



OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
STATE OF ILLINOIS

Lisa Madigan
ATTORNEY GENERAL

December 10, 2010

Julie Nistler
FOIA Officer
City of Park Ridge Police Department
200 S. Vine Avenue
Park Ridge, Illinois 60068

RE: Pre-Authorization Request – 2010 PAC 11154

Dear Ms. Nistler:

We have received and reviewed the written notice from the City of Park Ridge Police Department (Department) of its intention to deny certain information as exempt from disclosure under Section 7(1)(c) of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA).

Specifically, on November 24, 2010, [REDACTED] submitted a FOIA request to the Department, seeking a copy of the police report #10-15410. In its written notice, the Department asserts that the dates of birth and the name of the suspect, contained within the requested report, are exempt from disclosure under Section 7(1)(c) of FOIA (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.” The exemption defines “unwarranted 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 Section 7(1)(c) exemption with regard to dates of birth is **approved**. A date of birth is highly personal information, and an individual’s right to privacy with respect to his date of birth generally outweighs any legitimate public interest in obtaining it. Thus, disclosure of the dates of birth would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy to the individuals.

Next, the Department’s use of the Section 7(1)(c) exemption with regards to the name of suspect listed in the report is **approved**. We have determined that disclosure of this information would