



June 24, 2016

**VIA U.S. Mail**

Ms. Mary Johnson  


RE: 16-FOIA-159 Injury Report

Dear Ms. Johnson:

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

**I. Background**

On June 10, 2016, we received your request for an injury report in connection with your fall in the East Hazel Crest Metra parking lot on May 24, 2016 (“Request”). Your Request is granted in part and denied in part.

**II. Responsive Document**

In response to your Request, Metra is providing you with a copy of the above-referenced injury 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 information. Therefore, Attorney Thomas Stuebner has determined that the following portion of the Responsive Document is exempt from disclosure under certain provisions of FOIA:

1. The social security number mentioned in the Responsive Document is being redacted because it is exempt from disclosure under Section 7(1)(b) of FOIA, which exempts “private information.” “Social security numbers” are specifically mentioned within the definition of “private information” found in Section 2(c-5) of FOIA.
2. Additionally, per the Identity Protection Act, “[N]o person or State or local government agency may . . . [p]rint an individual’s social security number on any materials . . . through . . . electronic mail[.]” Additionally, Section 10(b)(1) prohibits the disclosure of a social security number, unless:

“(i) required to do so under State or federal law, rules, or regulations, or the collection, use, or disclosure of the social security number is otherwise necessary for the performance of that agency’s duties and responsibilities; (ii) the need and purpose for the social security number is documented before collection of the

Ms. Mary Johnson  
16-FOIA-159 Injury report  
Page 2 of 2

social security number; and (iii) the social security number collected is relevant to the documented need and purpose.” 5 ILCS 179/10(a)(4).

#### **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](mailto:publicaccess@atg.state.il.us).

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,



Sonsere Hatch  
Freedom of Information Officer  
[foia@metrarr.com](mailto:foia@metrarr.com)  
FOIA Hotline #312-663-3642

Enclosure