

February 14, 2019

Sami Sfier  
ssfeir@thescla.org

RE: Directory Information Request - Parkland College

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

Dear Sami Sfier:

This is to acknowledge that Parkland College District No. 505 is in receipt of your *Freedom of Information Act* (FOIA) request dated February 6, 2019 received in my office at 11:30AM on February 6, 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:

Request #1: "Pursuant to the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), we request access to the following FERPA designated Directory Information as it pertains to your currently enrolled undergraduate students (both online and on-campus students, across all campuses based upon SPRING 2019 data):

- Student's First Name
- Student's Last Name
- Email Address
- Dates of Attendance
- Major Field of Study

We seek this information for the purpose of contacting students to invite them to submit an application for SCLA membership. This information will not be used for any other purpose.

It would be most helpful if the directory information lists could be emailed back as an Excel-formatted spreadsheet."

Parkland College's Response:

Response #1: Parkland College believes this is a request for commercial purposes and thus subject to the 21 working day response time requirement under section 5 ILCS 140/3.1(a).

Response #2: 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 dated May 23, 2018 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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