

IN THE COURT OF CLAIMS OF OHIO

JON G. HANSON,	:	
Requester,	:	
v.	:	Case No. 2025-00243PQ
ETNA TOWNSHIP,	:	Special Master Todd Marti
Respondent.	:	

**REQUESTER’S RESPONSE IN OPPOSITION TO RESPONDENT’S
REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF TIME**

Requester, Jon G. Hanson, respectfully opposes Respondent’s request for yet additional time. Etna Township knew as of May 27, 2025, that its counsel sought permission from this Court to withdraw from representation because the Township “failed to appear, communicate, and/or otherwise cooperate with counsel.” On May 29, 2025, the Court granted the motion to withdraw and established the current case schedule.

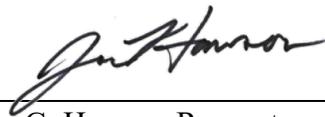
Thereafter, the Township held its regular Board of Trustees meeting on June 3, 2025. At that meeting, the Board voted to retain Bricker Graydon as outside counsel to represent it in this action. The Motion indicates that counsel was not actually retained until days later; “late last week.” The Township has, on many occasions, scheduled special or emergency meetings of its Board in order to conduct Township business including routine actions like the payment of bills. The Township elected not to take any special action with regard to this matter and the retention of counsel.

Now just four days before the submission deadline, Respondent seeks yet another extension. Granting this request would improperly reward the Township’s persistent disregard of this case. Respondent’s justification for additional time—that the records span two calendar

years—is unavailing. The core issue in this case is the Township’s pattern of non-responsiveness, which has delayed these proceedings and responses to legitimate requests for public records. Allowing further extensions would only perpetuate the same dilatory conduct that has disadvantaged Requester and continues to plague the citizens of Etna Township. Moreover, unlike prior counsel, Respondent’s counsel has failed to communicate with Requester regarding this proposed delay, further demonstrating its disregard for procedural fairness. Respondent writes in its request for more time that the requested records span over two calendar years; but the complete story is that requests that are the subject of this case were first made in May 2024 and continue through December 2024. Indeed, subsequent requests have been made without response that may likely become the subject of a subsequent filing.

Etna Township claims to be a victim of the very situation it created. Requester opposes the extension and is prepared to timely submit his evidence as required by the case schedule. Certainly, the delay should be no longer than three days with Requester afforded the same consideration.

Respectfully submitted,



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Certificate of Service

On June 9, 2025, a copy of this document was served on Brodi J. Conover, Attorney for Respondent, Bricker Graydon LLP, 2 East Mulberry Street, Lebanon, Ohio 45036 via electronic mail, bconover@brickergraydon.com.



Jon G. Hanson, Requester