



OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL  
STATE OF ILLINOIS

Lisa Madigan  
ATTORNEY GENERAL

March 4, 2011

Kerry Sutton  
Freedom of Information Officer  
Illinois State Police  
801 S. Seventh St.  
Suite 1000-S  
Springfield, IL 19461

RE: Pre-Authorization Request – 2011 PAC 12609

Dear Trooper Sutton:

We have received and reviewed the written notice from the Illinois State Police 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.

██████████ submitted a FOIA request dated February 11, 2011, seeking copies of certain forensic lab reports. In its written notice, the ISP asserted that a victim's name is exempt from disclosure under Section 7(1)(c) (5 ILCS 140/7(1)(c)).

**Determinations**

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 the disclosure is consented to in writing by the individual subjects of the information." *Id.* 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 ISP's use of the exemption in Section 7(1)(c) to withhold the name of a victim is approved. We have determined that the disclosure of this name would constitute a clearly unwarranted

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invasion of personal privacy under Section 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 ISP may issue a partial denial letter directly to the requester and release the report with the appropriate information redacted.

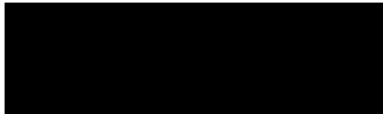
If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the Public Access Counselor's Office at (877) 299-3642. This correspondence shall serve to close this matter.

Sincerely,

*Sarah Kaplan BYEK*

Sarah Kaplan  
Assistant Public Access Counselor

cc:



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