

Benjamin Shore
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**SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY
 CAMDEN COUNTY**

Benjamin Shore,	:	
	:	
Plaintiff,	:	
	:	
	:	Civil Action
	:	
v.	:	DOCKET NO.: <u>L-477-26</u>
	:	
	:	
JASON SCHIMPF, in his official	:	
capacity as Records Custodian	:	
and CHERRY HILL TOWNSHIP	:	
BOARD OF EDUCATION,	:	
	:	
Defendants.	:	

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE

THIS MATTER having been brought before the Court by Benjamin Shore, appearing pro se, on the Verified Complaint filed pursuant to the New Jersey Open Public Records Act (“OPRA”), *N.J.S.A.* 47:1A-1 et seq., and the common law right of access to public records, seeking relief by way of summary action under *R.* 4:67-1, and for good cause shown,

IT IS on this 6th day of March, 2026, ORDERED that Defendants, Cherry Hill Township Board of Education and Jason Schimpf, in his official capacity as Records Custodian,

shall appear before this Court on the 23rd day of April, 2026, at 3:00AM/PM, or as soon thereafter as counsel can be heard, at the Superior Court of New Jersey, Camden County, to show cause why an Order should not be entered:

1. Declaring that Defendants violated the New Jersey Open Public Records Act ("OPRA"), *N.J.S.A.* 47:1A-1 et seq., by: improperly denying access to public records
2. Declaring that Defendants' denial also violates Plaintiff's common law right of access, as the footage is a public record and the public interest outweighs any claimed security concerns.
3. Ordering Defendants to immediately produce the requested public records.
4. Awarding Plaintiff court costs.
5. Imposing civil penalties under *N.J.S.A.* 47:1A-11 against District's custodian as the conduct was willful and knowing, or made in bad faith.
6. Granting any other relief this Court deems just and equitable.

AND IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that:

1. A copy of this Order to Show Cause, Verified Complaint and all supporting affidavits or certifications submitted in support of this application be served upon Defendants personally or by Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested, within 7 days of the date the Plaintiff received this Order, in accordance with R. 4:4-3 and R. 4:4-4, this being original process; Given that Plaintiff and Defendants have consistently communicated regarding this OPRA request and prior OPRA requests via electronic mail, and in the interest of judicial efficiency and expediting service, the Parties may also effectuate service via electronic mail to the email address previously used for correspondence. Service by electronic mail is reasonably calculated to provide actual notice to

Defendants, as it aligns with the established course of dealings between the parties and is the primary method by which Defendants have previously acknowledged and responded to OPRA requests.

2. The Plaintiff must file with the court its proof of service of the pleadings on the Defendants no later than three (3) days before the return date;

3. Defendants shall file and serve a written answer and opposition papers to this Order to Show Cause and the relief requested in the Verified Complaint and proof of service of the same by March 26, 2026. The reply papers must be filed with the Clerk of the Superior Court in the county listed above and courtesy copies of the papers must be sent directly to the chambers of the Honorable Michael S. Mikulski II via MAIL/EMAIL/ECOURTS. A copy must be served on Plaintiff that same date.

4. The Plaintiff must file and serve any written reply to the Defendants' opposition to the Order to Show Cause by April 9, 2026. The reply papers must be filed with the Clerk of the Superior Court in the county listed above and copies of the reply papers must be sent directly to the chambers of the Honorable Michael S. Mikulski II via MAIL/EMAIL/ECOURTS.

5. If the Defendants do not file and serve opposition to this Order to Show Cause, the application will be decided on the papers on the return date and relief may be granted by default, provided that the Plaintiff files a proof of service and a proposed form of order at least three days prior to the return date.

6. If Plaintiff has not already done so, a proposed form of order addressing the relief sought on the return date must be submitted to the Court no later than three (3) days before the return date.

7. Defendants take notice that the Plaintiff has filed a lawsuit against you in the Superior Court of New Jersey. The Verified Complaint attached to this Order to Show Cause states the basis of

the lawsuit. If you dispute this complaint, you, or your attorney, shall file a written answer and opposition papers and proof of service before the return date of the order to show cause. These documents must be filed with the Clerk of the Superior Court in the county listed above. A directory of these offices is available in the Civil Division Management Office in the county listed above and online at <http://www.judiciary.state.nj.us/prose/10153deptyclerklawref.pdf>. Include a \$175 filing fee payable to the “Treasurer State of New Jersey.” You must also send a copy of your Answer and opposition papers to the Plaintiffs’ attorney whose name and address appear above, or to the Plaintiff, if no attorney is named above. A telephone call will not protect your rights; you must file and serve your answer and opposition papers (with the fee) or judgment may be entered against you by default.

8. If you cannot afford an attorney, you may call the Legal Services office in the county in which you live or the Legal Services of New Jersey Statewide Hotline at 1-888-LSNJLAW (1-888-576-5529). If you do not have an attorney and are not eligible for free legal assistance you may obtain a referral to an attorney by calling one of the Lawyer Referral Services. A directory with contact information for local Legal Services Offices and Lawyer Referral Services is available in the Civil Division Management Office in the county listed above and online at <http://www.judiciary.state.nj.us/prose/10153deptyclerklawref.pdf>.

9. The Court will entertain argument and testimony, on the return date of the Order to Show Cause.



HON. Michael S. Mikulski II