March 24, 2014

The Harden Group  
P.O. Box 8458  
Champaign, IL 61826  
info@thehardengroup.com

Re: FOIA 14-012

To Whom It May Concern:

I write to confirm receipt of your narrowed Freedom of Information request of February 13, in which you requested the following information:

“For RFP #1PAB1201: A list of all respondents, both successful and unsuccessful.  
For RFP #1PAB1201: A copy of any and all documents showing how vendors were scored, ranked and selected during evaluations.  
For FY13: Vendor Detail History, accessed via simple query, according to documentation publicly found here: http://www.obfs.uillinois.edu/payments-vendorsstudents/vendor-setup-update/. History should include invoice numbers, invoice amounts, and totals for the following named vendors:  
Chef Benjamin Company LLC dba Dish Passionate Cuisine  
Classic Events (aka Tice Food Service Corp., The Bromley Group)  
Hickory River Urbana Inc.  
LA Gourmet LLC  
Marbles Catering  
Michaels’ Catering LLC  
Nelson’s Catering Inc. & Lindvall Properties.”

Information responsive to your request is available and attached. These are public documents numbering 14 pages.

Your request for “…For RFP #1PAB1201: A copy of any and all documents showing how vendors were scored, ranked and selected during evaluations…” is being denied pursuant to the following section(s) of the Act:

• 140/7(1)(f) that exempts from disclosure “preliminary drafts, notes, recommendations, memoranda and other records in which opinions are expressed, or policies or actions are formulated, except that a specific record or relevant portion of a record shall not be exempt when the record is publicly cited and identified by the head of the public body.” The scoring sheet you requested is deliberative in nature and contains the opinions of the evaluators. On numerous occasions the Public Access Counselor has concluded that scoring sheets used to select a vendor fall within the provisions of this section. (See Ill. Att’y Gen. PAC Pre-Auth. 16159, 16151, 15486, 15333, 15364, 14858, and 14851.)

Should you wish to inspect or receive a physical copy of the attached documents, please call Melanie Kuehn at the phone number below and she will provide you with all necessary details.
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