

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT

In the Matter of a Complaint by)
Taxpayers Association of) Report of Hearing Officer
Connecticut, Inc., Complainant)
) Docket #FIC77-72
against)
) May /7, 1977
State of Connecticut; and)
Commissioner of the Department of)
Consumer Protection,)
Respondents)

The above captioned matter was heard as a contested case on May 13, 1977, at which time the complainant and the respondents appeared, stipulated to certain facts and presented exhibits and argument on the complaint.

After consideration of the entire record, the following facts are found:

1. The respondent commissioner is a public agency within the meaning of §1-18a(a), G.S.
2. By letter dated March 2, 1977, the complainant requested of the respondent commissioner the names and addresses of all home improvement contractors, complaints concerning contractors for the calendar year 1976, the nature and date of each such complaint and the action taken by the Department of Consumer Protection. The complainant also requested to know whether the respondent commissioner or the Department of Consumer Protection issued subpoenas for witnesses, papers, and/or contracts pertaining to complaints for which hearings were held. The complainant further requested to know what other action the respondent commissioner or the Department of Consumer Protection took in regard to the aforesaid complaints.
3. By letter dated March 7, 1977, the respondent commissioner denied the request described in paragraph 2 above.
4. By letter filed with this Commission on March 23, 1977, the complainant appealed from the denial of the aforesaid request.
5. At the hearing on the complaint herein, the complainant abandoned his request for the names and addresses of contractors and complainants.
6. It is found that the requested information, to the extent that it exists, was obtained pursuant to the powers conferred by Chapter 735a, General Statutes, and consequently such information is exempt from disclosure under §§1-19(a) and 42-110d(a), G.S.


The following order by the Commission is hereby recommended on the basis of the record concerning the above captioned complaint:

1. The complaint is hereby dismissed.
2. In view of these proceedings and the nature of the complainant's request, the Commission suggests that the parties hereto discuss the possibility whereby the respondent commissioner would provide appropriate access to the complainant to such non-exempt public records as are within her authority and the scope of the complainant's interests.


Commissioner Donald W. Friedman

as Hearing Officer

Approved by order of the Freedom of Information Commission
on May 25, 1977.


Louis J. Tapogna, as Clerk of the
Freedom of Information Commission