



March 17, 1999

Mr. Michael Bostic
Assistant City Attorney
Office of the City Attorney
City of Dallas
City Hall
Dallas, Texas 75201

OR99-0756

Dear Mr. Brown:

You ask whether certain information is subject to required public disclosure under chapter 552 of the Government Code. Your request was assigned ID# 122822.

The Dallas Police Department (the "department") received a request for the following:

All written records, reports, correspondence, and notes relating to the meetings attended by Lincoln Property Company through the Crime Watch Managers meeting, Northeast Division from June 1997 to the present. This includes but is not limited to the attendance records.

All written records, reports, correspondence, and notes relating to news releases or the release of information through the phone tree system from January 1996 to the present.

You claim that the requested information is excepted from disclosure under section 552.127 of the Government code. We assume that you have released the remainder of the requested information. We have considered the exception you claim and have reviewed the sample documents submitted.¹

Section 552.127 provides:

(a) Information is excepted from [public disclosure] if the information identifies a person as a participant in a neighborhood crime watch

¹In reaching our conclusion here, we assume that the "representative sample" of records submitted to this office is truly representative of the requested records as a whole. See Open Records Decision Nos. 499 (1988), 497 (1988). This Open Records letter does not reach, and therefore does not authorize the withholding of, any other requested records to the extent that those records contain substantially different types of information than that submitted to this office.

organization and relates to the name, home address, business address, home telephone number, or business telephone number of the person

(b) In this section, "neighborhood crime watch organization" means a group of residents of a neighborhood or part of a neighborhood that is formed in affiliation or association with a law enforcement agency in this state to observe activities within the neighborhood or part of a neighborhood and to take other actions intended to reduce crime in that area.

We agree that you may withhold information that identifies a person as a participant in a neighborhood crime watch organization and relates to the person's name, home and business address, and home and business telephone number. However, much of the submitted information consists of the names of apartments and the corresponding addresses of the apartments; this information is not excepted from public disclosure by section 552.127 and must be released.

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.

Sincerely,



Yen-Ha Le
Assistant Attorney General
Open Records Division

Ref.: ID# 122822

Enclosures: Submitted documents

cc: Mr. James L. Hitzelberger
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(w/o enclosures)