



**OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
STATE OF ILLINOIS**

Lisa Madigan
ATTORNEY GENERAL

October 19, 2010

Ms. Darcie Shinberger
Director, University Relations
Western Illinois University
DR_shinberger@wiu.edu

Re: FOIA Pre-Authorization Request 9882

Dear Ms. Shinberger:

We have received and reviewed the written notice from Western Illinois University (WIU) of its intention to withhold certain information as exempt from disclosure under Section 7(1)(f) of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), 5 ILCS 140/1 *et seq.*, as amended.

Specifically, [REDACTED] submitted a FOIA request on September 27, 2010 to WIU seeking copies of information sheets used by panelists during [REDACTED] job interview with WIU approximately three months ago.

On September 27, 2010, WIU submitted a Pre-Authorization Request with this Office explaining that the information sought by [REDACTED] are evaluation sheets in which opinions are expressed by the panelists that conducted [REDACTED] interview and are therefore exempt from disclosure pursuant to Section 7(1)(f), which exempts from inspection and copying "preliminary drafts, notes, recommendations, memoranda and other records in which opinions are expressed, or policies are formulated, except that a specific record or relevant portion of a record shall not be exempt when the record is publicly cited and identified by the head of the public body." 5 ILCS 140 7(1)(f).

Determinations

WIU's request for approval of its decision to withhold information pursuant to Section 7(1)(f) is approved. Our Office has concluded based on the specific facts provided by WIU that this information reflects the preliminary decisions and opinions by WIU personnel regarding a prospective job applicant and falls within the scope of Section 7(1)(f).

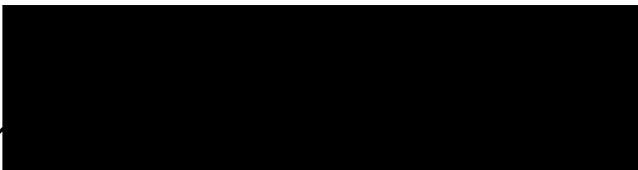
Additionally, there is no evidence that this information has been publicly cited and identified by the head of the public body. 5 ILCS 140/7(1)(f).

Based on this analysis, WIU has met its initial burden under Section 7(1)(f) and may withhold the documents in question.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at (312) 814-5383. This correspondence shall serve to close this matter.

Sincerely,

Cara Smith
Public Access Counselor



Matthew C. Rogina
Assistant Public Access Counselor

cc:

