



**OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
STATE OF ILLINOIS**

Lisa Madigan
ATTORNEY GENERAL

December 20, 2010

Mr. Gregory J. Ramel
Deputy Legal Counsel
Illinois Department of Employment Security
Gregory.ramel@illinois.gov

RE: FOIA Pre-Authorization Request 2010-PAC 83.11

Dear Mr. Ramel:

We have received and reviewed the written notice from the Illinois Department of Employment Security of its intention to withhold certain information as exempt from disclosure under Section 7(1)(f) of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), 5 ILCS 140/7(1)(f) *et seq.*, as amended.

Specifically, on June 23, 2010, John O'Connor, Staff Reporter for the *Associated Press*, submitted a FOIA request to the Department seeking information related to each of the bidders for the Unemployment Trust Fund awards. Mr. O'Connor also requested copies of any written communications between and among IDES employees and [REDACTED]. On July 1, 2010, the Department sought our Office's approval to withhold certain records pursuant to Section 7(1)(f) of FOIA (5 ILCS 140/7(1)(f)), which exempts from inspection and copying "preliminary drafts, notes, recommendations, memoranda and other records in which opinions are expressed, or policies are formulated, except that a specific record or relevant portion of a record shall not be exempt when the record is publicly cited and identified by the head of the public body."

The Department supplied us with three documents that it seeks to withhold pursuant to Section 7(1)(f). In its letter, the Department indicated that it was in possession eight e-mails from a Department employee in which [REDACTED] is an addressee. This Office initiated further inquiry into this matter on July 13, 2010 and requested a copy of the e-mails.

Pursuant to a December 15, 2010 conversation with a representative of this Office, Gregory J. Ramel, Deputy Legal Counsel for the Department, said that he had previously supplied these e-mails to the *AP*. Accordingly, we consider this portion of Mr. O'Connor's request to have been satisfied.