



ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS  
GREG ABBOTT

May 9, 2006

Mr. Pablo Escamilla  
Escamilla & Poneck, Inc.  
201 Stratford Street  
Houston, Texas 77006

OR2006-04781

Dear Mr. Escamilla:

You ask whether certain information is subject to required public disclosure under the Public Information Act (the "Act"), chapter 552 of the Government Code. Your request was assigned ID# 252332.

The United Independent School District (the "district"), which you represent, received a request for certain canceled checks, invoices and adjustments, and newspaper advertisements. You indicate that the district will release those groups of information. The requestor also states that she would "like to know [on] what pages I can find [certain] ads[.]" You assert that the Act does not require the district to respond to that aspect of this request.

We note that the Act does not require a governmental body to answer factual questions, conduct legal research, or create new information in responding to a request for information. *See* Open Records Decision Nos. 563 at 8 (1990), 555 at 1-2 (1990). Accordingly, we agree that the district need not inform the requestor of the pages of the newspaper on which the advertisements in question can be found.

This letter ruling is limited to the particular records at issue in this request and limited to the facts as presented to us; therefore, this ruling must not be relied upon as a previous determination regarding any other records or any other circumstances.

This ruling triggers important deadlines regarding the rights and responsibilities of the governmental body and of the requestor. For example, governmental bodies are prohibited from asking the attorney general to reconsider this ruling. Gov't Code § 552.301(f). If the governmental body wants to challenge this ruling, the governmental body must appeal by filing suit in Travis County within 30 calendar days. *Id.* § 552.324(b). In order to get the full

benefit of such an appeal, the governmental body must file suit within 10 calendar days. *Id.* § 552.353(b)(3), (c). If the governmental body does not appeal this ruling and the governmental body does not comply with it, then both the requestor and the attorney general have the right to file suit against the governmental body to enforce this ruling. *Id.* § 552.321(a).

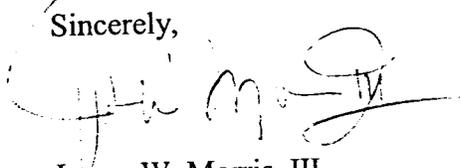
If this ruling requires the governmental body to release all or part of the requested information, the governmental body is responsible for taking the next step. Based on the statute, the attorney general expects that, upon receiving this ruling, the governmental body will either release the public records promptly pursuant to section 552.221(a) of the Government Code or file a lawsuit challenging this ruling pursuant to section 552.324 of the Government Code. If the governmental body fails to do one of these things, then the requestor should report that failure to the attorney general's Open Government Hotline, toll free, at (877) 673-6839. The requestor may also file a complaint with the district or county attorney. *Id.* § 552.3215(e).

If this ruling requires or permits the governmental body to withhold all or some of the requested information, the requestor can appeal that decision by suing the governmental body. *Id.* § 552.321(a); *Texas Dep't of Pub. Safety v. Gilbreath*, 842 S.W.2d 408, 411 (Tex. App.—Austin 1992, no writ).

Please remember that under the Act the release of information triggers certain procedures for costs and charges to the requestor. If records are released in compliance with this ruling, be sure that all charges for the information are at or below the legal amounts. Questions or complaints about over-charging must be directed to Hadassah Schloss at the Office of the Attorney General at (512) 475-2497.

If the governmental body, the requestor, or any other person has questions or comments about this ruling, they may contact our office. Although there is no statutory deadline for contacting us, the attorney general prefers to receive any comments within 10 calendar days of the date of this ruling.

Sincerely,



James W. Morris, III  
Assistant Attorney General  
Open Records Division

JWM/vh2

Ref: ID# 252332

c: Ms. Rose Marie Cruz  
108 Norman Drive  
Laredo, Texas 78045  
(w/o enclosures)