PREPARED BY THE COURT

FILED

JOHN PAFF,

JAN 04 20Superior court of New Jersey

LAW DIVISION – MERCER COUNTY

Plaintiff,

SUPERIOR GOOKE OF NJ MERCER VICINAGE CIVIL DIVISION

DOCKET NO. MER-L-2152-15

v.

CITY OF TRENTON, RICHARD M. KACHMAR in his official capacity as Clerk and Records Custodian of the CITY OF TRENTON, and JOHN and JANE DOES 1-10,

CIVIL ACTION

ORDER DISMISSING PLAINTIFF'S COMPLAINT WITH PREJUDICE

Defendants.

Attorney for Plaintiff: Walter M. Luers, Esq. 23 W. Main Street Suite C203 Clinton, NJ 08809 Attorney for Defendants: Jeanne Ann McManus, Esq. Weiner Lesniak LLP 629 Parsippany Road P.O. Box 438 Parsippany, NJ 07054-0438

THIS MATTER having been opened by way of a Verified Complaint and an Order To Show Cause filed by Plaintiff's counsel, Walter M. Luers, Esq., in response to Defendants' denial of Plaintiff's OPRA request for the resumes of unsuccessful candidates who had been considered for the position of Trenton's Chief Municipal Prosecutor, a position that was eventually given to Kimberley Wilson; and the court having determined that Defendants were correct in denying Plaintiff's request because the requested records fall under the personnel records exemption under OPRA; and the court also having determined that the plain language of Executive Order 26 gives public entities the discretion to withhold disclosure of the resumes of unsuccessful candidates; and the court also determining that the common law balancing test favors nondisclosure; and for good cause shown, for the reasons set forth on the record on January 4, 2016:

## IT IS on this 4<sup>h</sup> day of January, 2016, HEREBY ORDERED that:

- 1. Plaintiff's complaint is dismissed with prejudice.
- 2. As Plaintiff is not a prevailing party, his application for counsel fees is also denied with prejudice.

MARY C. JACOBSON, A.J.S.C