



OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
STATE OF ILLINOIS

Lisa Madigan
ATTORNEY GENERAL

April 15, 2011

Julie Nistler
FOIA Officer
City of Park Ridge
Police Department
200 South Vine Avenue
Park Ridge, Illinois 60068

RE: Pre-Authorization Request — 2011 PAC 13455

Dear Ms. Nistler:

We have received and reviewed the written notice from the Park Ridge Police Department of its intention to deny disclosure of certain information pursuant to Section 7(1)(c) of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). 5 ILCS 140/1 *et seq.*, as amended.

Timothy Coppock, from L. J. Shaw & Company, submitted a FOIA request dated March 25, 2011, seeking a copy of Report Number 11-4830. (L. J. Shaw & Company's file number is 52961K.) In its written notice, the Department asserted that a date of birth is exempt from disclosure under Section 7(1)(c) (5 ILCS 140/7(1)(c)).

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 the disclosure is consented to in writing by the individual subjects of the information." *Id.* 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.*

April 15, 2011
Page 2

The Department's use of the exemption in Section 7(1)(c) with regard to a 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). This 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 Department may issue a partial denial letter directly to the requester and release the report with the appropriate information redacted. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the Public Access Counselor's Office at (877) 299-3642. This correspondence shall serve to close this matter.

Sincerely,

Sarah Kaplan BYEK

Sarah Kaplan
Assistant Public Access Counselor

cc: Timothy Coppock
Adjuster
L. J. Shaw & Company
1100 South Main Street
Lombard, Illinois 60148- 3971

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