



**Minutes of the Government Records Council
July 26, 2011 – Closed Session**

The Council convened in closed session at 1:17 p.m. in Conference Room 129 of the Department of Community Affairs, Trenton, New Jersey. In attendance were: Robin Berg Tabakin (Chairwoman), Denise Parkinson Vetti (designee of Department of Education Acting Commissioner Christopher D. Cerf), and Charles Richman (designee of Department of Community Affairs Commissioner Lori Grifa).

Also in attendance were GRC Staff: Catherine Starghill (Executive Director), Karyn Gordon (In-House Counsel), Dara Lownie (Communications Manager), Brigitte Hairston (Secretary), and Debra Allen (Deputy Attorney General).

A motion was made by Ms. Vetti and seconded by Mr. Richman to go into closed session. The motion was adopted by a unanimous vote.

The Council met in closed session pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-12.b(7) to receive legal advice and discuss anticipated litigation in which the public body may become a party in the following matters:

1. Cynthia McBride v. Township of Cherry Hill (Camden) (2010-97)

Ms. Starghill informed the Council that although they reviewed Findings and Recommendations of the Executive Director regarding this complaint, the Complainant has since withdrawn her complaint. Ms. Starghill stated that the Council now must find another way to inform public agencies that the scenario presented in this complaint is improper pursuant to OPRA (since the Findings and Recommendations will no longer be issued as an official Council decision). The Council discussed issuing an Advisory Opinion or an OPRA Alert. The Council will further consider issuing an OPRA Alert regarding the use of OPRA requests to, in essence, facilitate a contractual relationship to obtain public records on an ongoing or continuing basis.

2. Open Public Meetings Act

DAG Debra Allen discussed the requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act and the need for legal counsel at all GRC meetings. Ms. Allen just wanted to make sure that the Council was informed of the requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act.

A motion was made by Mr. Richman and seconded by Ms. Vetti to end the closed session. The motion was adopted by a unanimous vote.

The closed session meeting concluded at 2:01 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Denise Parkinson Vetti, Secretary

Date Approved: September 27, 2011