



OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
STATE OF ILLINOIS

Lisa Madigan
ATTORNEY GENERAL

July 19, 2011

Ms. Debra Ford
Village Clerk
Village of Northbrook
1225 Cedar Lane
Northbrook, Illinois 62706

RE: FOIA Pre-Authorization Request - 2011 PAC 12612

Dear Ms. Ford:

We have received and reviewed the written notice from the Village of Northbrook (Village) of its intention to deny certain information as exempt from disclosure under section 7(1)(c) of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) (5 ILCS 140/7(1)(c) (West 2010)).

On February 7, 2011, [REDACTED] submitted a FOIA request to the Village seeking a copy of a police report that involved the arrest of a minor. In its February 25, 2011, written notice to this office, the Village asserts that it redacted certain information pursuant to section 7(1)(c) of FOIA, which exempts from inspection and copying "[p]ersonal information contained within public records, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy, unless the disclosure is consented to in writing by the individual subjects of the information." The exemption defines "unwarranted invasion of personal privacy" as "the disclosure of information that is highly personal or objectionable to a reasonable person and in which the subject's right to privacy outweighs any legitimate public interest in obtaining the information." This office initiated further inquiry into the matter on March 11, 2011, and the Village responded on March 17, 2011. In its response, the Village informed this office that it seeks to redact a short narrative in the report that references details about the minor's personal life.¹

¹The Village explains that it is prohibited from releasing the report to this office pursuant to section 5-905(1) of the Juvenile Court Act of 1987 (JCA) (705 ILCS 405/5-905 (West 2010)). However, because the requester is the minor's parent, the Village further explains that the JCA recognizes the release of law enforcement records to the minor's parents. 705 ILCS 405/5-905(1)(c) (West 2010).

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DETERMINATION

The Village's request to redact a portion of the narrative in the report is **approved**. In a July 15, 2011, telephone conversation with a representative of this office, Ben Shuster, attorney for the Village, provided us with a description of the information that the Village seeks to redact pursuant to section 7(1)(c). Based on this description, we have concluded that this information is highly personal and its disclosure would be objectionable to a reasonable person.

Accordingly, this office finds that the Village has met its initial burden under section 7(1)(c) and that no further inquiry is warranted. This correspondence shall serve to close this matter. If you have any questions, you may contact me at (312) 814-5383.

Very truly yours,



MATTHEW C. ROGINA /
Assistant Attorney General
Public Access Bureau

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cc:

