



Office of the Attorney General
State of Texas

DAN MORALES
ATTORNEY GENERAL

September 16, 1996

Mr. Frank L. Melton
Assistant City Attorney
City of San Antonio
Department of Aviation
9800 Airport Boulevard
San Antonio, Texas 78216-9990

OR96-1677

Dear Mr. Melton:

You ask whether certain information is subject to required public disclosure under the Open Records Act, chapter 552 of the Government Code. Your request was assigned ID# 100681.

The City of San Antonio (the "city") received a request for various information which you assert is excepted from required public disclosure based on section 552.103 of the Government Code. Section 552.103(a) applies to information:

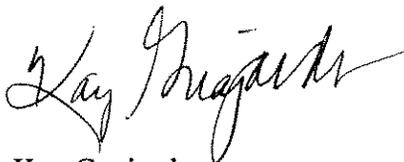
- (1) relating to litigation of a civil or criminal nature or settlement negotiations, to which the state or a political subdivision is or may be a party or to which an officer or employee of the state or a political subdivision, as a consequence of the person's office or employment, is or may be a party; and
- (2) that the attorney general or the attorney of the political subdivision has determined should be withheld from public inspection.

To secure the protection of section 552.103(a), a governmental body must demonstrate that requested information "relates" to a pending or reasonably anticipated judicial or quasi-judicial proceeding. Open Records Decision No. 588 (1991). In this instance you have made the requisite showing that the requested information relates to pending litigation for purposes of section 552.103(a). Accordingly, the city may withhold the information from required public disclosure based on section 552.103.¹

¹We note that if the opposing party in the anticipated litigation has seen or had access to any of the information in these records, there would be no justification for now withholding that information from
(continued...)

We are resolving this matter with this 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 may 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,



Kay Guajardo
Assistant Attorney General
Open Records Division

KHG/rho

Ref.: ID# 100681

Enclosures: Submitted documents

cc: Mr. Clifford C. Herberg, Jr.
Rush, Herberg & Gransee, L.C.
2400 Tower Life Building
San Antonio, Texas 78205
(w/o enclosures)

¹(...continued)

the requestor pursuant to section 552.103(a). Open Records Decision Nos. 349 (1982), 320 (1982), *see also* Open Records Decision No. 597 (1991) (predecessor provision of section 552.103 generally not applicable to front page offense report information). In addition, the applicability of section 552.103(a) ends once the litigation has been concluded. Attorney General Opinion MW-575 (1982); Open Records Decision No. 350 (1982).