contrary. Therefore, because the County provided responsive records to the Requester, 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

[1] 18 Pa.C.S. § 4904. Under the RTKL, a sworn affidavit made under the penalty of perjury may serve as sufficient evidentiary support. *See Sherry v. Radnor Twp. Sch. Dist.*, 20 A.3d 515, 520-21 (Pa. Commw. Ct. 2011); *Moore v. Off. of Open Records*, 992 A.2d 907, 909 (Pa. Commw. Ct. 2010).
[2] The District granted access to the records by uploading and releasing the records via JustFoia.

party may appeal to 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, 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.[3] 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: November 2, 2026

/s/ Damian J. DeStefano

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DAMIAN J. DESTEFANO
APPEALS OFFICER

Sent via OOR E-file appeal portal to: Karen Barton; Desiree Milillo, AORO

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