



THE ATTORNEY GENERAL  
OF TEXAS

JIM MATTOX  
ATTORNEY GENERAL

July 30, 1990

Ms. Tracy A. Pounders  
Assistant City Attorney  
City of Dallas  
City Hall  
Dallas, Texas 75201

OR90-353

Dear Ms. Pounders:

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# 9810.

You have received a request for the "name, address, and citation number of individuals or businesses who have been cited for excessive false alarms and conviction data and fines assessed." You assert this information is excepted from required public disclosure by section 3(a)(1) of the Open Records Act, which excepts from disclosure information deemed confidential by law. You rely on article 4413(29bb), section 28(e), V.T.C.S., which provides:

Information that is contained in alarm systems records held by a governmental body and that concerns the location of an alarm system, the name of the occupant of an alarm system, or the type of alarm system used is confidential and may be disclosed only to the board or as otherwise required by law.

You sent for our review copies of three citations issued by the City of Dallas for violation of an alarm ordinance. As you point out, these citations contain the location of the offense, which is the location of the alarm system. The citations also give the name of the occupant or owner of the premises, which is the location of an alarm system.

The term "alarm systems records held by a governmental body" can be reasonably construed to include municipal citations since the city has files on individual alarm system permittees. We agree that the requested information

is made confidential by article 4413(29bb), section 28(e), V.T.C.S. Accordingly, it is excepted from required public disclosure by section 3(a)(1) of the Open Records Act. You may withhold the information.

Because the plain language of the statute makes this information confidential, 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 OR90-353.

Yours very truly,



Kay H. Guajardo  
Assistant Attorney General  
Opinion Committee

KHG/le

Ref.: ID# 9810

cc: Bill Walter  
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