



OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
STATE OF ILLINOIS

Lisa Madigan
ATTORNEY GENERAL

April 14, 2011

Sharon McDowell, FOIA Officer
Village of Alsip
4522 West 124th Street
Alsip, IL 60803

Re: Request for Review – 2011 PAC 13498

Dear Ms. McDowell:

We have received from the Village of Alsip a notice of intention to deny disclosure of certain information requested under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). 5 ILCS 140/1 *et seq.*, as amended. [REDACTED] requested copies of all FOIA requests filed with the Village between January 1, 2011 and March 28, 2011 as well as the Village's FOIA control sheets. The Village requested pre-authorization to redact the names, addresses and telephone numbers of individuals who filed FOIA requests pursuant to Section 7(1)(c) (5 ILCS 140/7(1)(c)) of FOIA.

Information in public records is exempt personal information if disclosure would "constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy, unless the disclosure is consented to in writing by the individual subjects of the information." 5 ILCS 140/7(1)(c). An "[u]nwarranted invasion of personal privacy" is 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

The Village's request to redact the names, addresses and telephone numbers of individuals who filed FOIA requests is **approved**. We determined in 2010 PAC 8578 that disclosure of this information would constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy under Section 7(1)(c). *See also Chicago Alliance of Neighborhood Safety v. City of Chicago*, 348 Ill. App. 3d 188, 212, 808 N.E.2d 56, 75 (1st Dist. 2004) (disclosure of the names and addresses of individuals who submitted FOIA requests to the City of Chicago Police Department would constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy under Section 7(1)(c)). The names, addresses and telephone numbers of FOIA requesters is highly personal information, and those subjects' right

to privacy outweighs any legitimate public interest in disclosure of this information. Accordingly, we conclude that the Village has sustained its initial burden of demonstrating that such information is exempt from disclosure under Section 7(1)(c).

This letter shall serve to close this file. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (312) 814-6756 or ssilverman@atg.state.il.us.

Sincerely,



Steve Silverman
Assistant Public Access Counselor

cc:

