

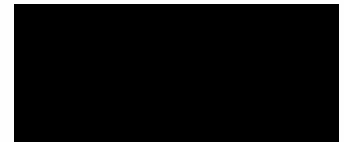
RECEIVED

OCT 30 2025

Tioga County Legislature

Date October 17, 2025

Jason Boockoff



Tioga County Legislature
ATTN. Legislative Chairperson
56 Main Street
Owego, NY 13827

RE: Appeal Foil denial 10/16/25

Dear Sir or Madam,

We are hereby formally writing your office to appeal the denial decision made by Kevin Humes, Foil Officer for Tioga County, New York. On October 16, 2025. (PLEASE SEE: Exhibit C – Denial letter)

We believe that this Foil decision of denial was based on Tioga County, New York Social Services (Temporary Assistance Offices) attempt to block us from obtaining our legal guardian child's records, which would include any/all correspondence pertaining to the Kinship Grant we receive bi-monthly and also to cover the time period of harassment from DSS, Temporary Assistance Offices under the direction of Julie Whipple and Office Manager Kelly Kelley.

Last Week in Sept. 2025: Had phone conversation with Kelly Kelley. We mention that we would like to have all correspondence pertaining to our guardian child from the period of October 2024 – October 2025. She explained that we would have to put our request in writing.

October 10, 2025: Sent written request to the office of Temporary Assistance Office. *PLEASE SEE: Exhibit A – Request to Kelly Kelley*

October 15, 2025: Received email directly from Kelly Kelley now telling us that we must contact the FOIL office to get our records and the Fair Hearings office for disputed issues. However, we were not advised or given any information of how to do so. *PLEASE SEE: Exhibit B – Email from Kelly Kelley*

October 16, 2025: Less than a day later our request for our files was denied based on Section 87(2)(a) of the Freedom of Information Law and Statue 372 of the Social Service Law. No description of statue for denial was given or no explanation of how or who to appeal to. *PLEASE SEE: Exhibit C - FOIL Denial Letter*

October 16, 2025: Had a brief conversation with Kevin Humes, FOIL Officer, to have him explain the denial and the statues used to come to his decision. He was unable to produce a description or explanation of said statues. He kept mentioning that he had to speak with Kelly Kelley and that he would reach back out to us. We have not heard back from his office.

We strongly believe that our right to have our information have been violated in accordance with Freedom of Information Act 5 U.S.C. 552

Chief Complaint:

Retaliation based on removing our guardian child from the extra G.E.D. preparation classes that he was attending in addition to his online homeschool curriculum. After removing our child from said classes, one of workers who briefly worked with him discussed his education concerns with Julie Whipple who she worked closely with at the Cornell Cooperative Extension office. From that time (October 2024) we have been consistently harassed by the Temporary Assistance Office; the same office that handles the Kinship Grant. We have received seemingly countless demands for unnecessary and unrealistic requests for information pertaining to our child, and when they didn't receive that which was requested or if we were to call and question them, we were often met with hostility and many times loss or delay of bi-monthly Kinship Grant benefits. **PLEASE NOTE: Article 6 of the Family Court Act and detailed section 383-c of the New York State Social Service Law**, which states: *Guardianship under this program allows the child to exit the foster care system, removing the need for caseworker visits and court reviews, while maintaining legal responsibility for the child's care.* We do strongly question the legality of Tioga County DSS offices action pertaining to our child.

Warm regards,

Jason Boockoff Guardian

Tammy Evans-Campfield Guardian

Exhibit A

Request to
Kelly Kelley



jason Boockoff [REDACTED]

Kelly Kelley - Temporary Assistance

3 messages

jason Boockoff [REDACTED]
To: "dfa3a49.sm.tioga.taintake" <dsstioga.taintake@dfa.state.ny.us>
Cc: julie.whipple@dfa.state.ny.us

Fri, Oct 10, 2025 at 2:47 PM

Good Afternoon Ms. Kelley,

Please be advised according to New York Freedom of Information Law (FOIL) we are hereby requesting any and all written correspondence and/or notes applicable to the Kinship Grant and/or working of thereof pertaining to our legal guardianship of [REDACTED] which would include any correspondence addressed directly to him. We are requesting the date from September 1, 2024 through October 10, 2025.

