

OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL STATE OF ILLINOIS

Lisa Madigan ATTORNEY GENERAL

November 12, 2015

Via electronic mail
Mr. Patrick B. McGrath
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RE: FOIA Request for Review – 2015 PAC 38449

Dear Mr. McGrath:

The Public Access Bureau has received the attached Request for Review of the response by the Allin Township Fire Protection District (District) to an October 26, 2015, Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request submitted by Mr. Josh Deterding. We have determined that further action is warranted.

Mr. Deterding submitted the attached FOIA request to the District seeking copies of an ordinance, a publication in the newspaper about that ordinance, the payment for an insurance claim, and any documents associated with that claim. On November 4, 2015, the District responded by providing Mr. Deterding with a copy of a check associated with the insurance claim, but redacted and withheld information pursuant to sections 7(1)(b) and 7(1)(s) of FOIA (5 ILCS 140/7(1)(b), (1)(s) (West 2014), as amended by Public Act 99-298, effective August 6, 2015).

As required under section 9.5(c) of FOIA (5 ILCS 140/9.5(c) (West 2014)), please provide this office with unredacted copies of the withheld records for our confidential review, together with a detailed written explanation of what the District withheld and the District's legal and factual bases for withholding that information. In drafting your response, please take note of two binding opinions issued by this office that construe the scope of the section 7(1)(s) exemption: Ill. Att'y Gen. Pub. Acc. Op. No. 11-004, issued April 15, 2011, and Ill. Att'y Gen. Pub. Acc. Op. No. 11-005, issued April 18, 2011. Both are available here: http://foia.ilattorneygeneral.net/bindingopinions.aspx.

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This information must be submitted to our office within seven (7) business days after receipt of this letter. Under FOIA, "[t]he Public Access Counselor shall forward a copy of the answer to the person submitting the request for review, with any alleged confidential information to which the request pertains redacted from the copy. The requester may, but is not required to, respond in writing[.]" 5 ILCS 140/9.5(d) (West 2014). If you claim that any portion of your written response is confidential, please send two versions of your response letter: a complete copy for this office's confidential review and a redacted version suitable for this office to forward to the requester.

Please contact me at (312) 814-8413, jjones@atg.state.il.us, or the Chicago address on the first page of this letter if you have questions or would like to discuss this matter. Thank you.

Very truly yours,

JOSH JONES Supervising Attorney Public Access Bureau

Enclosure

cc: Via electronic mail

Mr. Josh Deterding (will receive letter only)

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