

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

URBANA-CHAMPAIGN • CHICAGO • SPRINGFIELD

December 2, 2014

Anwar Mahmood

Re: FOIA Request 14-784 amended

Dear Mr. Mahmood:

I write to respond to your Freedom of Information request of November 19, 2014, and received in my office on November 20, 2014, in which you requested:

“Dear Sir/Madam at the UIC: Office of University Relations, Good morning, my name is Anwar Mahmood. I would like to file a FOIA (i.e. Freedom Of Information Act) request for a list of specific UIC:

College Of Medicine students who committed criminal offense/s (i.e. any criminal offense) while completing their respective studies at the UIC: College Of Medicine and were still allowed to complete their studies and eventually graduate (i.e. actually receive a professional degree) from the UIC: College Of Medicine.

Additionally, I have a few questions and concerns regarding filing the above-mentioned FOIA request with the UIC: College Of Medicine:

(please answer all the questions listed below)

1a) Who must submit the requisite FOIA form/paperwork, me (i.e. a non-lawyer), a paralegal or a lawyer?

1b) If a paralegal or lawyer must submit the requisite FOIA form/paperwork, then in what state must the paralegal or lawyer must be licensed to practice in?

2) Will the UIC: Office of University Relations personnel compile a formal report for the info required to fulfill my FOIA request?

3) Once the requisite FOIA form/paperwork have been completed and submitted to the UIC: Office of University Relations, how many business days will it take for me to receive the info which I have requested?”

On November 21, 2014 you amended your request to:

“Please change my intitial FOIA request to the new one stated below:

I would like to file a FOIA (i.e. Freedom Of Information Act) request for a list of any/all UIC students (i.e. throughtout the UIC system, irregardless of what course of study they were or are currently persuing) who committed criminal offense/s (i.e. any criminal offense) while completing their respective courses of study at UIC and were still allowed to complete their studies at UIC and eventually graduate (i.e. actually receive a professional degree) from the University Of Illinois. Please include all such student records dating back to the last 7 years.”

Office for University Relations

Urbana • 506 South Wright Street • Urbana, IL 61801 • (217) 333-6400 • Fax (217) 333-5733
Chicago • 1737 West Polk Street • Chicago, IL 60612-7228 • (312) 996-3772 • Fax (312) 996-1836

Our office has conducted a preliminary search for the documents.

The University does not track the information as requested and, therefore, is not in possession of any list that is responsive to your request.

Please note, information about students who have committed criminal offenses is kept within each student's academic file. It would be unduly burdensome (and outside the University's obligations under FOIA) to create such a list as it would require the compilation, review and redaction of thousands of individual student records. Further, records responsive to your request would most likely be 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.
- 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."

You are welcome to submit a modified FOIA to the University.

Please be advised, information regarding the University's FOIA process can be found at the following website: <http://www.foia.uillinois.edu/>

Information regarding the Illinois Freedom of Information Act can be found at the following website: <http://www.ilga.gov/legislation/ilcs/ilcs3.asp?ActID=85&ChapterID=2>

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