



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

Lisa Madigan
ATTORNEY GENERAL

August 24, 2010

John Costello
FOIA Officer
Office of the Illinois Attorney General
500 South Second Street
Springfield, IL 62706

RE: Pre-Authorization Request – 2010 PAC 9135

Dear Mr. Costello:

We have received and reviewed the written notice from the Office of the Illinois Attorney General (OIAG) of its intention to deny disclosure of certain information pursuant to Section 7(1)(f) of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). 5 ILCS 140/7(1)(f).

On August 11, 2010, [REDACTED] submitted a FOIA request to the OIAG seeking the following information:

Copies of all notes, letters, documents, etc, pertaining to the investigation initiated by [REDACTED] against the Skokie Police Department/Village of Skokie. Date of complaint – 12 May 2010. Complaint closed letter – 30 July 2010. Paralegal assigned to case – [REDACTED]

In its written notice, the OIAG asserts that certain documents contained within the requested records have been withheld from disclosure under Section 7(1)(f) of FOIA.

Determination

Section 7(1)(f) of FOIA exempts from inspection and copying “[p]reliminary’ drafts, notes, recommendations, memoranda and other records in which opinions are expressed, or policies or actions are formulated, except that a specific record or relevant portion of a record shall not be exempt when the record is publicly cited and identified by the head of the public body.”

The OIAG’s use of the Section 7(1)(f) exemption with regards to the withheld documents is **approved**. We have determined that the withheld documents are comprised of emails and handwritten notes in which opinions and recommendations were expressed and were relied upon by the OIAG in its decision-making process regarding a specific matter. Moreover, there is no indication that any of the withheld documents have been publicly cited or identified.

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Accordingly, the OIAG has met its burden of establishing that the withheld documents are exempt from disclosure under Section 7(1)(f) of FOIA.

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

Sincerely,

Cara Smith
Public Access Counselor

By:



Tola Adewola
Assistant Public Access Counselor

cc:

