

## OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL STATE OF ILLINOIS

Lisa Madigan ATTORNEY GENERAL

February 22, 2010

Mr. Edward Huntley Chief Legal Counsel Illinois Department of Corrections Via electronic mail EDWARD.HUNTLEY@doc.illinois.gov

RE: FOIA Pre-approval Request – No. 5822

Dear Mr. Huntley:

We have received and reviewed the written notice from the Illinois Department of Corrections (IDOC) of its intent to deny access to and redact certain information from certain records requested by as exempt from disclosure under subsection 7(1)(c) of the Freedom of Information Act, 5 ILCS 140/9.5(b).

The Department has indicated an intent to redact individuals' social security numbers, birth dates and home addresses from the responsive records. We have determined that some of the information the Department wishes to redact falls within the Section 7(1)(b) exemption for private information. Specifically, social security numbers and home addresses fall within the statutory definition of private information, 5 ILCS 140/2(c-5) and are therefore exempt under Section 7(1)(b). Use of this exemption to partially deny disclosure of public records does not require pre-approval from our office.

Additionally, we have determined that it is appropriate to withhold dates of birth in the requested records under Section 7(1)(c) because disclosure of that information would likely be highly personal or objectionable to a reasonable person and the subject's right to privacy outweighs any public interest in releasing it. Thus, the request to assert the exemption under Section 7(1)(c) is hereby approved with regard to dates of birth redacted from the records and further inquiry into this matter is not warranted.

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Please release all non-exempt responsive records to mediately. This letter will serve to close this matter.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 217-785-7438.

Sincerely,

Cara Smith Public Access Counselor

Ву

Amanda M. Lundeen
Assistant Public Access Counselor

cc:

Via electronic mail
@chicagopublicradio.org