



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

Lisa Madigan  
ATTORNEY GENERAL

June 21, 2010

Karen Lucas  
FOIA Officer  
Metra  
547 W. Jackson Blvd.  
Chicago, IL 60661-5717

RE: Pre-Authorization Request – 2010 PAC 8018  
FOIA Requestor: Mary Gannon

Dear Ms. Lucas:

We have received and reviewed the written notice from Metra 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 140/7(1)(c).

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.*

**Determination**

Metra's use of the exemption in Section 7(1)(c) with regard to dates of birth is approved. We have determined that disclosure of dates of birth would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy under Section 7(1)(c) of FOIA. This 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.

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

[Redacted signature block]

By:  Cara Smith  
Deputy Public Access Counselor

cc:

[Redacted cc list]