

August 28, 2015

VIA E-MAIL

Ms. Jessica Collins
[REDACTED]

RE: 15-FOIA-168 Police Report #15-37959

Dear Ms. Collins:

We are in receipt of your request for information pursuant to the Illinois Freedom of Information Act, 5 ILCS 140/1 *et seq.* (“FOIA”).

I. Background

On August 21, 2015, we received your request for police report #15-37959 (“Request”). Your Request is granted in part and denied in part.

II. Responsive Document

In response to your Request, Metra is providing you with the above-referenced police report (“Responsive Document”).

III. Partial Denial

While FOIA requires public bodies to provide access to public records generally, FOIA also authorizes units of government to withhold certain "private information." The employee identification numbers and passwords of the parties mentioned in the Responsive Document are being redacted because they are exempt from disclosure under Section 7(1)(b) of FOIA, which exempts “private information.” “Employee identification numbers” and “passwords” are specifically mentioned within the definition of “private information” found in Section 2(c-5) of FOIA. Accordingly, per Attorney Tom Stuebner, the above-mentioned employee identification numbers and passwords fall squarely within that definition and their redaction is appropriate under FOIA.

IV. Right of Review

You have the right to have the partial denial of your Request reviewed by the Public Access Counselor (“PAC”) of the Illinois Attorney General’s Office. 5 ILCS 140/9.5(a). You can file your Request for Review with the PAC by writing to:

Public Access Counselor
Office of the Attorney General
500 South 2nd Street
Springfield, Illinois 62706
Fax: 217-782-1396
E-mail: publicaccess@atg.state.il.us.

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If you choose to file a Request for Review with the PAC, you must do so within 60 calendar days of the date of this partial denial letter. 5 ILCS 140/9.5(a). Please note that you must include a copy of your original FOIA request and this partial denial letter when filing a Request for Review with the PAC.

You also have the right to seek judicial review of your partial denial by filing a lawsuit in the circuit court. 5 ILCS 140/11.

If I can be of further assistance to you, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Kathleen E. Haton
Freedom of Information Officer
FOIA@metrarr.com
FOIA Hotline #312-663-3462

Attachment