



OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL  
STATE OF ILLINOIS

**Lisa Madigan**  
ATTORNEY GENERAL

December 27, 2010

Heather Kruse  
Staff Attorney  
City of Des Plaines  
City Manager's Office  
Legal Division  
1420 Miner Street  
Des Plaines, Illinois 60016

RE: Pre-Authorization Request -- 2010 PAC 11410

Dear Ms. Kruse:

We have received and reviewed the written notice from the City of Des Plaines 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 seq.*, as amended.

Sandra LaGrand submitted a FOIA request dated December 13, 2010, seeking copies of the reports described in her request. In its written notice, the City asserted that dates of birth 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 dates of birth is approved. We have determined that the disclosure of dates of birth 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 partial denial letter directly to the requester and release the records 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:

*Amalia Rioja by EK*

Amalia Rioja  
Chief Deputy Public Access Counselor

cc: Sandra LaGrand, Investigator  
State of Illinois  
Department of Children and Family Services  
Cook North Region  
Division of Child Protection  
8141 North McCormick Boulevard  
Skokie, Illinois 60076

*11410 preauth at 71c dob mun*