



OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
STATE OF ILLINOIS

KWAME RAOUL
ATTORNEY GENERAL

November 23, 2020

[REDACTED]
Stateville Correctional Center
P.O. Box 112
Joliet, Illinois 60434

RE: FOIA Request for Review – 2020 PAC 65701

Dear [REDACTED]:

This determination is issued pursuant to section 9.5(c) of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) (5 ILCS 140/9.5(c) (West 2018)). For the reasons stated below, the Public Access Bureau concludes that no further action is warranted as to this matter.

On October 26, 2020, the Office of the Attorney General (Attorney General's Office) received your FOIA request seeking various records including copies of consumer fraud forms and rules and regulations on how to file a consumer fraud complaint. On November 2, 2020, the Senior FOIA Officer responded by providing web addresses on the Attorney General's Office's website for accessing the records responsive to those portions of your request. You dispute that response because you are incarcerated and do not have access to the internet.

Section 8.5(a) of FOIA (5 ILCS 140/8.5(a)) (West 2018)) provides that "a public body is not required to copy a public record that is published on the public body's website. The public body shall notify the requester that the public record is available online and direct the requester to the website where the record can be reasonably accessed." Section 8.5(b) of FOIA (5 ILCS 140/8.5(b)) (West 2018)) further provides:

If the person requesting the public record is unable to reasonably access the record online after being directed to the website pursuant to subsection (a) of this Section, the requester may resubmit his or her request for the record stating his or her inability to reasonably access the record online, and the public body shall make the requested record available for inspection and copying as provided in Section 3 of this Act.

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Because the records you are seeking are available on the Attorney General's Office's website, section 8.5(a) relieved the Attorney General's Office of the obligation to send you physical copies of those records. Further, there is no indication that you re-submitted your request to the Attorney General's Office stating that you were unable to reasonably access the records online. Accordingly, there is no basis for the Public Access to conclude that the response to your request violated FOIA.

This file is closed. If you have any questions, please contact me at the Chicago address on the bottom of the first page of this letter.

Very truly yours,

[REDACTED]

STEVE SILVERMAN
Bureau Chief
Public Access Bureau

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Enclosure

cc: *Via electronic mail*
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