



THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
OF TEXAS

JIM SLATTON
ATTORNEY GENERAL

May 2, 1990

Mr. Randall L. Patterson
Deputy City Attorney
City of Brenham
P.O. Box 1059
Brenham, Texas 77833-1059

OR90-167

Dear Mr. Patterson:

You ask whether certain information is subject to required public disclosure under the Texas Open Records Act, article 6252-17a, V.T.C.S. Your request was assigned ID# 9237.

We have considered the exceptions you claimed, specifically sections 3(a)(1), 3(a)(3), and 3(a)(8) and have reviewed the documents at issue. In order for information to be excepted from public disclosure by common-law privacy under section 3(a)(1), the information must be of no legitimate concern to the public. Debts owed to governmental bodies are not ordinarily excepted from public disclosure by section 3(a)(1). See Open Records Decision No. 545 (1990). With respect to section 3(a)(3), you have not shown that litigation is pending or reasonably anticipated with respect to the subject matter of the information you seek to withhold. See Open Records Decision No. 551 (1990). With respect to section 3(a)(8), you have not shown how the release of the requested information will unduly interfere with law enforcement. See Open Records Decision No. 434 (1986). For these reasons you must release the requested information. Please note that section 3B(a) is not an exception to public disclosure.

Because case law and prior published open records decisions resolve your request, we are resolving this matter with this informal letter ruling rather than with a published open records decision. If you have questions about this ruling, please refer to OR90-167.

Yours very truly,


John Steiner
Assistant Attorney General
Opinion Committee

Ref.: ID# 9237

cc: Mr. Wayne Sorge
News Director
Radio Central
P.O. Box 1280
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