

# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



Carol Alvarado  
*Co-Chair*

## SELECT COMMITTEE ON TRANSPARENCY IN STATE AGENCY OPERATIONS

Dan Flynn  
*Co-Chair*

July 25, 2013

The Honorable Wm. Eugene "Gene" Powell  
Ashbel Smith Hall, Suite 820  
201 West 7th Street  
Austin, Texas 78701

Dear Chairman Powell:

The Select Committee on Transparency in State Agency Operations of the Texas House of Representatives has initiated an investigation of University of Texas System Regent Wallace Hall. The committee is currently formulating a work plan to investigate the actions of Regent Hall. In order to ensure a full and fair investigation, this Committee requests that any and all documents relating to Regent Hall, his application to be a regent and supporting documentation, his investigation of the University of Texas Law School Foundation, his open records requests of University of Texas Austin, and any other relevant documents, including electronic and personal correspondence, be preserved until the completion of the Legislature's duties relating to this investigation.

It is very likely the work plan will require taking witness testimony on the actions of Regent Hall from some or all of the following individuals, most of whom are current employees of either the University of Texas at Austin or the University of Texas System:

- Bill Powers, President of UT-Austin;
- Lawrence Sager, Former Dean of UT Law School;
- Ward Farnsworth, Dean of UT Law School;
- Kedra Ishop, Director of Admissions UT-Austin;
- Samuel Riley, Director for Admission Programs, UT Law School;
- Rebecca Peppas, Admissions Coordinator, UT Law School;
- John Massey, UT Law Foundation;
- Barry Burgdorf, Former General Counsel of the UT System OGC;
- Francie Frederick, General Counsel to the Board of Regents; and
- Randa Safady, UT Vice Chancellor for External Relations,

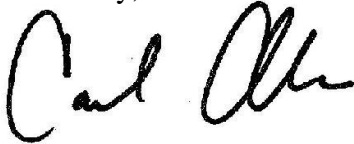
In order to ensure the integrity of the witness testimony, the Committee asks that no adverse employment action be taken against any proposed witness for the duration of the investigation

absent compelling justification. In the event such employment action is taken, the committee expects a thorough briefing as to the rationale for the action.

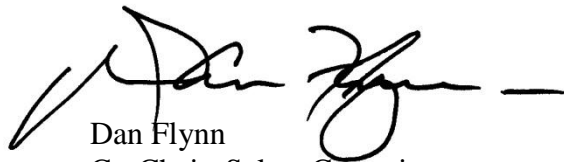
In summary, the Committee requests that no action be taken by the Board of Regents, the University of Texas System, or the University of Texas at Austin, that would directly or indirectly affect the availability of a proposed witness or access to a document. The Committee expects your complete cooperation with this investigation.

If you have any questions on this matter, please contact the clerks for the committee, Rich Ramirez or Mathew Posey, at (512)463-8160.

Sincerely,



Carol Alvarado  
Co-Chair, Select Committee on  
Transparency in State Agency Operations



Dan Flynn  
Co-Chair, Select Committee on  
Transparency in State Agency Operations