



OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
STATE OF ILLINOIS

Lisa Madigan
ATTORNEY GENERAL

April 25, 2011

Nicole Wickham
Aurora Police Department
1200 E. Indian Trail Road
Aurora, Illinois 60505-1896

RE: Pre-Authorization Request - 2011 PAC 13655

Dear Ms. Wickham:

We have received from the Aurora Police Department a notice of intention to deny disclosure of certain information as exempt from disclosure under Section 7(1)(c) of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), 5 ILCS 140/7 *et. seq.*, as amended. On April 11, 2011, Robyn Woolson, Service Representative from Claim Services, Inc. submitted a FOIA request seeking a copy of accident report 2011-003324. In its written notice, the Department asserted that dates of birth are 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.*

The Department'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). 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,

STEVE SILVERMAN by EK

Steve Silverman
Assistant Public Access Counselor

cc: Robyn Woolson
Claim Services, Inc. REF Claim # 247719
552 South Washington Street, Ste 217
Naperville, Illinois 60505

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