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Judiciary Announces Procedures for Appealing Denial of Public Access to Court Records

The New Jersey Judiciary today issued a directive to court personnel with detailed instructions on where to direct appeals by those who believe they were wrongly denied access to court records or administrative records.

[Directive #06-10](#) lays out the procedures that must be followed under [Court Rule 1:38-10\(b\)](#). The rule notes the Judiciary's commitment to openness and delineates the specific types of court records and administrative records that are confidential. The Court Rule also states that the Supreme Court will issue procedures for those who want to appeal a denial of their request to access a particular record.

Appeals must be submitted in writing, and the directive lists the information that must be included in the request. Appeals must be sent to the administrative director of the courts or, in the case of appeals involving municipal court records, to the trial court administrator, within 30 days of the denial. The administrative director may seek guidance from the Advisory Committee on Public Access to Court Records. An appeal of a decision by the administrative director may be filed with the Appellate Division of Superior Court. All decisions regarding appeals must be provided to the appellant in writing.

The full directive is available at njcourts.com.

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