



OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
STATE OF ILLINOIS

Lisa Madigan
ATTORNEY GENERAL

November 1, 2010

Heather Kruse
City of Des Plaines
1420 Miner Street
Des Plaines, IL 60016-4498

RE: Pre-Authorization Request – 2010 PAC 10359

Dear Ms. Kruse:

We have received and reviewed the written notice from the City of Des Plaines (City) of its intention to deny certain information as exempt from disclosure under subsection 7(1)(c) of the Freedom of Information Act, 5 ILCS 140/1 *et seq.*, as amended (FOIA). The City is seeking to redact dates of birth from the requested documents.

██████████ of Michael A. Alesia and Associates submitted a FOIA request on October 8, 2010 for police report ██████████. In its written notice, the City asserted that the dates of birth are exempt from disclosure under Section 7(1)(c) of FOIA.

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.” 5 ILCS 140/7(1)(c). 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.*

Determination

The City’s use of the exemption in Section 7(1)(c) with regard to the dates of birth is approved. We have determined that the disclosure of dates of birth would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy. 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.

Accordingly, the City may issue a partial denial letter and release the reports with the dates of birth redacted, if it has not already done so.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (217) 558-1926. This correspondence shall serve to close this matter.


Sincerely,

Cara Smith
Public Access Counselor

By: *Amanda Lundeen*
JLF

Amanda M. Lundeen
Assistant Public Access Counselor

cc:


Michael A. Alesia & Associates
1000 Plaza Drive, Suite 680
Schaumburg, IL 60173

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