



OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
STATE OF ILLINOIS

Lisa Madigan
ATTORNEY GENERAL

January 31, 2011

Mr. Gary S. Perlman
Law Offices of Louis F. Cainkar, Ltd.
30 North LaSalle Street, Suite 3922
Chicago, IL 60602

Re: Pre-Authorization Request--2011 PAC 11988
FOIA Requester: [REDACTED]

Dear Mr. Perlman:

We have received and reviewed the written notice from the Justice-Willow Springs Water Commission of its intention to deny disclosure of the name(s) of parties requesting public documents pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) in Commission records for being exempt from disclosure under subsection 7(1)(c) of FOIA. 5 ILCS 140/1 *et seq.*, as amended.

Section 7(1)(c) 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."

The Commission's use of the section 7(1)(c) exemption to withhold the name of a FOIA requestor is **approved**. The Commission argues:

Persons exercising rights under the FOIA are entitled to be free from an invasion of personal privacy and such privacy rights outweigh the public interest in disclosure of their names. The FOIA is designed to provide information about the affairs of government and not to provide information about private individuals seeking access.

Our office agrees that the subject's right to privacy outweighs any public interest in obtaining this information. Thus, our office finds that the Commission has met its initial burden with respect to the redaction of the FOIA requestor's name.

Accordingly, the Commission may redact the requestor's name and release the remainder of the documents in accordance with this letter.

11988 at 71c priv mun

Should you have questions or concerns, please feel free to contact our office at 877-299-3642. This correspondence shall serve to close this matter.

Sincerely,

A solid black rectangular redaction box covering the signature of the sender.

Rebecca Riddick
Assistant Public Access Counselor

cc:

A solid black rectangular redaction box covering the list of recipients for the correspondence.