



OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL  
STATE OF ILLINOIS

Lisa Madigan  
ATTORNEY GENERAL

April 5, 2010

Kristen Walker  
Records Manager  
South Holland Police Department  
16220 Wausau Avenue  
South Holland, IL 60473

RE: Pre-Authorization Request – 2010 PAC 6500

Dear Ms. Walker:

We have received and reviewed the written notice from the South Holland Police Department (Department) of its intention to deny certain information as exempt from disclosure under subsection 7(1)(c) of the Freedom of Information Act, 5 ILCS 140/1 *et seq.*, as amended (FOIA). The Department is seeking to redact dates of birth from Incident Report #S09-07837.

The Department's use of the exemption in 7(1)(c) with regard to dates of birth is approved. We have determined that the disclosure of dates of birth would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy. This type of information is highly personal by its very nature and the subject's right to privacy outweighs any legitimate public interest in disclosing this information.

As such, the Department should issue a partial denial letter directly [REDACTED] and release the records to him with the appropriate information redacted.

Although redaction of private information on the basis of exemption 7(1)(b) does not require pre-authorization by the Public Access Counselor, I would like to note that vehicle identification numbers are not "private information" as defined by subsection 2(c-5) of FOIA and thus do not warrant exemption from disclosure under 7(1)(b). In addition, we have determined that it is not appropriate to withhold vehicle identification numbers and vehicle serial numbers under subsection 7(1)(c), as that information identifies vehicles, rather than individuals and, therefore, is not highly personal.


If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (312) 814-1003. This correspondence shall serve to close this matter.

Kristen Walker  
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Sincerely,

Cara Smith  
Public Access Counselor

By:

  
Jessica O'Leary  
Assistant Attorney General

cc:

  
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