

October 02, 2025

Via email: Public Information Officer, Texas Tech University System — publicinfo@ttu.edu

Re: Texas Public Information Act Request – Communications regarding students or COVID to/from Dr. Deborah L. Birx (Aug 13, 2023 – Dec 13, 2023)

To the Public Information Officer:

Under the Texas Public Information Act (Tex. Gov't Code ch. 552), please produce all emails (subject, body, attachments) and Teams/SharePoint/Slack/IM/SMS messages that discuss or reference students or COVID, sent or received Aug 13, 2023 through Dec 13, 2023 by Dr. Deborah L. Birx and any assistants or delegated staff managing her TTUHSC correspondence.

Search & ESI scope:

- Search agency email/document systems and collaboration/messaging platforms used for agency business (Exchange/Outlook, Teams/SharePoint, Slack, SMS/iMessage, GroupMe, WhatsApp, Signal), including agency-managed personal devices as required by Tex. Gov't Code § 552.004 and SB 944.

Format:

- Produce electronic records in reasonably usable format (EML/MSG/PDF-text; CSV/XLSX for metadata). Include native metadata (to/from/cc/bcc, sent/received date-time, subject, message-ID) and attachment names.

Redactions/withholding:

- If claiming an exception, identify the specific statutory basis and release all reasonably segregable portions. For student emails, redact personally identifiable student information under FERPA/§ 552.114 rather than withhold in full.

Narrowing & costs:

- If any portion is unclear or unduly burdensome, please identify the burden with specificity and propose narrowing consistent with Tex. Gov't Code §§ 552.222 and 552.267. Exclude exact duplicates and purely administrative scheduling notices lacking substantive content.
- If estimated costs exceed \$100, please provide an itemized estimate; I request waiver or reduction under § 552.267 in the public interest.

Requester:

Kevin Norris Bass (Student ID: R11333575)
kbassphiladelphia@gmail.com | 512-333-4092

Sincerely,
Kevin Norris Bass