

Due: 5/20/15

Robert L Miller

From: Illinois News Network <newsroom@ilnews.org>
Sent: Wednesday, May 13, 2015 10:46 AM
To: FOIA Requests
Subject: FOIA request

RECEIVED

MAY 13 2015

EIU GENERAL COUNSEL

To: University FOIA Officer:

This is a request for information under the Illinois Freedom of Information Act, 5 ILCS 140.

I'm researching the prevalence of "release time" in labor contracts at Illinois state universities.

Release time is when local union officers are released from their normal work responsibilities from the university to do union business.

These officials continue to draw pay while they are working for the union.

If your university does not engage in this practice, please just send me a note letting me know.

If it does, please send:

- The provisions within each of the university's collective bargaining agreements providing for "release time" for union officials to perform union-related activities while being paid by the county.
- The pay record of the employee(s) who receive this benefit.

In lieu of the actual documents, a statement of what annual financial benefits accorded union leadership by the university for union work would suffice.

I understand that the Act permits a public body to charge a reasonable copying fee not to exceed the actual cost of reproduction and not including the costs of any search or review of the records. 5 ILCS 140/6.

I request a waiver of all fees for this request. Disclosure of the requested information to me is in the public interest because it is likely to contribute significantly to public understanding of the operations or activities of the government and is not primarily in my commercial interest.

I am requesting these documents in electronic format.

Please note as of Jan. 1, 2015, it is a Class 4 felony to withhold public documents available through the Illinois Freedom of Information Act.

I write a newspaper column that appears weekly in more than 70 newspapers across the state. The requested information will contribute to my journalism endeavors.

I look forward to hearing from you in writing within seven working days, as required by the Act. 5 ILCS 140(3).

Please send the response to: newsroom@ilnews.org.

If you have any questions regarding this request, I can be reached at: