

OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL STATE OF ILLINOIS

Lisa Madigan ATTORNEY GENERAL November 4, 2010

Janet K. Traven City Clerk City of Joliet 150 W. Jefferson Street Joliet, Illinois 60432

RE: Pre-Authorization Request – 2010 PAC 8698

Dear Ms. Traven:

We have received and reviewed the written notice from the City of Joliet (City) 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 seg , as amended .

submitted a FOIA request dated July 19, 2010, seeking copies of all photographs associated with report number 100620012507. In its written notice, the City asserted that these photographs 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 City's use of the exemption in Section 7(1)(c) with regard to the photographs is approved. We have determined that the disclosure of these photographs 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 City may issue a denial letter directly to the requester in accordance with this letter.

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:

amalia Rioja Duja by EK

Chief Deputy Public Access Counselor

cc:

8698 pre-auth al 71c priv pd