



Pennsylvania  
Office of Open Records

Standard Right-to-Know Law Request Form

Please read carefully. Complete this form and retain a copy of **both** pages; this copy may be required if an appeal is filed. You have 15 business days to appeal after a request is denied or deemed denied. More information about the RTKL is available at <https://www.openrecords.pa.gov>. In most cases, a completed RTKL request form is a public record.

SUBMITTED TO AGENCY NAME: CITY OF DUBOIS, PENNSYLVANIA (Attn: AORO)

Date Request Submitted: 1/1/25 Submitted via:  Email  U.S. Mail  Fax  In Person

PERSON MAKING REQUEST:

Full Name: Judith Suplizio

Company (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Please send response via:  Email  U.S. Mail

*If you wish to obtain records that only exist in hard copy, or must be provided on an electronic storage device, you may be required to provide a mailing address to the agency. See Section 703.*

Email: [REDACTED]

Mailing Address: 314 Hamor Street

City: DuBois State: Pa Zip: 15801 Telephone: [REDACTED]

How do you prefer to be contacted if the agency has questions?  Telephone  Email  U.S. Mail

**By checking this box, I affirm that my full name and contact information is true and correct, and that I am a legal resident of the United States. I understand that failure to check this box may result in the denial of my request and the dismissal of any appeal filed with the Office of Open Records.**

**RECORDS REQUESTED:** Provide as much detail as possible, including subject matter, time frame, and type of record sought. RTKL requests must seek records, not ask questions. Use additional pages if necessary.

RTK# 009...ECONOMIC IMPACT OF DUBOIS SPORTS FACILITIES

In the past two decades, the City of DuBois, Pennsylvania has had significant improvements to its facilities making it known as "The best place to live-The best place to work".

Among other things, the city has significantly improved its public athletic facilities.

*Form continues on page 2. Retain a copy of **both** pages.*

**RECORDS REQUESTED (continued):**  
RTK #009 (cont.)

Considering these unquestionable state-of-the art facilities, please advise the economic windfalls, that is the economic effects of these athletic facilities and what these improvements have economically meant to the local community economy.

Provide the economic study and economic results that these facilities and their related events have brought to local vendors and local merchants, as well as to the city itself, for each year, 2014 thru 2023 inclusive.

Please provide all records, studies, and reports.

**DO YOU WANT COPIES?**    Yes, printed    Yes, electronic    No, in-person inspection

*Records shall be provided in the medium requested if they exist in that medium; otherwise, they shall be provided in the medium in which they exist. See Section 701. Your request may require payment or prepayment of fees. View the Official RTKL Fee Schedule for more details.*

**I understand that my request may incur fees. Notify me before further processing if fees will be more than  \$100 (or)  \$\_\_\_\_\_.**

Do you want certified copies?    Yes (*may be subject to additional costs*)    No

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**ITEMS BELOW THIS LINE FOR AGENCY USE ONLY**

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Tracking: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Received: \_\_\_\_\_ Response Due (5 bus. days): \_\_\_\_\_

30-Day Ext.?    Yes    No (If Yes, Final Due Date: \_\_\_\_\_) Actual Response Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Request was:    Granted    Partially Granted & Denied    Denied   Cost to Requester: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Appropriate third parties notified and given an opportunity to object to the release of requested records.

***Retain a copy of both pages of this Form.***



## CITY OF DUBOIS, PENNSYLVANIA

PO BOX 408 16 W. SCRIBNER AVE. DUBOIS, PENNSYLVANIA 15801

TELEPHONE: 814-371-2000

FAX: 814-371-1290

December 31, 2024

Judith Suplizio  
314 Hamor Street  
DuBois, PA 15801

Dear Ms. Suplizio,

Thank you for writing to the City of DuBois with your request for information pursuant to the Pennsylvania Right-To-Know law. On December 31, 2024, we received your request for economic studies and results the state-of-the-art athletic facilities and events have had on the local community economy.

Pursuant to Section 902(a) of the Right to Know Law, the City of DuBois requires an additional 30 days to respond to the request:

- A timely response to the request cannot be accomplished due to bona fide and specified staffing limitations.

The City of DuBois expects to respond to your request on or before January 30, 2025.

Respectfully,

Lisa Hagberg  
Interim City Manager  
City of DuBois, Clearfield County

LH/kl



# CITY OF DUBOIS, PENNSYLVANIA

PO BOX 408 16 W. SCRIBNER AVE. DUBOIS, PENNSYLVANIA 15801

TELEPHONE: 814-371-2000

FAX: 814-371-1290

January 24, 2025

Judith Suplizio  
314 Hamor Street  
DuBois, PA 15801

Ms. Suplizio,

The City of DuBois (“the City”) acknowledges receipt of your request submitted on January 1, 2025 (“the request”) under the Right to Know Law (“RTKL”), Act of February 14, 2008, P.L. 6, 65 P.S. §§ 67.101-67.3104. Upon review, the request is denied.

