February 11, 2014

Robert E. Bionaz



Re: FOIA Request 14-055

Dear Mr. Bionaz:

I write to respond to your Freedom of Information request dated and received in my office on February 4, 2014, in which you requested:

"Please make available the following records: Office of the Protection of Research Subjects Institutional Review Board Initial Review Application Form and all supporting documentation (all appendices, final report, etc., except for appendix "P") from the University of Illinois at Chicago for Protocol #2012-0051, title: "Predicting consistent condom use behavior in African American, heterosexual males aged 18-25 who are enrolled in community college."

The requested documents have been withheld pursuant to the following section(s) of the Act:

- 140/7(1)(a) that exempts from disclosure "Information specifically prohibited from disclosure by federal or State law or rules and regulations implementing adopted under federal or State law." Specifically, the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) (20 U.S.C. §1232g) protects the privacy of student education records and prohibits the release of any information from a student's education record without the consent of the eligible student. In this case, the requested records are student education records under FERPA and are, therefore, exempt from disclosure.
- 140/7(1)(c) that exempts from disclosure "Personal information contained within public records, the disclosure of which, if disclosed, would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy, unless the disclosure is consented to in writing by the individual subjects of the information." Pursuant to this exemption, the requested student education records were withheld. Student education records are highly personal and the release of such information would be objectionable to a reasonable person. Thus, release of such records would be an unwarranted invasion of the student's personal privacy.

You have a right, under the law, to seek a review of this response by the Public Access Counselor (PAC) in the Office of the Attorney General. The PAC may be reached by phone at 217-782-1396, by email to publicaccess@atg.state.il.us, or by postal mail at the Public Access

Bureau, 500 S. 2nd Street, Springfield, Illinois 62706. You also have the right to seek judicial review under section 11 of this Act.

If you have questions for our office, please contact 217-333-6400.

Sincerely,

Thomas P. Hardy Executive Director and Chief Records Officer