



ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS
GREG ABBOTT

August 7, 2009

Mr. James Mu
Assistant General Counsel
TDCJ - Office of the General Counsel
P.O. Box 4004
Huntsville, Texas 77342-4004

OR2009-10987

Dear Mr. Mu:

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# 351573.

The Texas Department of Criminal Justice (the "department") received a request for the "pen packets" of two named inmates. You state the department has provided or will provide some of the requested information to the requestor. You claim the submitted commitment data forms and fingerprint records are excepted from disclosure under sections 552.101 and 552.134 of the Government Code. We have considered the exceptions you claim and reviewed the submitted information.

Section 552.134 of the Government Code, which relates to inmates and former inmates of the department, provides in relevant part:

(a) Except as provided by Subsection (b) or by Section 552.029, information obtained or maintained by the Texas Department of Criminal Justice is excepted from the requirements of Section 552.021 if it is information about an inmate who is confined in a facility operated by or under a contract with the department.

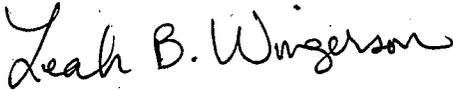
Gov't Code § 552.134(a). Upon review, we agree the submitted information consists of records pertaining to individuals confined as inmates in a facility operated by the department and is, therefore, subject to section 552.134. We find the exceptions in section 552.029 are

not applicable in this instance. Therefore, the department must withhold the submitted information under section 552.134(a) of the Government Code. As our ruling is dispositive, we need not address your remaining argument against disclosure.

This letter ruling is limited to the particular information 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 information or any other circumstances.

This ruling triggers important deadlines regarding the rights and responsibilities of the governmental body and of the requestor. For more information concerning those rights and responsibilities, please visit our website at http://www.oag.state.tx.us/open/index_orl.php, or call the Office of the Attorney General's Open Government Hotline, toll free, at (877) 673-6839. Questions concerning the allowable charges for providing public information under the Act must be directed to the Cost Rules Administrator of the Office of the Attorney General at (512) 475-2497.

Sincerely,



Leah B. Wingerson
Assistant Attorney General
Open Records Division

LBW/dls

Ref: ID# 351573

Enc. Submitted documents

c: Requestor
(w/o enclosures)