



OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT AND CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

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December 8, 2006

Mr. Edward Hammond
The Sunshine Project
1920 Stuart St.
Berkeley, California 94703

RE: OPEN RECORDS REQUEST – Research Protocols

Dear Mr. Hammond:

This is in final response to your Open Records Request received via e-mail on September 12, 2006. You requested that The University of Texas provide you with copies of certain research protocols referenced in the November 15, 2005, UT Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC) meeting minutes.

The Attorney General has issued AG Ruling OR2006-14063. Enclosed is a copy of the ruling, whereby the AG upheld the University's position that the requested research protocols were excepted from disclosure in their entirety in accordance with §51.914(1), *Education Code*. For Item #2 of your request, you asked that the scope include all records concerning an incident in a BSL-3 laboratory involving transgenic influenza virus referenced in the April 17, 2006, IBC meeting minutes. You asked that the University's document response include, but not be limited to, reports made to state or federal agencies in relation to the April 17 incident. The AG further concluded that this draft report and related documents are accepted from disclosure. However, only in part. Accordingly, enclosed are copies of the remaining responsive documents, which have been redacted in accordance with the AG ruling.

The University provides less than 50 copies at no cost. You may contact Ms. Annela Lopez at (512) 471-1422 if you require any further assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Margo Iwanski".

Margo Iwanski
Executive Assistant
to the Vice President

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Enclosures