

IN THE COURT OF CLAIMS OF OHIO

ELHADJ ALPHA MAHMOUD SOUARE	Case No. 2025-00965PQ
Requester	Judge Lisa L. Sadler
v.	<u>JUDGMENT ENTRY</u>
OHIO BUREAU OF MOTOR VEHICLES	
Respondent	

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{¶1} The Special Master has issued a recommendation to dismiss this public records case. She recommends dismissal because the Requester has, in essence, voluntarily dismissed his public records claim.

{¶2} R.C. 2743.75(D)(2) authorizes this Court to sua sponte dismiss a complaint at any time. See, e.g., *Jones v. Allen Cty. Common Pleas Court*, 2023-Ohio-1863, ¶ 4, adopted 2023-Ohio-2324 (Ct. of Cl.) (dismissing complaint that fails to state a claim for relief). Requester has filed two motions to amend his complaint. These filings are clear that Requester no longer seeks public records relief. See *Motion, filed Feb. 13, 2026*, p. 2. This Court cannot grant relief in a public records case filed under R.C. 2743.75 beyond the production of records and recovery of the filing fee and costs. R.C. 2743.45(F); *Trader v. Ontario Local School Dist.*, 2025-Ohio-2374, ¶ 5, adopted 2025-Ohio-2879 (Ct. of Cl.).

{¶3} Pursuant to R.C. 2743.75(D)(2), “[n]otwithstanding any provision to the contrary in [R.C. 2743.75], upon the recommendation of the special master, the court of claims on its own motion may dismiss the complaint at any time.” Upon review, the Court declines to construe Requester’s motions as a voluntary dismissal. The Court finds, however, that the Special Master’s recommendation for dismissal is well taken on the basis that that the Requester no longer seeks relief that this Court can grant.

{¶4} Accordingly, pursuant to R.C. 2743.75(D)(2), the Court sua sponte DISMISSES the complaint in this case without prejudice. Court costs are assessed

against Requester. Any pending motions are DENIED as moot. The Clerk shall serve upon all parties notice of this judgment and its date of entry upon the journal.

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LISA L. SADLER  
Judge

**Filed February 19, 2026**  
**Sent to S.C. Reporter 3/19/26**