

OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL STATE OF ILLINOIS

Lisa Madigan
ATTORNEY GENERAL

January 12, 2011

Ann Kavanaugh 1000 W. Schaumburg Road Schaumburg, IL 60193-1899

RE: Pre-Authorization Request = 2010 PAC 11454

Dear Ms. Kavanaugh:

We have received and reviewed the written notice from the Village of Schaumburg Police Department (Department) 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 Department is seeking to redact dates of birth, the name of a possible suspect and people associated with the possible suspects who were not arrested or charged from the requested documents.

submitted a FOIA request for reports in its written notice, the bepartment asserted that the dates of birth and the names or people associated with the suspect 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 Department's use of the exemption in Section 7(1)(c) with regard to the dates of birth is <u>approved</u>. 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.

The Department's use of the exemption in Section 7(1)(c) with regard to redacting the name of a person associated with the suspect is approved. We have concluded that the disclosure of the names and contact information of people associated with the suspect would be highly objectionable to a reasonable person. Under these circumstances, the right to privacy outweighs any public interest in the information that the Department intends to redact from the report.

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

Sincerely,

Cara Smith

Public Access Counselor

By: Amanda Lundeln Amanda M. Lundeen

Assistant Public Access Counselor

cc: