



Contact: Stacy Proebstle
Public Information Officer
(732) 341-1000 Ext. 8234

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Thursday, May 17, 2018

Toms River Launches New Software for Public Records

(Toms River, NJ) To enhance transparency for the public, Toms River Township activated its recently purchased GovQA software on the Town's website last month. The software helps track Public Records Requests across multiple departments, standardize records processing and fulfill requests in a timely manner. In addition, it also helps our residents better understand the direct costs associated with the records processing.

"The Town Clerk's office is the 'keeper' of public records. My job is to make sure public information is available and easy accessible to residents. The Township receives hundreds of open public records requests each month. Now with this easily accessible portal the public can be sure they are receiving complete and accurate records in a reasonable time frame," said Alison Carlisle, Township Clerk.

The portal allows the requester to submit a new Public Records requests, track the progress and receive updates by email. The requestor can also read any correspondence or notes about specific requests and download electronic records deliverables. Residents can also request records from the Police Department, view an OPRA archive of previously released public records requests or browse the Frequently Requested Records section which includes records that are currently trending or popular.

Requestors can continue to contact the Township in person or in writing, but the requests will be tracked internally through the new application. The public can find the new application on the homepage of the Township's website at www.tomsrivertownship.com or by [Toms River OPRA](#).

Mayor Thomas F. Kelaher stated, "We are already receiving positive feedback from both residents and employees and we hope to continue to look for ways to increase government transparency in the future."