

Freedom of Information Commission
of the State of Connecticut

In the Matter of a Complaint by)
Robert H. Bletchman, Complainant) Report of Hearing Officer
against) Docket #FIC 76-54
State of Connecticut; and
Commissioner of Health of the) April 23, 1976
State of Connecticut,
Respondents)

1. Respondents are public agencies as they are the State of Connecticut and the Commissioner of Health of the State of Connecticut.

2. Complainant seeks names and addresses of any trichinosis cases reported to respondent Commissioner of Health in December 1975 or January 1976.

3. Respondent Commissioner has in his possession a trichinosis surveillance case report form and a card index showing the names and addresses of persons who have contracted trichinosis.

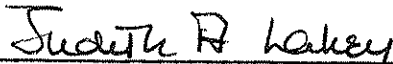
4. Conn. Gen. Stat. 19-6a provides in part:

"Confidentiality of records concerning morbidity and mortality. All information, records of interviews, written reports, statements, notes, memoranda or other data procured by the state department of health or by staff committees of facilities accredited by the state department of health in connection with studies of morbidity and mortality conducted by the state department of health or such staff committees, or carried on by said department or such staff committees jointly with other persons, agencies or organizations, or procured by such other persons, agencies or organizations, for the purpose of reducing the morbidity or mortality from any cause or condition, shall be confidential and shall be used solely for the purposes of medical or scientific research...."

5. The exception stated in Sec. 19-6a applies to the records to which the complainant seeks access. In addition, these records consist in part of medical files and similar files, the disclosure of which would constitute an invasion of the personal privacy of the persons named in the files, about whom the subject reports were filed with the respondents.

ORDER:

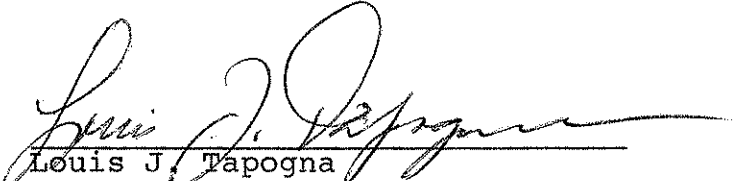
Based on P.A. 75-342, Sec. 2(a) and Sec. 2(b)(1), and Conn. Gen. Stat. 19-6a, the complaint is dismissed.



Commissioner Judith A. Lahey

as Hearing Officer

Approved by order of the Freedom of Information Commission on
May 26, 1976.



Louis J. Tapogna
Clerk of the Commission