FREEDOM OF INFORMATION COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT

In the Matter of a Complaint by Ronald F. Armstrong,

Complainant

Final Decision

against

Docket #FIC78-210

City and Town of Hartford; and Board of Education of the City and Town of Hartford, Respondents April 11, 1979

The above captioned matter was heard as a contested case on December 6, 1978, at which time the complainant and the respondents appeared, stipulated to certain facts, and presented testimony, exhibits and argument on the complaint.

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

- 1. The respondents are public agencies as defined by \$1-18a(a), G.S.
- 2. By letter dated September 25, 1978, the complainant requested information relating to his interview for employment with the Hartford schools.
- 3. By letter filed with this Commission on October 23, 1978, the complainant alleged that he had not received all of the information requested.
- 4. The respondents refused to provide the complainant with the names of the interviewers who administered his oral examination for employment and the written comments of such interviewers regarding such examination.
- 5. It was established at hearing that the respondents had provided the complainant with all other existing records relating to his request.
- 6. The respondents contend that the sanctity of the interviewing process outweighs the public interest in disclosure and that the written comments of interviewers are therefore not subject to compulsory disclosure.
- 7. The respondents' contention does not provide an exception to compulsory disclosure under any of the categorical exceptions to disclosure under §1-19(b), G.S.

8. It is concluded that such records are public records to which the complainant has a right of access pursuant to §1-15, and §1-19(a), G.S.

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

1. The respondents shall, within two days of issuance of Final Decision hereof, provide the complainant with copies of the names of the five individuals who interviewed him and any records or comments that such interviewers may have made regarding the complainant's oral interview.

Approved by order of the Freedom of Information Commission on April 11, 1979.

Léslie Ann McGuire

Clerk of the Commission