



STATE OF ARKANSAS
ATTORNEY GENERAL
LESLIE RUTLEDGE

Opinion No. 2015-145

December 9, 2015

Dear Wendy K. Higgins:

You have requested my opinion regarding the Arkansas Freedom of Information Act ("FOIA"). Your request is based on Ark. Code Ann. § 25-19-105(c)(3)(B)(i). This subsection authorizes the custodian, requester, or the subject of personnel or employee evaluation records to seek an opinion from this office stating whether the custodian's decision regarding the release of such records is consistent with the FOIA.

Someone has requested your personnel file from this office. This office prepared a redacted version of your personnel file to disclose to the requester. The file was tendered to you, but you did not seek to review it. Instead, you stated that you "would like to object to my file being released as I feel it is an unnecessary invasion of my privacy."

RESPONSE

My statutory duty is to state whether the custodian's decision is consistent with the FOIA. In this case, the objection that gave rise to this review is a blanket one that fails to refer to any specific documents or offer any specific objections or arguments. Accordingly, the objection amounts to a request for reconsideration where no grounds have been offered for arriving at a different conclusion. Therefore, because a thorough and careful review of the records has already been conducted and no reasons have been offered to arrive at a different conclusion, I must simply reaffirm the original decision to disclose your personnel file with certain redactions.

Sincerely,


LESLIE RUTLEDGE
Attorney General