



OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL  
STATE OF ILLINOIS

Lisa Madigan  
ATTORNEY GENERAL

May 12, 2010

Mr. Jay Stewart  
Senior Counsel  
Office of the Governor  
100 West Randolph Street, 16<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Chicago, Illinois 60601

RE: Pre-Authorization Request – 2010 PAC 7187

Dear Mr. Stewart:

We have received and reviewed the written notice from the Office of the Governor (Office) of its intent to deny disclosure of a certain portion of the Governor's calendar as exempt from disclosure under Section 7(1)(c) of the Freedom of Information Act. 5 ILCS 140/1 *et seq.*, as amended (FOIA).

The Office submitted its written notice in response to a March 22, 2010, FOIA request by *Chicago Tribune* reporter Monique Garcia, who requested copies of the Governor's appointment schedule/calendar and travel schedule/calendar for a specific period of time.

Section 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, unless the disclosure is consented to in writing by the individual subjects of the information." 5 ILCS 140/7(1)(c). The exemption defines "[u]nwarranted 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." *Id.*

The Office's use of the exemption in Section 7(1)(c) with regard to the information in question is **approved**. Information related to one of the Governor's personal appointments is highly personal information, and the Governor's right to privacy with respect to this information outweighs any legitimate public interest in obtaining this information. As such, because disclosure of the information would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy, the information is exempt from disclosure under Section 7(1)(c) of FOIA.

Accordingly, the Office should issue a partial denial letter directly to Ms. Garcia. 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

By: 

Sara Gadola Gallagher  
Deputy Public Access Counselor

cc: Staff Reporter Monique Garcia  
*Chicago Tribune*  
435 North Michigan Avenue  
Chicago, Illinois 60611