Dr. Karen Garza
Superintendent
Lubbock Independent School District
1628 19th Street
Lubbock, Texas 79401

OCT - 7 2009

Complaint No (b)(6)
Family Educational Rights
and Privacy Act

Dear Dr. Garza:

This is in regard to the complaint filed by (b)(6) attorney, on behalf of (b)(6) (Parent) against the Lubbock Independent School District (District) under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). By letter dated July 5, 2007, this Office informed the District's former superintendent of (b)(6) allegation that the District violated § 99.30 of the FERPA regulations when it improperly disclosed information from the education records of the Parent's daughter (b)(6) (Student).

Specifically, (b)(6) explained that (b)(6), who is a teacher at (b)(6) Elementary School, improperly disclosed information from the Student's education records to (b)(6) a teacher at (b)(6) Junior High School. (b)(6) explained that (b)(6) is the stepparent of the Student's halfsister, (b)(6) but does not have any relation to the Student.

By letter dated August 3, 2007, Ms. Ann Manning, attorney, responded on behalf of the District stating that the facts as explained by (b)(6) are correct and that once the District was informed of the complaint, (b)(6) was notified and disciplined. Ms. Manning explained that (b)(6) did not intentionally violate FERPA but because (the Student) and (b)(6) are half-sisters and (the Student) spends "a great deal of time in the (b)(6) home" she was trying to help ensure that (b)(6) attended school. Finally, Ms. Manning stated that the District continues to provide training regarding FERPA to all employees and will continue to do so in the future.

Based on the above information, we conclude that a disclosure of education records occurred and thus, we find that the District violated FERPA as alleged. Because the District has provided assurance that the disclosure in this instance was unintentional and that the District and its employees understand and comply with the requirements of FERPA, we are closing this complaint and will so notify (b)(6) by copy of this letter.

Thank you for your cooperation with regard to this matter.

Sincerely,

Paul Gammill
Director
Family Policy Compliance Office

cc: (b)(6)