



OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL  
STATE OF ILLINOIS

**Lisa Madigan**  
ATTORNEY GENERAL

October 20, 2010

Kate Rassmussen  
Freedom of Information Officer  
Kendall County Sheriff's Office  
1102 Cornell Lane  
Yorkville, IL 60560-9597

RE: Pre-Authorization Request — 2010 PAC 10191

Dear Ms. Rassmussen:

We have received and reviewed the written notice from the Kendall County Sheriff's Office (Office) 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.

Wade T. Shimer of Wunderlich Law Office, Ltd. submitted a FOIA request dated October 7, 2010, seeking police records on an individual. In its written notice, the Office asserted that dates of birth are exempt from disclosure under Section 7(1)(c) of FOIA.

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

The Office's use of the exemption in Section 7(1)(c) with regard to dates 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). 5 ILCS 140/7(1)(c). This type of 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 Office may issue a partial denial letter directly to the requester and release the records with the appropriate information redacted.