Under the “records requested” section of the Standard Right-to-Know Law Request Form, the request states:

“In the past two decades, the City of DuBois, Pennsylvania has had significant improvements to its facilities making it known as ‘The best place to live – The best place to work.’

Among other things, the city has significantly improved its public athletic facilities.

Considering these unquestionable state-of-the-art facilities, please advise the economic windfalls, that is the economic effects of these athletic facilities and what these improvements have economically meant to the local community economy.

Provide the economic study and economic results that these facilities and their related events have brought to various vendors and local merchants, as well as to the city itself, for each year, 2014 thru 2023 inclusive.

Please provide all records, studies, and reports.”

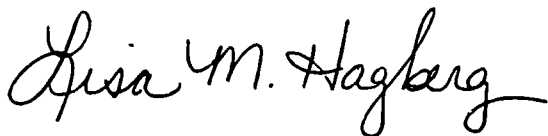
“The burden of proving a record does not exist . . . is placed on the agency responding to the right-to-know request . . . [, and] an agency may satisfy its burden of proof that it does not possess a requested record [by] . . . a sworn affidavit of nonexistence of the record.” *Hodges v. Pa. Dep't of Health*, 29 A.3d 1190, 1192 (Pa. Commw. 2011). Furthermore, “[w]here . . . no evidence has been presented to show that [an agency] acted in bad faith, the averments in [the agency’s] affidavit[ ] should be accepted as true.” *McGowan v. Pa. Dep't of Env'tl. Prot.*, 103 A.3d 374, 382-83 (Pa. Commw. 2014).

Here, as evidenced in the Affidavit of Benjamin Kafferlin, Interim City Manager for the City, the records requested – “the economic study and economic results that [athletic] facilities and [the facilities’] related events have brought to various vendors and local merchants, as well as to the city itself, for each year, 2014 thru 2023 inclusive” – do not exist.

Therefore, the request is denied.

If you wish to appeal the denial of your request, you must file an appeal with the Pennsylvania Office of Open Records within fifteen (15) days from the date of this written response issued by the City. Further instructions for filing an appeal to the Pennsylvania Office of Open Records can be found at <https://www.operecords.pa.gov>.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lisa M. Hagberg". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Lisa Hagberg  
Interim City Manager  
City of DuBois, Clearfield County

LH/kl

## Affidavit

I, Benjamin Kafferlin (“Affiant”), being duly sworn according to law, depose, state, and verify that I am the acting Interim City Manager for the City of DuBois, Clearfield County, Pennsylvania, and that I am authorized to make and execute this Affidavit on behalf of the City of DuBois in my capacity as acting City Manager for the City of DuBois. As Affiant, I am submitting this Affidavit to verify certain facts contained in the City of DuBois’ written response to the right-to-know request of Judith Suplizio dated January 1, 2025 (“the request”).

Regarding the request, I hereby depose, state, and verify as follows:

- That I reviewed the request with Matthew P. Gieg, Esquire, solicitor for the City of DuBois;
- That, upon receiving the request, I diligently searched documents and records in the possession and control of the City of DuBois to ascertain whether the requested records existed;
- That the documents requested – specifically, “the economic study and economic results that [athletic] facilities and [the facilities’] related events have brought to various vendors and local merchants, as well as to the city itself, for each year, 2014 thru 2023 inclusive” – do not exist;
- That, based upon the fact that the records requested do not exist, the determination was made to deny the request; and
- That the determination to deny the request because the alleged records sought in the request do not exist is based upon my verified statements made herein.



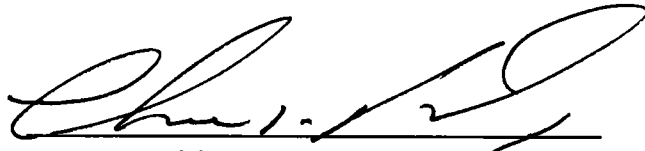
Benjamin Kafferlin  
Interim City Manager  
City of DuBois, Clearfield County, PA

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA : SS  
COUNTY OF CLEARFIELD :

On this, the 24 day of Jan, 2025, before me, a Notary Public, the undersigned officer, personally appeared Benjamin Kafferlin, Interim City Manager for the City of DuBois, known to me (or satisfactorily proven) to be the person whose name is subscribed to the within Affidavit, and acknowledged that she executed the same for the purposes therein contained.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I hereunto set my hand and official seal.

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania - Notary Seal  
Thomas M. Nowak Jr., Notary Public  
DuBois City, Clearfield County  
My Commission Expires: November 29, 2026  
Commission Number: 1259192



Notary Public

My Commission Expires:

11-29-26