



OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL  
STATE OF ILLINOIS

Lisa Madigan  
ATTORNEY GENERAL

May 12, 2010

Laura Godette  
Freedom of Information Officer  
Village of Tinley Park  
16250 S. Oak Park Ave.  
Tinley Park, IL 60477

RE: Pre-Authorization Request — 2010 PAC 7211

Dear Ms. Godette:

We have received and reviewed the written notice from the Village of Tinley Park (Village) of its intent to deny disclosure of certain information as exempt from disclosure under Section 7(1)(c) of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). 5 ILCS 140/1 *et seq.*, as amended.

Amy Alderman of the *Chicago Tribune* submitted a FOIA request dated May 4, 2010, seeking a police report regarding an incident occurring on February 22, 2010. In its written notice, the Village asserted that the date of birth is exempt from disclosure under Section 7(1)(c) of FOIA.

**Determination**

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 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 Village's use of the exemption in Section 7(1)(c) with regard to date of birth is approved. We have determined that the disclosure of dates of birth would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy under Section 7(1)(c). 5 ILCS 140/7(1)(c). 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 Village may issue a partial denial letter directly to [REDACTED] and release the records to her with the appropriate information redacted.

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If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (312) 814-5206. This correspondence shall serve to close this matter.

Sincerely,

Cara Smith  
Public Access Counselor

By:

A solid black rectangular redaction box covering the signature of Amalia Rioja.

Amalia Rioja  
Chief Deputy Public Access Counselor

cc: Amy Alderman  
*Chicago Tribune*  
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Suite 800  
Westchester, IL 60154