



OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
STATE OF ILLINOIS

Lisa Madigan
ATTORNEY GENERAL

May 11, 2010

Town Clerk Wendelbyn Briggs
Town of Normal
100 East Phoenix Avenue
P.O. Box 589
Normal, Illinois 61761-0589

RE: Pre-Authorization Request – 2010 PAC 6924
FOIA Requester: [REDACTED]

Dear Clerk Briggs:

We have received and reviewed the written notice from the Town of Normal (Town) of its intent to deny disclosure of certain information in a traffic accident report 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 Town has asserted that certain information referencing the health of the driver is exempt from disclosure under subsection 7(1)(c).

Subsection 7(1)(c) of FOIA 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”. 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.”

The Town’s use of the subsection 7(1)(c) exemption with regard to the aforementioned information is **approved**. The information is highly personal by its very nature, and the subjects’ right to privacy with respect to this information outweighs any legitimate public interest in obtaining it. Thus, the information is exempt from disclosure under subsection 7(1)(c) of FOIA, as disclosure would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy to the subjects of the information. As such, the Town should issue a partial denial letter directly to the FOIA requester. Should you have questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at (312) 793-0865. This correspondence shall serve to close this matter.

Sincerely,

Cara Smith
Public Access Counselor

cc:



By:



Sara Gadola Gallagher
Deputy Public Access Counselor