



ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS

GREG ABBOTT

August 19, 2008

Ms. Pamela Smith
Assistant General Counsel
Texas Department of Public Safety
Po Box 4087
Austin Texas 78773

OR2008-11310

Re: Request for copy of records pertaining to the 03/10/08 offense involving George L. Preston; OR 08-1398

Dear Ms. Smith:

The Office of the Attorney General has received your request for a ruling and assigned your request ID# 324773.

After reviewing your arguments and the submitted information, we have determined that your request does not present a novel or complex issue. Thus, we are addressing your claims in a memorandum opinion. You claim that the submitted information may be withheld from the requestor pursuant to section 552.108(a)(1) of the Government Code. We have considered your arguments and the submitted information and have determined that in accordance with section 552.108(a)(1) you may withhold the submitted information. However, you must release the basic information pursuant to section 552.108(c) of the Government Code. We note that the submitted information includes court documents. Information filed with a court is generally a matter of public record and may not be withheld from disclosure. Gov't Code § 552.022(a)(17); *Star-Telegram, Inc. v. Walker*, 834 S.W.2d 54 (Tex. 1992). Thus, if the information has been filed with a court, you must release the information.

For more information on the cited exception, as well as information on the rights and obligations of governmental bodies and requestors, please refer to open government information contained on the Office of the Attorney General website at www.oag.state.tx.us. You may also contact our Open Government Hotline at 1-877-OPENTEX.

Enc: Submitted documents

cc: Mr. George L. Preston
16 Clarksville Street
Paris, Texas 75460
(w/o enclosures)