



**TOWNSHIP OF WINFIELD RESOLUTION 25-14
 COUNTY OF UNION, STATE OF NEW JERSEY
 AUTHORIZING THE TOWNSHIP OF WINFIELD TO ENTER INTO
 A SETTLEMENT OF GOVERNMENT RECORDS COUNCIL COMPLAINT**

WHEREAS, in March 2022, Rotimi Owoh, Esq., on behalf of African American Data & Research Institute), (the “Complainant”) submitted an Open Public Records Act (“OPRA”) to Winfield Township seeking various police department records; and

WHEREAS, the Township reviewed the OPRA request and attempted to satisfy said request by supplying relevant information; and

WHEREAS, Complainant filed a complaint with the Government Records Council (“GRC”), entitled Owoh (on behalf of AADRI) v. Winfield Township, GRC Complaint No. 2022-98 (the “Complaint”), challenging the Township’s response to the OPRA request; and

WHEREAS, the GRC ultimately found that Complainant was partially prevailing with respect to the information and records the Township located and produced; and

WHEREAS, under OPRA, a prevailing party is entitled to an award of reasonable attorney’s fees; and


WHEREAS, the Complainant and Township have negotiated a settlement of \$1,200, representing the reasonable attorney’s fees and costs incurred for filing the Complaint; and

WHEREAS, the Township has determined that it is in the best interest of the Township to settle this matter rather than incurring additional costs to litigate a fee application with the GRC or otherwise appeal its decision.


NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Committee of the Township of Winfield, County of Union, that it hereby approves of Mr. Owoh’s counsel fees of \$1,200.00 in complete satisfaction of the decision in the GRC matter entitled Owoh (on Behalf of AADRI) v. Winfield Township, GRC Complaint No. 2022-98; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Township Attorney and/or the Mayor are hereby authorized to sign any documents necessary to implement and effectuate this settlement; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Township’s Finance Department is hereby authorized to issue a check in the amount of \$1,200.00 to the Complainant’s counsel.

	MOVED	SECONDED	AYES	NAYS	ABSENT	ABSTAIN
 MAYOR ROBERT F. REILLY			✓			
COMM. ADAM D. KOOMER	✓		✓			
COMM. JOSEPH P. BYRNE		✓	✓			

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Township Committee of the Township of Winfield at a meeting held on February 3, 2025.


 Melanie Stowik, Acting Twp. Clerk