



Office of the Attorney General
State of Texas

DAN MORALES
ATTORNEY GENERAL

September 9, 1996

Ms. Pamela Smith
Texas Youth Commission
P.O. Box 4260
Austin, Texas 78765

OR96-1623

Dear Ms. Smith:

You have asked whether certain information is subject to required public disclosure under chapter 552 of the Government Code. Your request was assigned ID# 23898.

The Texas Youth Commission (the "commission") received a request for information concerning an incident involving a juvenile who was in the custody of the commission at the time of the incident. You contend that the information is protected from disclosure under section 552.101 of the Government Code in conjunction with former section 51.14(b) of the Family Code.

Section 552.101 excepts from disclosure information "considered confidential by law, either constitutional, statutory, or by judicial decision." Section 51.14(b) provides that "files and records of a public or private agency or institution providing supervision of a child by arrangement of the juvenile court or having custody of the child under order of the juvenile court" are private and may be inspected only by certain specified parties. The requestor is not one of the parties listed in section 51.14(b) to whom this information can be released. Thus, the information at issue may not be disclosed.

We are resolving this matter with an informal letter ruling rather than with a published open records decision. This ruling is limited to the particular records at issue under the facts presented to us in this request and should not be relied upon as a previous

determination regarding any other records. If you have questions about this ruling, please contact our office.

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ruth H. Soucy". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "R" and a long, sweeping tail.

Ruth H. Soucy
Assistant Attorney General
Open Records Division

RHS/ch

Ref.: ID# 23898

Enclosures: Submitted documents

cc: Charles Buie
c/o Texas Youth Commission
P.O. Box 4260
Austin, Texas 78765
(w/o enclosures)