



THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
OF TEXAS

JIM MATTOX
ATTORNEY GENERAL

June 21, 1990

Mr. Michael F. Miller
Assistant City Attorney
City of Galveston
P.O. Box 779
Galveston, Texas 77553-0779

OR90-255

Dear Mr. Miller:

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# 9267.

The clerk of the Municipal Court of the City of Galveston received an open records request for access to all traffic ticket citations. This office has previously determined that while the records of municipal courts are not subject to disclosure under the Open Records Act, see V.T.C.S. art. 6252-17a, § 2(a)(G), the public enjoys a right to inspect traffic summons and complaints under laws prescribing the duties of municipal clerks, such as Government Code sections 29.010 and 30.488 and Local Government Code section 191.006, and the common-law right to inspect public records. See Open Records Decision No. 274 (1981) (copy enclosed). The clerk is therefore required to allow public access to traffic citations in the records of the municipal court.

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 OR90-255.

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Steve Aragón".

Steve Aragón
Assistant Attorney General
Opinion Committee

SA/RWP/le

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Ref.: ID# 9267, 9140

Enclosure: Open Records Decision No. 274

cc: Jack Maxwell, Owner
Coastal Driving School
107 Amigo Lane
Dickinson, Texas 77539