OPRA Records Custodian
Office of Policy and Strategic Planning & Office of Population Health
PO Box 360
Trenton, NJ 08625-0360

ATTN: Records Access Officer,

Pursuant to OPRA, I hereby request a copy of the index to New Jersey marriage records and licenses, maintained by the New Jersey State Registrar.

A marriage index is the document either contained at the end of a book of marriage records, or in a separate volume, alphabetically listing all marriages which took place in a jurisdiction during a specified time period, organized by surname of the groom and bride. The index typically contains only the names of the parties to the marriage, the date of the document, and the certificate/license number. These indexes have often been digitized in a searchable database format, or as scanned images of a previously-made handwritten index.

This information is available to the public under 2013 New Jersey Revised Statutes Title 26 - HEALTH AND VITAL STATISTICS: Section 26:8-44 - Indexing, tabulation and preservation of records by State registrar. The text is as follows:

The State registrar shall cause all certificates of marriages and civil unions and marriage and civil union licenses received to be alphabetically indexed and shall cause to be transcribed or otherwise recorded from the certificates such of the vital facts appearing thereon as the department may deem necessary or useful.

The certificates of marriage and civil union shall be so tabulated as to present in separate and distinct classes the record of each county or registration district of over 5,000 inhabitants, which record shall be preserved as a public record and the original certificates shall be preserved in the archives of the department.

I request that this index be sent to me digitally, in a searchable database format, if such database exists. If you would prefer me to supply storage media to your office directly, such as flash drives or DVD's, please let me know. Otherwise, I look forward to hearing from you as to the estimates of costs. Please do not proceed until I have consented to all costs.

Sincerely yours,

Alec Ferretti