

February 23, 2026

Via email to Ewaldman21@gmail.com

To: Esther Waldman

Re: Freedom of Information Law Request Appeal Determination

Dear Ms. Esther Waldman,

On February 8, 2026, the Finkelstein Memorial Library received an appeal of your request for records pursuant to the Freedom of Information Law (FOIL) dated January 8, 2026. The appeal claims a constructive denial of the request.

On January 14, the Library acknowledged receipt of the request and informed you that the Library would respond within 20 business days of January 14, i.e., February 12, 2026. In subsequent correspondence, you claimed that "the 20-business-day period referenced in your acknowledgment must be measured from January 8, 2026."

FOIL requires "a statement of the approximate date, which shall be reasonable under the circumstances of the request, when such request will be granted or denied" (see FOIL § 89[3][a]). The longest allowable response period without stating a reason for the inability to grant the request sooner is "twenty business days from the date of the acknowledgement of the receipt of the request" (*id*). The Library determined this period to be reasonable and compliant with FOIL.

Accordingly, the Library's Board of Trustees has denied the February 8 appeal, and your FOIL request is still under consideration. As all the materials requested are protected by attorney-client privilege, these are materials generally not available through FOIL. Therefore, the response will be consistent with the materials you are authorized to access as a board member. The Library anticipates a response with those materials by February 27th, 2026.

Yours,


Darnett Davis
President of the Board