We are also requesting to have a "Fair Hearing" for the above time period

Thank you for your time and into this matter.
Respectfully,

Tammy Evans-Campfield

--
Jason P. Boockoff

jason Boockoff [REDACTED]
To: "Freyvogel, Christine" <FreyvogelC@tiogacountyny.gov>

Fri, Oct 17, 2025 at 4:00 PM

Exhibit A Request to Kelly Kelley

[Quoted text hidden]

--
Jason P. Boockoff

jason Boockoff [REDACTED]
To: jason Boockoff [REDACTED]

Wed, Oct 22, 2025 at 11:49 AM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: jason Boockoff [REDACTED]
Date: Fri, Oct 10, 2025 at 2:47 PM
Subject: Kelly Kelley - Temporary Assistance
To: dfa3a49.sm.tioga.taintake <dsstioga.taintake@dfa.state.ny.us>
Cc: <julie.whipple@dfa.state.ny.us>

[Quoted text hidden]

--
Jason P. Boockoff

Exhibit B

Email from
Kelley Kelley



jason Boockoff [REDACTED]

Request

3 messages

Kelley, Kelly (DFA) <Kelly.Kelley@dfa.state.ny.us>

Wed, Oct 15, 2025 at 9:19 AM

To: [REDACTED]

Good morning,

I am following up on the email that you sent on 10/10/25, if you would like to request a fair hearing you can do that by contacting Fair Hearing Office directly, their contact information is on notices you receive from our office, or you can obtain it from their website directly. You also requested to do a FOIL, to do that you have to get on the Tioga County website and follow the directions on how to do the FOIL request, they do not go thru our office.

Should you need anything further, please let me know.

Thanks

Kelly Kelley

Principal Welfare Examiner

Tioga County DSS

jason Boockoff [REDACTED]

Wed, Oct 15, 2025 at 11:54 AM

To: "Kelley, Kelly (DFA)" <Kelly.Kelley@dfa.state.ny.us>

Thank you for your response

[Quoted text hidden]

--

Jason P. Boockoff

jason Boockoff [REDACTED]

Fri, Oct 17, 2025 at 4:02 PM

To: "Freyvogel, Christine" <FreyvogelC@tiogacountyny.gov>

Exhibit B Email from Kelly Kelley

[Quoted text hidden]

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Jason P. Boockoff

Exhibit C

Foil denial



jason Boockoff [REDACTED]

Foil Request

1 message

Humes, Kevin <HumesK@tiogacountyny.gov>

Thu, Oct 16, 2025 at 10:27 AM

To: [REDACTED]

This is in response to your foil request, requesting any written correspondence and/or notes applicable to the Kinship Grant and/or working thereof about our legal guardianship of [REDACTED], directly to him.

According to section 87(2)(a) of the Freedom of Information law, which pertains to records that "are specifically exempted from disclosure by state or federal statute." One such statute is §372 of the Social Services Law, which requires that various records be kept by "every court, and every public board, commission, institution, or officer having powers or charged with duties in relation to abandoned, delinquent, destitute, neglected or dependent children who shall receive, accept or commit any child.

Section 373 of the Social Services Law Subdivision (4) states in relevant part that such records:

"shall be deemed confidential and shall be safeguarded from coming to the knowledge of and from inspection or examination or by any person other than one authorized, by the department, by a judge of the court of claims when such records are required for the trial of a claim or other proceeding in such court or by a justice of the supreme court, or by a judge of the family court when such records are required for the trial of a proceeding in such court, after a notice to all interested persons and a hearing, to receive such knowledge or to make such inspection or examination. No person shall divulge the information thus obtained without authorization to do so by the department or by such judge or justice."

So, your request is denied due to Section 87 of the Social Services Law and Section 87 of the Freedom of Information Law.

Kevin A. Humes

Tioga County Treasurer's Office

Paralegal

56 Main Street

Owego, New York 13827

Direct Line: (607) 687-8677