



OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
STATE OF ILLINOIS

Lisa Madigan
ATTORNEY GENERAL

February 16, 2010

Edward Huntley
Chief Legal Counsel
Illinois Department of Corrections
P.O. Box 19277
Springfield, IL 62794-9277
(217) 558-2200

RE: Pre-Authorization Request – No. 5716

Dear Mr. Huntley:

The Office of the Public Access Counselor has received and reviewed the written notice from the Illinois Department of Corrections (IDOC) of its intent to deny [REDACTED] request, in part, based on subsection 7(1)(c) of the Freedom of Information Act, 5 ILCS 140/9.5(b) (FOIA).

The portion of [REDACTED] request that the IDOC intends to deny, based on subsection 7(1)(c), is the home address and age of Mr. Alexander, the subject of the FOIA request. IDOC asserts that the disclosure of this information would constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy. We agree, in part.

Age, by its very nature, can be highly personal. The disclosure of such information would constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy to a reasonable person unless consent is granted by that person. Therefore, we agree with the IDOC that the disclosure of age would trigger personal privacy concerns. Pre-authorization is **granted** to deny the disclosure of Mr. Alexander's age in accordance with subsection 7(1)(c).

Unique identifiers, such as home addresses, are explicitly classified as personal information under FOIA. 5 ILCS 140/7(1) (b). Such information can be redacted and sent directly to the requester without the need for pre-authorization from this office. Therefore, regarding Mr. Alexander's home address, pre-authorization is not necessary.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 312-814-6437.

Sincerely,

Cara Smith
Public Access Counselor

By: 

Lola Dada-Olley
Assistant Public Access Counselor

cc: 

The State Journal-Register
1 Copley Plaza
Springfield, IL 62705