

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

URBANA-CHAMPAIGN • CHICAGO • SPRINGFIELD

October 7, 2014

Jodi Cohen
Chicago Tribune
jscohen@tribune.com

Re: 14-632

Dear Ms. Cohen:

I write to respond to your Freedom of Information request of September 23, 2014, and received in my office on that date, in which you requested:

“...all documents – including invoices, receipts, memorandums, emails, and other communications – that show the amount of money the University of Illinois at Chicago or the University of Illinois system has spent so far, or expects to spend in the future, on the Obama presidential library bid.”

Information responsive to your request is available and attached. These are public documents numbering 486 pages. Please note, these documents do not reflect the pro bono contributions the University has received on this project; UIC Public Affairs can assist you in ascertaining the pro bono expenses.

Portions of these documents have been redacted 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.” 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. Under this exemption, student names and identifying information have been redacted from the responsive records.
- 140/7(1)(b) that exempts from disclosure “Private information, unless disclosure is required by another provision of this Act, a State or federal law or a court order.” This includes personal email addresses and cell phone numbers, home addresses, credit card numbers, University identification numbers, rewards program numbers and information, and tax exempt and identification numbers.
- 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

Office for University Relations

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invasion of personal privacy, unless the disclosure is consented to in writing by the individual subjects of the information.” This includes dates of birth and other personal information.

- 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.” This includes portions of documents containing a preliminary discussion or communication regarding the formulation of an action or policy.

Should you wish to inspect or receive a physical copy of these 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