



City of Chicago
Richard M. Daley, Mayor

Department of Law

Mara S. Georges
Corporation Counsel

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March 2, 2010

Ross Weidner
ABC 7
Ross.E.Weidner@abc.com

Dear Mr. Weidner:

On behalf of the Mayor's Office, I am responding to your Freedom of Information Act request seeking copies of all job applications for the vacant 1st and 29th ward aldermanic positions advertised by the city, including but not limited to copies of the cover letter, resumes, and letters of recommendation for all applicants. I received your request on February 22, 2010.

At this time, I intend to deny this request pursuant to 5 ILCS 140/7(1)(c). Individuals who apply for positions with the City of Chicago have an expectation of privacy and a trust that their names and personal information will not be shared with outside individuals or entities. To release that information would be a violation of that trust and potentially cause them irreparable harm which could include the loss of their current jobs. Additionally, release of this information could adversely impact the City of Chicago's ability to attract qualified and capable applicants if it is understood that any third party, even current employers, could request and receive a list of job applicants.

With regard to our intent to deny documents because production would be an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy under 5 ILCS 140/7(1)(c), this letter, along with a notice of intent to deny and your request, is being forwarded to the Public Access Counselor as required by 5 ILCS 140/9.5 for preapproval. Once the PAC reaches a determination on the request for preapproval, we will advise you of the PAC's determination and our response to that determination.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Hoyle
Director of Public Affairs
City of Chicago, Department of Law
312-744-1575



Hoyle, Jennifer

From: Lewis, Lance
Sent: Friday, February 26, 2010 10:43 AM
To: Hoyle, Jennifer
Subject: FW: FOIA Request -- ABC 7

-----Original Message-----

From: Weidner, Ross E [mailto:Ross.E.Weidner@abc.com]
Sent: Monday, February 22, 2010 11:36 AM
To: Lewis, Lance
Subject: FOIA Request -- ABC 7

Lance,

I'm writing under the Freedom of Information Act to request access to and a copy of all job applications for the vacant 1st and 29th ward Alderman positions advertised by the city including but not limited to copies of the cover letter, resumes, and letters of recommendation for all applicants.

If you have questions about this request please call me at (312)590-1954 or email ross.e.weidner@abc.com.

Thanks,
Ross Weidner

Ross Weidner
Special Projects Producer
ABC 7 Chicago
Mobile: (312)590-1954
Office: (312)750-7591
<http://twitter.com/RossWeidner>

**CITY OF CHICAGO
MAYOR'S OFFICE
REQUEST FOR PRE-APPROVAL OF USE OF EXEMPTION 7(1)(c) or 7(1)(f)**

** Note to Public Body: Before denying a request, in whole or in part, based on an exemption in Section 7(1)(c) or 7(1)(f) of the Freedom of Information Act, you must provide written notice to the Public Access Counselor and the requester of the intent to deny the request on this basis. 5 ILCS 140/9.5(b). Completing and submitting this form to the Public Access Counselor and to the requester will constitute written notice of the public body's intent to deny the requester's FOIA request in whole or in part based upon the exemption in Section 7(1)(c) or 7(1)(f) of the Freedom of Information Act.

Name of Public Body: City of Chicago Mayor's Office

Contact Information for FOIA Officer: Jennifer Hoyle

Signature of FOIA Officer: _____



Exemption claimed by public body (check which applies):

The requested records contain personal information and the disclosure of this information would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy. 5 ILCS 140/7(1)(c).

The requested records are preliminary drafts, notes, recommendations, memoranda or other records in which opinions are expressed, or policies or actions are formulated. 5 ILCS 140/7(1)(f).

Proposed response to the requester's FOIA request by the public body (attach additional pages, if necessary):
See Attached

Detailed summary of the basis for asserting the exemption (attach additional pages, if necessary):

We intend to withhold copies of the job application packets for the positions of 1st and 29th ward alderman. Each packet includes statements of qualifications for the position of alderman; a cover letter; a resume; and three letters of recommendation. These job applications are still under review by the Mayor's Office and no one has yet been appointed to fill the vacant aldermanic positions. We believe that releasing these job application records would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy because individuals who apply for positions with the City of Chicago have an expectation of privacy and a trust that their names and personal information will not be shared with outside individuals or entities. To release the requested information would be a violation of that trust

and potentially cause them irreparable harm which could include **the loss of their** current jobs. Additionally, release of this information could adversely impact the City of Chicago's ability to attract qualified and capable applicants if it is understood that any third party, **even** current employers, could request and receive a list of job applicants.