

June 20, 2019

Joyce Barnes  
jbarnes@parkland.edu

RE: FOIA

Dear Ms. Barnes:

This is to acknowledge that Parkland College District No. 505 is in receipt of your *Freedom of Information Act* (FOIA) request dated June 14, 2019 at 10:45 a.m. received in my office at June 14, 2019 at 1:42 p.m. on via FOIA request form delivered to Parkland College Public Safety. As the Vice President for Communications and External Affairs, I am responsible for processing requests for public information for the College, pursuant to *the Illinois Freedom of Information Act*, 5 ILCS 140/1 et seq.

On the form you indicated your request for the law enforcement records dated June 12, 2019 for an incident located at the "Parkland Bus Stop by U Building."

I have also attached a copy of the form you completed to initiate your request.

Parkland College's Response:

The Illinois Freedom of Information Act section ILCS 140/7.5(bb) exempts from disclosure "Information which is or was prohibited from disclosure by the Juvenile Court Act (JCA) of 1987." JCA exempts juvenile law enforcement records from disclosure with certain enumerated exceptions. The JCA (705 ILCS 405/1-7) states, "All juvenile law enforcement records which have not been expunged are confidential and may never be disclosed to the general public or otherwise made widely available." Exceptions are detailed in the act and include, but are not limited to, the minor, judges, law enforcement officers, school officials, victims and their attorneys, and authorized mental health professionals.

In reviewing the request in collaboration with Parkland Public Safety, the college understands your involvement in the incident indicated in your request as one of an involved party or witness. Involved parties and witnesses are not named exceptions to the JCA. Upon reviewing the law enforcement file and gathering information from Parkland Public Safety, the college's understanding was the juvenile involved was not arrested as a result of actions directed toward the requester. Therefore, the college denies your request for the law enforcement records pertaining to this incident.

As Vice President for Communications and External Affairs, I am responsible for granting and denying the requests for records under the *Freedom of Information Act*. Please be aware that this response to your request is pursuant to my understanding of your FOIA request. If I have misunderstood your request, please let me know as soon as possible so I may provide the correct information.

Finally, if you believe that this response constitutes a denial of your request, you have the right to have this response reviewed by the Public Access Counselor (PAC) at the Office of the Illinois Attorney General. 5

ILCS 140/9.5(a). You can file your Request for Review with the PAC by writing to:

Public Access Counselor  
Office of the Attorney General  
500 South 2nd Street  
Springfield, Illinois 62706  
Fax: 217-782-1396  
E-mail: [publicaccess@atg.state.il.us](mailto:publicaccess@atg.state.il.us)

You also have the right to seek judicial review of this response by filing a lawsuit in the State circuit court. 5 ILCS 140/11.

If you choose to file a Request for Review with the Public Access Counselor or State court, you will need to include a copy of this letter for the review.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,



Stephanie L. Stuart  
Vice President for Communications and External Affairs

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CC: FILE  
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