

May 7, 2014

FACSIMILE (202) 228-3912

Margaret Daum
Staff Director, Subcommittee on Financial and Contracting Oversight
U.S. Senate Committee on Homeland Security & Governmental Affairs
613b Hart Senate Office Building
2nd Street, NE
Washington D.C., 20002

Survey of Campus Sexual Violence Policies and Procedures

Dear Ms Daum:

I am responding to your call this morning when you asked me for the PowerPoint slides and the attendee list for a webinar that the American Council on Education sponsored for its members. The webinar was entitled "Briefing on Congressional Investigations and the McCaskill Survey". As I advised you, no members were discouraged from responding to the survey, and the general counseling provided was to be certain that responses were correct.

The last time that higher education institutions were the recipients of a Senate survey was in early 2008 from the Senate Finance Committee. That survey went to only 136 institutions. Since the Survey of Campus Sexual Violence Policies and Procedures has been sent to 450 institutions, it has received significant attention by our members most of whom are not familiar with the congressional investigation process. ACE therefore provided the free webinar for those who wished to sign up. We do not consider it appropriate to release the PowerPoint slides or the attendee list. As a membership association, we feel that we need to serve our members and that the requests you have made intrude on their rights to association. The webinar was open to all our members, and we do not know which ones received the survey. Given the attention this large survey has received, we believe some members who did not receive the survey were registered. Just as we understand your office has assured responding institutions of confidentiality, we owe our members similar protection from any adverse consequences for joining in this educational offering provided by ACE.

Very truly yours,

Ada Meloy
General Counsel

