

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

URBANA-CHAMPAIGN • CHICAGO • SPRINGFIELD

November 5, 2014

Johnathan Hettinger
CU-Citizen Access.org



Re: FOIA 14-715

Dear Mr. Hettinger:

I write to respond to your Freedom of Information request of October 29, in which you requested:

“copies of records for each arrest made by members of the University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign Police Department in the years 2012, 2013 and to date for 2014. For each arrest, please provide the following information: date; time; address; police beat; incident number; crime code; crime description; arresting officer number; offender gender; offender race; and offender age.”

Information responsive to your request is available and attached. These are public documents numbering 233 pages.

As the Excel file type allows for editing of the included data, we ask that prior to opening the files you accept responsibility for accurate dissemination of this information and agree that no manipulation of the file that results in falsification of the information will occur.

You requested “...offender race and offender age...” The system from which we pulled the data does not include age, therefore, we could not include that information in the report we provided. The only way to provide the offender’s age would be to pull each police report individually; however, given the number of reports the police department issues each year, compliance with that portion of your request would be unduly burdensome to the University. If you are interested in an offender’s age for a particular police report, you may resubmit your request, specifying the incident report from which you are seeking information.

Your request for offender race has been denied pursuant to the following section of the Act:

- Section 7(1)(c) of the Act, which exempts from production “personal information contained within public records, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy, unless the disclosure is consented to in writing by the individual subjects of the information.” (5 ILCS 140/7(1)(c)). In *CBS, Inc. v. Partee*, the Appellate Court of Illinois affirmed that disclosure of a person’s race would constitute such a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy and, therefore, is exempt from production under the Act. 198 Ill. App. 3d 936 (Ill. App. Ct. 1st Dist. 1990).

Office for University Relations

Urbana • 108 Henry Administration Building • MC 370 • 506 South Wright Street • Urbana, IL 61801 • (217) 333-6400 • Fax (217) 333-5733
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The police department may be able to provide aggregate race information for offenders. If you are interested in this data, please file a new request at foia@uillinois.edu.

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