



OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
STATE OF ILLINOIS

Lisa Madigan
ATTORNEY GENERAL

March 29, 2011

Ms. Debra Ford
Freedom of Information Officer
Village of Northbrook
1225 Cedar Lane
Northbrook, IL 60062

RE: Pre-Authorization Request – 2011 PAC 12979
FOIA Requester: Mr. Bryan Dant – LexisNexis Claims Solutions, Inc.

Dear Ms. Ford:

We have received and reviewed the written notice from the Village of Northbrook of its intention to deny disclosure of certain information contained in police reports pursuant to Section 7(1)(c) of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) (5 ILCS 140/7).

On March 2, 2011, Mr. Bryan Dant of LexisNexis Claims Solutions, Inc. submitted a FOIA request to the Village seeking theft record 10-21960, for a burglary on December 9, 2010.

On March 14, 2011, the Village sought our office's approval to withhold six statements contained in the theft report under the Section 7(1)(c) exemption. On March 18, 2011, the Village provided this office with a copy of its proposed response. It argued that the withheld portions "describe very sensitive contacts between a person (other than the requestor) and the Village's police department, the disclosure of which would be a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy."

Determination

Section 7(1)(c) 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." 5 ILCS 140/7(1)(c).

The Village's use of the Section 7(1)(c) exemption with regard to the withheld statements is **approved**. After thorough review of the redacted information, this office agrees that the statements are highly

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personal and the disclosure would be objectionable to a reasonable person. Here, the subjects' right to privacy with respect to this information outweighs any legitimate public interest in obtaining it. Thus, the Village has met its initial burden to demonstrate that this information is exempt from disclosure under Section 7(1)(c) of FOIA, as disclosure would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy to the subjects of the information.

Should you have questions or concerns, please feel free to contact our office at (877) 299-3642. This correspondence shall serve to close this matter.

Sincerely,

cc: Mr. Bryan Dant
LexisNexis Claims Solutions, Inc.
P.O. Box 7000
Southeastern, PA 19398



By: Rebecca Riddick
Assistant Public Access Counselor