

OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL STATE OF ILLINOIS

Lisa Madigan ATTORNEY GENERAL

April 4, 2011

Mr. Todd Rent Human Relations/Compliance Officer City of Urbana 400 South Vine St. Urbana, Illinois 61801

RE: FOIA Preauthorization Request – 2011 PAC 13126

Dear Mr.Rent:

We have received and reviewed the written notice from the City of Urbana of its intent to withhold portions of reports requested by pursuant to Section 7(1)(c) of FOIA, which exempts from disclosure "[p]ersonal information contained within public records, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy." That provision further defines an "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."

had requested copies of January 24, 2008 arrest reports for a specified individual who ultimately pleaded guilty to battery. The City intends to provide a redacted version of the reports to her. We also note that the City has also supplied this Office with copies of records relating to the arrest of the person who was the victim of the battery.

We have carefully reviewed the redacted and unredacted versions of the reports. Initially, we note that the City does not require preauthorization from our Office for the redaction of addresses under Section 7(1)(b) of FOIA. 5 ILCS 140/7(1)(b). With respect to the remainder of the proposed redactions, we conclude that the majority of the information that the City intends to withhold is highly personal and disclosure would be objectionable to a reasonable person. Furthermore, the subject's right to privacy in that information outweighs any legitimate interest in obtaining the information that the Village proposes to withhold. The only redacted information that does not fall within the above category is the name of the individual who was arrested and the name of an establishment in Champaign where the victim of the battery had allegedly caused problems for the perpetrator and a friend of the perpetrator. Accordingly, the Village's request to assert the Section 7(1)(c) exemption is approved with respect to all of the

information except the name of the person arrested and the name of the Champaign establishment.

We also note that the City has supplied this Office with copies of records relating to the arrest of the person who was the victim of the battery. We make no comment about the propriety of the redactions of those records because the requester did not ask for the arrest records of the battery victim.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 312-814-2770. This correspondence will serve to close the matter.

Sincerely,

John Schmidt

Assistant Attorney General

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