



THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
OF TEXAS

JIM MATTOX
ATTORNEY GENERAL

November 6, 1990

Mr. Oscar S. Rodriguez
City Manager
City of Eagle Pass
P.O. Box 4019
Eagle Pass, Texas 78853-4019

OR90-530

Dear Mr. Rodriguez:

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# 10936.

The City of Eagle Pass received an open records request for, inter alia, documents pertaining to the recent purchase and installation of a "mobile telephone system" in a police vehicle. The request encompasses purchase orders, bills of sale, the contract for operation of the system, "any other arrangement regarding" the mobile telephone system, and the actual telephone number of the system. You state that you have released to the requestor portions of documents that she sought, but you seek to withhold other information pursuant to sections 3(a)(1), 3(a)(8), and 3(a)(17) of the Open Records Act.

A previous determination of this office, Open Records Decision No. 506 (1988), resolves your request in part. Section 3(a)(8) protects from required public disclosure the cellular mobile telephone numbers assigned to public and private vehicles used by city officials and employees with specific law enforcement responsibilities. For this reason, you may withhold the mobile telephone number pursuant to section 3(a)(8).

The remainder of your request is governed by Open Records Decision No. 143 (1976) (copy enclosed). Information that would reveal specialized equipment, and the cost of such equipment, used in the prevention or detection of crime comes under the protection of section 3(a)(8). This office generally agrees with your assessment of the types of information that may be withheld from the requested invoices. You have not, however, demonstrated how the release of

the identity of the vender who supplied and installed the telephone system would unduly interfere with law enforcement efforts; see Ex parte Pruitt, 551 S.W.2d 706 (Tex. 1977); this information must be released. For similar reasons, you must also release the two memoranda from Police Chief Ray Mendiola to the city manager's office that pertain to the mobile telephone system. We have marked the information that you may withhold; the remaining information is public.

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 OR90-530.

Yours very truly,



Kay H. Guajardo
Assistant Attorney General
Opinion Committee

KHG/RWP/le

Ref.: ID# 10936

Enclosures: Open Records Decision No. 143

cc: Emma Salinas
Eagle Pass News Guide
P.O. Box 764
Eagle Pass, Texas 78853-0764