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EIU GENERAL COUNSEL

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December 11, 2012

Rob Miller, University Counsel
Eastern Illinois University
600 Lincoln Avenue
Charleston, IL 61920

Re: Illinois Freedom of Information Act Request

Dear Mr. Miller:

Under the Illinois Freedom of Information Act, 5 ILCS 140, I am requesting an opportunity to obtain copies of public records listing the annual salaries of the Eastern Illinois University football coaching staff, to include the head coach and each of the full-time assistant coaches.

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. However the law allows you to impose a waiver or reduction of fees when information is sought in the public interest, as is the case for this request.

In order to help to determine my status to assess fees, you should know that I am a representative of the news media affiliated with The Anniston Star newspaper and this request is made as part of news gathering and not for a commercial use. 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 a public university's athletics department.

With Jacksonville State University, a fellow member of the Ohio Valley Conference, currently in the process of hiring a new head football coach and staff, we are requesting this information in order to make a comparative analysis of the salary structures of all the teams in the conference.

I look forward to hearing from you in writing within five working days, as required by the Act 5 ILCS 140(3). Thank you for considering and responding to this request.

Sincerely,

Al Muskewitz
Sports Writer