May 12, 2014

Sent via U.S. Postal Mail

Delia Pearl Harfst

Re: 14-287

Dear Ms. Harfst:

I write to respond to your Freedom of Information request of April 25, 2014, and received in my office on April 28, in which you requested:

“Any files, communications, documents, or likewise information concerning Delia Pearl Harfst from the University of Illinois Extension employees in the Mason, Fulton, Tazewell, Peoria County unit. Also any files, communications, documents held by Regional Director Ryan Hobson.”

Information responsive to your request is available and attached. These are public documents numbering 42 pages. In March of this year, pages were provided to your email and home address in response to another FOIA that requested files, communications, and documents concerning Roger Harfst from named individuals. Many of those pages are also responsive to this request and are not being provided again. These new responsive pages represent documents not previously provided given the targeted nature of each FOIA request. If you need another copy of the files sent to you in March, please let our office know.

Portions of these documents have been redacted or withheld pursuant to the following section(s) of the Act:

• 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 a home address, telephone numbers, personal email addresses and other unique identifiers.
• 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.” This includes personal information related to volunteers and employees.
• 140/7(1)(d)(iv) exempts records that would “unavoidably disclose the identity of a confidential source, confidential information furnished only by the confidential source, or persons who file complaints with or provide information to administrative, investigative, law enforcement, or penal agencies.” This includes information provided by a person in confidence to University employees.
• 140/7(1)(f) that exempts “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 responsive documents contain drafts
and preliminary discussions and expressions of opinion regarding possible policies and actions of the University.

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