



Office of the Attorney General
State of Texas

DAN MORALES
ATTORNEY GENERAL

February 6, 1997

Ms. Marva M. Gay
Assistant County Attorney
Harris County
1001 Preston, Suite 634
Houston, Texas 77002-1891

OR97-0291

Dear Ms. Gay:

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# 103849.

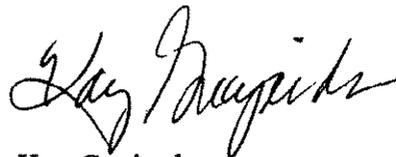
Harris County receive a request for the "complete offense report for case number 9512300219." You assert that portions of the requested report are excepted from required public disclosure based on Government Code section 552.108.

Section 552.108 of the Government Code excepts from disclosure "[i]nformation held by a law enforcement agency or prosecutor that deals with the detection, investigation, or prosecution of crime," and "[a]n internal record or notation of a law enforcement agency or prosecutor that is maintained for internal use in matters relating to law enforcement or prosecution. Gov't Code § 552.108; see *Holmes v. Morales*, 924 S.W.2d 920 (Tex. 1996). Information normally found on the front page of an offense report is generally considered public. *Houston Chronicle Publ'g Co. v. City of Houston*, 531 S.W.2d 177 (Tex. Civ. App.—Houston [14th Dist.] 1975), writ *ref'd n.r.e. per curiam*, 536 S.W.2d 559 (Tex. 1976); Open Records Decision No. 127 (1976).

The requested report is "[i]nformation held by a law enforcement agency or prosecutor that deals with the detection, investigation, or prosecution of crime." Contrary to the requestor's assertion, the Open Records Act provides a complainant no "special right of access" to an offense report. We, therefore, conclude that, except for front page offense report information, section 552.108 of the Government Code excepts the requested records from required public disclosure. On the other hand, you may choose to release all or part of the information that is not otherwise confidential by law. Gov't Code § 552.007.

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# 103849

Enclosures: Submitted documents

cc: Mr. Michael S. Bogenschutz
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Humble, Texas 77338
(w/o enclosures)