

December 20, 2019

Michael McPhail
mmcphail1974@gmail.com

RE: Freedom of Information Act Request

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

Dear Mr. McPhail:

This is to acknowledge that Parkland College District No. 505 is in receipt of your *Freedom of Information Act* (FOIA) request dated December 15, 2019 received in my office at 8:55 p.m. via electronic mail. 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. In your e-mail, you requested that the College make available the following records:

Initial Request:

“To this end, under the Illinois Freedom of Information Act, 5 ILCS 140, I am requesting the directory information for all current Parkland College students, with the following fields for each student: Full name (including middle, if available), major, classification, date of birth, personal email, school email, personal phone number, local phone number, permanent address, and local address.

I want to stress that I’m not seeking any records that are prohibited from release either by statute or previous rulings by the courts. Please let me know if you feel any records in the fields I’ve requested are confidential, and I’ll consider amending my request. Also, please let me know if clarifying the request might speed the release of the data or reduce any programming time.

As for formatting, I’m seeking a spreadsheet, database, or delimited text file(s) — not paper records — I am comfortable working with large data sets and can receive the records in a variety of formats (.xlsx, .dbf, .csv, .mdb, etc) and media (CD, DVD, ftp).”

Parkland College’s Response:

Parkland College Policy 8.08.02.a prohibits the release of directory information to outside agencies.

The Family Educational Rights Privacy Act (FERPA) is a Federal statute providing for confidentiality and disclosure of post-secondary education student records. Your request does not fall within the guidelines of FERPA requiring disclosure without student consent. As such, Parkland College respectfully declines to provide the information requested in your *Freedom of Information Act* request pursuant to 5 ILCS 140/7(1)(a) and (c). Pursuant to 5 ILCS 140/7(1)(c), Parkland College believes the information requested

relating to its students is personal information, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

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

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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