



DAN MORALES
ATTORNEY GENERAL

Office of the Attorney General
State of Texas

September 25, 1991

Honorable Gary Joe Taylor
Leon County Attorney
Central Appraisal District
P.O. Box 429
Centerville, Texas 75833-0429

OR91-425

Dear Mr. Taylor:

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# 13492.

The Leon County Central Appraisal District has received a request for information relating to a matter brought before the Central Appraisal District Board. A letter dated August 21, 1991, includes a request for "minutes of the A.R.B. Hearing along with copies of all evidence submitted by the Developer." You advise that the only information in your possession responsive to this request is a certain engineering report on file with the Central Appraisal District. You claim that the engineering report is excepted from required public disclosure by section 3(a)(1) of the Open Records Act.

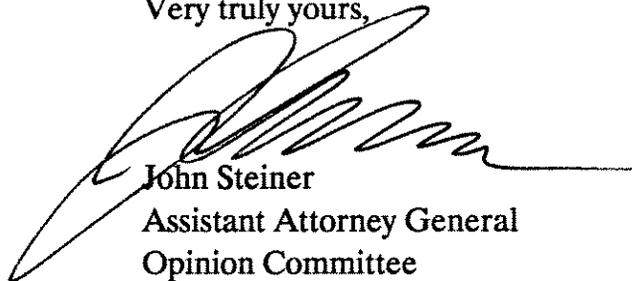
You contend that the engineering report is a rendition statement and as such is made confidential by section 22.27 of the Tax Code. Section 22.27(a) of the Tax Code makes confidential

[r]endition statements and real and personal property reports filed with an appraisal office and information voluntarily disclosed to an appraisal office or the State Property Tax Board about real or personal property sales prices after a promise it will be held confidential

This office held in Open Records Decision No. 500 (1988) that section 22.27 of the Tax Code protects from public disclosure rendition statements, real property reports, and information regarding sales prices voluntarily disclosed to an appraisal district pursuant to a confidentiality agreement. *See also* Open Records Decision Nos. 550 (1990); 358 (1983). The engineering report in question here, on its face, appears to include such information. Section 3(a)(1) of Open Records Act exempts from required public disclosure "information deemed confidential by law, either Constitutional, statutory, or by judicial decision." Accordingly, the engineering report may be withheld from required public disclosure under section 3(a)(1).

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 OR91-425.

Very truly yours,



John Steiner
Assistant Attorney General
Opinion Committee

JS/GK/lcd

Enclosure: Open Records Decision Nos. 500 (1988); 362 (1983)

Ref.: ID#s 13492, 13444

cc: Mr. W.P. Strube, Jr.
Publisher
Hilltop Lakes Solidarity Movement
P.O. Box 70
Normangee, Texas 77871