

**OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
STATE OF ILLINOIS**

Lisa Madigan
ATTORNEY GENERAL

April 8, 2010

Keith Harley, Attorney at Law
Chicago Legal Clinic, Inc.



John Costello



Dear Mr. Harley and Mr. Costello:

RE: Pre-Authorization Request – 2010 PAC 6572

We have received and reviewed the written notice from the Office of the Illinois Attorney General (OAG) of its intent to deny the Friends of the Forest Preserves (Friends) FOIA request, in part, based on an exemption in subsection 7(1)(f) of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), 5 ILCS 140/9.5(b). We have determined that the partial denial was proper and pre-authorization is **granted** regarding the materials withheld.

Friends requested “copies of all documents and other physical and electronic records in the possession of the Office of the Illinois Attorney General relating to the Cook County Forest Preserve District property at Miller Meadow, located on 1st Avenue in Maywood, IL.”

The OAG responded by granting in part and denying in part this request. The partial denial was based upon subsection 7(1)(f) which allows for nondisclosure of memoranda, drafts, notes, recommendations and other records in which “opinions are expressed, or policies or actions are formulated”. 5 ILCS 140/7(1)(f).

Specifically, the OAG explained that it seeks to withhold communications between staff members, electronic and otherwise, discussing possible actions and the formulation of a policy.


As a result of our review, we have determined that these communications reflect the expression of opinions and discussions in which policies or actions were being formulated and, thus, fit within the parameters of the subsection 7(1)(f) exemption.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me directly at (312) 814-6437. This letter shall serve to close this file.

Sincerely,

Cara Smith
Public Access Counselor

By:


Lola Dada-Olley
Assistant Public Access Counselor