



OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
STATE OF ILLINOIS

Lisa Madigan
ATTORNEY GENERAL

October 26, 2010

Mr. Mark Schuster
Village Attorney
Village of Hampshire
234 South State Street
P.O. Box 457
Hampshire, IL 60140

RE: Pre-Authorization Request – 2010 PAC 10187
FOIA Requester: [REDACTED]

Dear Mr. Schuster:

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

[REDACTED] submitted a FOIA request dated October 6, 2010, seeking a copy of Report #10-03763. In its written notice the Village asserted that dates of birth are exempt from disclosure pursuant to 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 Village's use of the exemption in Section 7(1)(c) with regard to dates of birth is approved. We have determined that a person's date of birth is highly personal information, and the subject's right to privacy with respect to this information outweighs any legitimate public interest in its disclosure. As such, the Village may issue a partial denial letter directly to [REDACTED] and release the record with the appropriate information redacted.

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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,

Cara Smith
Public Access Counselor

By: Tola Sobitan DNR

Tola Sobitan
Assistant Public Access Counselor

cc:



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