

# UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

URBANA-CHAMPAIGN • CHICAGO • SPRINGFIELD

February 11, 2015

"Larry Lawyer"

[REDACTED]

Re: FOIA Requests 15-018

Dear Mr. "Lawyer":

I write to confirm receipt of your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request dated and received in my office on January 12, 2015, in which you requested the following information:

"Regarding the email sent by Chancellor Wise on July 24th at 12:00:00 (attached):

- 1). You have redacted the subject line -- please provide the basis in Illinois law for this redaction;
- 2). You have redacted the text at the end of point 3. Please provide the basis in Illinois law for this redaction;
- 3). You have made two redactions in point 5. Please provide the basis in Illinois law for each redaction. In this regard I note that the first redaction is likely someone's name, and that unless this person is not known to the community, there is no legal basis to redact her/his name;
- 4). You have made two redactions in point 7. Please provide the basis in Illinois law for each of these redactions;
- 5). Please provide an unredacted copy of this email, with the proviso that you may maintain the redactions:
  - i) the redacted subject line;
  - ii) the redaction in "I met with [redacted] today";
  - iii) the redactions on point 3;
  - iv) the redactions on point 5;
  - v) the redactions on point 7.."

Points 1-4 of your FOIA request are not seeking a public document; instead, you are asking the University to provide an explanation. In *Kenyon v. Garrels*, the 4th District Illinois Appellate Court found that "requests for information that did not identify the documents to be produced or made available was not in proper form." 184 Ill. App. 3d 28, 33 (Ill. App. Ct. 4th Dist. 1989). The court went on to say, FOIA "does not compel the agency to provide answers to questions posed by the inquirer." *Kenyon*, 540 N.E.2d at 13 (citing *Krohn v. Department of Justice* (D.C. Cir. 1980), 628 F.2d 195).

Since these points of your request are not a request for records, it is not in proper form and, thus, is denied.

Office for University Relations

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In response to point 5 of your request, the University declines to provide you with an unredacted copy of the email. Please see our previous response letter for an explanation of the exemptions that were asserted.

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](mailto: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 any questions, please address them to the attention of Ms. Laura Clower, Associate University Counsel, at [clower@uillinois.edu](mailto:clower@uillinois.edu).

Sincerely,

Thomas P. Hardy  
Executive Director  
and Chief Records Officer

cc: Laura Clower, Assoc. Univ. Counsel