

January 14, 2019

Nehemiah Chu  
[nemochu87@gmail.com](mailto:nemochu87@gmail.com)

RE: Quick question re: freedom of information request

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

Dear Mr. Chu:

This is to acknowledge that Parkland College District No. 505 is in receipt of your *Freedom of Information Act* (FOIA) request dated January 9, 2019 received in my office at 8:46 a.m. on January 10, 2019 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:

“Pursuant to the Illinois Freedom of Information Act, 5 ILCS 140., I am requesting copies of public records of student directory information – specifically, school electronic email addresses for all students registered for the Spring semester 2018, the Summer semester 2018, the Fall semester 2018 and all alumni. Please include each person’s respective major and minor, and classification (e.g. freshman, senior, alumni) if available. I’ll need 4 separate lists.

If available, please provide these records in electronic format. If there are any fees for copying these records, please inform me prior to an assessment of such costs. However, I would also like to request a waiver of all fees in that the disclosure of the requested information is in the public interest.”

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](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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