



OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
STATE OF ILLINOIS

Lisa Madigan
ATTORNEY GENERAL

March 7, 2011

Wendellyn Briggs
Freedom of Information Act Officer
Town of Normal
100 East Phoenix Ave
PO Box 589
Normal, IL 61761

RE: Pre-Authorization Request - 2011-PAC 12657

Dear Ms. Briggs:

We have received and reviewed the written notice from the Town of Normal 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.

On February 18, 2011 Lexis Nexis submitted a FOIA request (no. 345776021) seeking a copy of the Police Report No. 2011-223. In its February 28, 2011 written notice to the Office of the Public Access Counselor, Town asserted that dates of birth are exempt from disclosure under Section 7(1)(c) of FOIA, 5 ILCS 140/7(1)(c) which 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."

Determination

The Town's use of the exemption in Section 7(1)(c) with regard to a date of birth is approved. 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, Town may issue a partial denial letter directly to the requestor and release the records with the appropriate information redacted if it has not already done so.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (312) 814-5383. This correspondence shall serve to close this matter.

Sincerely,

A large black rectangular redaction box covers the signature area, obscuring the name and any handwritten notes.

Matthew C. Rogina
Assistant Public Access Counselor

cc: Lexis Nexis
PO Box 7000
Southeastern, PA
19398

12657 preauth at 71c dob pd