



RIDGEWOOD POLICE DEPARTMENT

131 North Maple Avenue
Ridgewood, New Jersey 07450

RECORDS REQUEST FORM



IMPORTANT NOTICE

Fill out all required fields on pages 1 and 2. Please print clearly. Review all information related to your rights regarding public records on pages 2 – 4 before completing and turning in this form.

Requestor Information

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____ Alt. Phone: _____

Email: _____

Preferred method of delivery (Pick-up, Email, etc): _____

Record Details

Incident Number(s): _____

Date / Date Range: _____

Incident Location: _____

All additional details. Please be specific as possible when describing the record(s) you are requesting.

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Select from the options below:

O.P.R.A.

I am requesting the above record(s) under the **Open Public Records Act (O.P.R.A.)**. Details regarding your rights under O.P.R.A. can be found on page 3-4.

DISCOVERY

I am requesting the above record(s) as **Discovery**.

COMMON LAW

I am requesting the above record(s) under **Common Law**. A public record under the common law is one required by law to be kept, or necessary to be kept in the discharge of a duty imposed by law, or directed by law to serve as a memorial and evidence of something written, said, or done, or a written memorial made by a public officer authorized to perform that function, or a writing filed in a public office. The elements essential to constitute a public record are that it be a written memorial, that it be made by a public officer, and that the officer be authorized by law to make it.

If the information requested is a "public record" under common law and the requestor has a legally recognized interest in the subject matter contained in the material, then the material must be disclosed if the individual's right of access outweighs the State's interest in preventing disclosure. Please set forth your interest in the subject matter contained in the requested material:

If you are requesting records containing personal information, please circle one: Under penalty of N.J.S.A. 2C:28-3, I certify that I **HAVE** / **HAVE NOT** been convicted of any indictable offense under the laws of New Jersey, any other state, or the United States.

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Received by Custodian: _____ **Date:** _____



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ORI: NJ000251000
Telephone: (201) 251-4531
Fax: (551) 305-6394



Deposits:

The custodian may require a deposit against costs for reproducing documents sought through an anonymous request whenever the custodian anticipates that the documents requested will cost in excess of \$5 to reproduce. Where a special service charge is warranted under OPRA, that amount will be communicated to you as required under the statute. You have the opportunity to review and object to the charge prior to it being incurred. If, however, you approve of the fact and amount of the special service charge, you may be required to pay a deposit or pay in full prior to reproduction of the documents.

Common Law Denial / Appeal:

Note that any challenge to a denial of a request for records under the common law cannot be made to the Government Records Council, as the Government Records Council only has jurisdiction to adjudicate challenges to denials of OPRA requests. A challenge to the denial of access under the common law can be made by filing an action in Superior Court.

Open Public Records Act (O.P.R.A.):

1. All government records are subject to public access under the Open Public Records Act ("OPRA"), unless specifically exempt.
2. A request for access to a government record under OPRA must be in writing, hand-delivered, mailed, transmitted electronically, or otherwise conveyed to the appropriate custodian. N.J.S.A. 47:1A-5.g. The seven (7) business day response time does not commence until the records custodian receives the request form. If you submit the request form to any other officer or employee of the Name of Agency, that officer or employee must either forward the request to the appropriate custodian, or direct you to the appropriate custodian. N.J.S.A. 47:1A-5.h.
3. Requestors may submit requests anonymously. If you elect not to provide a name, address, or telephone number, or other means of contact, the custodian is not required to respond until you reappear before the custodian seeking a response to the original request.
4. The fees for duplication of a government record in printed form are listed on the front of this form. We will notify you of any special service charges or other additional charges authorized by State law or regulation before processing your request. Payment shall be made by cash, check or money order payable to the Name of Agency.



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5. You may be charged a 50% or other deposit when a request for copies exceeds \$25. The Name of Agency custodian will contact you and advise you of any deposit requirements. You agree to pay the balance due upon delivery of the records. Anonymous requests in excess of \$5.00 require a deposit of 100% of estimated fees.
6. Under OPRA, a custodian must deny access to a person who has been convicted of an indictable offense in New Jersey, any other state, or the United States, and who is seeking government records containing personal information pertaining to the person's victim or the victim's family. This includes anonymous requests for said information.
7. By law, the Name of Agency must notify you that it grants or denies a request for access to government records within seven (7) business days after the agency custodian of records receives the request. If the record requested is not currently available or is in storage, the custodian will advise you within seven (7) business days after receipt of the request when the record can be made available and the estimated cost for reproduction.
8. You may be denied access to a government record if your request would substantially disrupt agency operations and the custodian is unable to reach a reasonable solution with you.
9. If the Name of Agency is unable to comply with your request for access to a government record, the custodian will indicate the reasons for denial on the request form or other written correspondence and send you a signed and dated copy.
10. Except as otherwise provided by law or by agreement with the requester, if the agency custodian of records fails to respond to you within seven (7) business days of receiving a request, the failure to respond is a deemed denial of your request.
11. If your request for access to a government record has been denied or unfilled within the seven (7) business days required by law, you have a right to challenge the decision by the Name of Agency to deny access. At your option, you may either institute a proceeding in the Superior Court of New Jersey or file a complaint with the Government Records Council ("GRC") by completing the Denial of Access Complaint Form. You may contact the GRC by toll-free telephone at 866-850-0511, by mail at PO Box 819, Trenton, NJ, 08625, by e-mail at grc@dca.state.nj.us, or at their web site at www.state.nj.us/grc. The Council can also answer other questions about the law. All questions regarding complaints filed in Superior Court should be directed to the Court Clerk in your County.
12. Information provided on this form may be subject to disclosure under the Open Public Records Act.