

Dawnna Dukes



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
P.O. BOX 2910
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78768-2910

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To the Honorable Kirk Watson,
Texas State Senator

DELIVERED FEB 10 2016

Dawnna Dukes
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



District 46 (Travis County)
P.O. Box 2910
Austin, Texas 78768-2910
(512) 463-0506

February 10, 2016

Mr. Steven C. McCraw
Department of Public Safety
Capitol Station
Austin, TX 78701

Dear Mr. McCraw

There are forms called PAR forms that we keep in our offices regarding each employee. This information is only available through an Open Records Process through House Administration as it contains personal and confidential information about employees such as their social security numbers. It also includes personnel actions involving them. House Administration will provide the forms when requested, but it is my understanding that it will do so only after a proper Open Records request is received and they have redacted the information from the form that the public would have no right to have such as social security numbers.

Recently, a former employee in my office named Mike French has been making complaints against me in the public and seeking to generate negative publicity regarding my office. Recently, I received a call generated by his actions from a reporter with the Texas Tribune who proceeded to read personnel action information about at least one employee that was from my estimation clearly being read from a PAR form. I do not believe the reporter was aware at that time of the nature of the form, but it is clear that the reporter received the form from somewhere.

Once I received these questions from the reporter, I was alarmed so I looked in the area where these forms are kept and found that they were missing from original location. I called Steve Adrien and Scott Sieberg to determine if their office had provided such information in response to an Public Information Request. They had not provided any such information.

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The information on these forms is quite sensitive so I do not normally share it with even the members of my staff. I did not authorize Mr. French to have access to or utilize these forms. I did not authorize Vanisha Weatherspoon to have access nor provide such information to any other employee. We have looked elsewhere in the office and determined that these forms are not in the office where they should be. As well, in the desk of Mr. French was mail to me from House Business Office marked "CONFIDENTIAL". Staff had been instructed to never open mail addressed to me marked "CONFIDENTIAL", "PERSONAL" from any addressor, but especially from House Administration, House Business Office, and the Speaker's Office, the Governor's Office or any elected official.

These are official government records that we keep for our work and other government functions, so it causes a serious disadvantage to our office not having access to this information. I would like for this to serve as a formal complaint about an apparent theft of these items from my office and ask that an immediate formal investigation be initiated to determine if there has been a theft and if so who is responsible. This is a serious breach of Legislative confidentiality and should be treated with the utmost urgency. Employees and former employees have rights to raise issues relating to their employment, but they do not have the right to appropriate and use confidential and personal information of other employees to advance their individual interests.

In addition, I have reason to believe that at least two former employees, KiYa Moghaddam and Vanisha Weatherspoon entered my state government email (Dawnna.dukes@state.tx.us) without my permission on Tuesday, January 26, 2016 at 9:33A.M. on and Friday, February 6, 2016 at 11:51 p.m. and other times. These employees forwarded documents that I owned and/or deleted other Government email. Attached is a copy of an email of evidence that former employees illegally accessed my state government email account.

I am attaching a copy of a blank PAR form for your information so that you may see what the form looks like and the sensitive nature of the information contained within it.

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Respectfully,

Dawnna Dukes
State Representative, District 46
Texas House of Representative

Cc: The Honorable Joe Straus, Speaker of the House of Representative
The Honorable Charlie Geren, Chairman, Committee on House Administration
Mr. Steve Adrien, House Administration
Mr. Scott Siebert, House Business Office
Mr. Rod Welsh, House Sargent-at-Arms
Mr. James Freeman, House Administration
Mr. Gary Bledsoe, Attorney
Mr. Bill Miller, Hillco Partners