June 17, 2014

Re: Freedom of Information Request for Records

Dear State Board Officer:

This request for records is submitted pursuant to the provisions of the Illinois Freedom of Information Act, 5 ILCS 140. The New York Legal Assistance Group (NYLAG) is a non-profit, public interest group, and we seek these records for non-commercial uses. For the purpose of this request, “records” includes all records or communications preserved in electronic or written form, including but not limited to correspondence, documents, data, videotapes, audio tapes, e-mails, faxes, files, guidance, guidelines, evaluations, instructions, analyses, memoranda, agreements, notes, orders, policies, procedures, protocols, reports, rules, technical manuals, technical specifications, training manuals, or studies. References to the Superintendent include all subdivisions of the State Board of Education under the direction of the Superintendent.

I hereby request access to any and all records or portions thereof in the possession of the Illinois State Board of Education, pertaining to or concerning the following non-degree granting vocational school:

**Request #1:** Any investigations, audits, complaints, or reports regarding the American Business Institute (OPEID: 02353000, closed 2/9/1990).

**Request #2:** Any notifications or correspondence to the United States Education Department regarding the American Business Institute (OPEID: 02353000, closed 2/9/1990).

**Request #3:** Any false certification discharge applications from students who attended the American Business Institute (OPEID: 02353000, applications before closing on 2/9/1990).

I look forward to receiving a determination pursuant to each request within five business days, as required by the Act, 5 ILCS 140(3). If you do not make a determination as to each request within five business days, please acknowledge receipt of this request and provide an approximate timeframe within which you will make a determination. Please also inform me on a rolling basis of the existence of any records responsive to any request as you identify them, regardless of
whether additional records responsive to that or other requests may be identified in the future. I am willing to accept records in electronic format.

If for any reason any request is denied, please inform me of the reason(s) for the denial in writing.

**Request for Waiver of Fees:**

I request a waiver of all fees for this request. See 5 ILCS 140(6). Disclosure of the requested information to the New York Legal Assistance Group is in the public interest because it is likely to contribute significantly to public understanding of the operations or activities of the Division of Higher & Career Education. See id. Because NYLAG is a nonprofit organization dedicated to free legal services to low-income New Yorkers, this request will serve no commercial interest. See id. NYLAG is a member of an advocacy group dedicated to investigating practices of proprietary schools that may harm their students. Additionally, NYLAG and its advocacy partners disseminate information to the public through their websites and by the production of special reports.

Thank you very much for your assistance.

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