OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
STATE OF ILLINOIS

Lisa Madigan
ATTORNEY GENERAL

February 24, 2011

Ms. Wendellyn J. Briggs
Town of Normal
City Clerk
100 East Phoenix Ave.
Normal, IL 61761

Re: Pre-Authorization Request – 2011 PAC 12462
FOIA Requester: Metropolitan Reporting Bureau – Re: [redacted]

Dear Ms. Briggs:

We have received and reviewed the written notice from the Town of Normal (Town) of its intention to deny disclosure of dates of birth in a police report as exempt from disclosure under Section 7(1)(c) of the Freedom of Information Act (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 Town's use of the Section 7(1)(c) exemption with regard to dates of birth is **approved**. The information is highly personal by its very nature, and the subjects' right to privacy with respect to this information outweighs any legitimate public interest in obtaining it. Thus, the information is exempt from disclosure under Section 7(1)(c) of FOIA, as disclosure would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy to the subjects of the information.

As such, the Town should issue a partial denial letter directly to the FOIA requester in accordance with this letter. Should you have questions or concerns, please feel free to contact our office at (312) 793-0024. This correspondence shall serve to close this matter.

Sincerely,
[redacted]

Rebecca Riddick
Assistant Public Access Counselor

cc: Metropolitan Reporting Bureau
P.O. Box 926, William Penn Annex
Philadelphia, PA 19105

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