



OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
STATE OF ILLINOIS

Lisa Madigan
ATTORNEY GENERAL

February 16, 2010

Pat McGrath
P.O. Box 139
Mackinaw, IL 61755-0139
mcgrathpc@verizon.net

RE: Pre-Approval Request – No. 5788

Dear Mr. McGrath:

The Office of the Public Access Counselor has received and reviewed the written notice from the Village of Danvers 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).

Based on subsection 7(1)(c), the Village of Danvers seeks to redact the employment information of all those involved in the police report in an effort to protect the privacy rights of the witness, victim and suspect. The employment information provided in the police report includes information such as the name of the employer and the position held by the person.

Please note that, generally, as long as this police report does not relate to a traffic accident, information that would unavoidably disclose the identity of witnesses may be redacted without seeking pre-authorization from this office. 5 ICLS 7(1)(d)(iv). In these instances, the information may be redacted and sent directly to the requester without the need for pre-approval from this office.

Otherwise, as a result of this review, we have determined that it is **appropriate** for the Village of Danvers to decline to disclose this information, pursuant subsection 7(1)(c). The portions of the investigation that are redacted relate to personal employment information that can easily identify all parties involved by their workplace. This constitutes information that a reasonable person would find highly objectionable and would likely not want made public via a police report. Thus, pre-authorization to assert 7(1)(c) is granted as it relates to the portions of the report presented to this office.

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:

