



ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS  
GREG ABBOTT

March 17, 2010

Ms. Sandy Murillo  
Records Clerk  
Saginaw Police Department  
505 West McLeroy Boulevard  
Saginaw, Texas 76179

OR2010-03779

Dear Ms. Murillo:

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# 377765 (Saginaw PD Record ID# 4096).

The Saginaw Police Department (the "department") received a request for information pertaining to a specified incident. You claim that the submitted information is excepted from disclosure under section 552.101 of the Government Code.<sup>1</sup> We have considered the exception you claim and reviewed the submitted information.

Section 552.101 excepts from disclosure "information considered to be confidential by law, either constitutional, statutory, or by judicial decision." Gov't Code § 552.101. Section 552.101 encompasses information that other statutes make confidential, such as section 58.007 of the Family Code. Juvenile law enforcement records relating to conduct that occurred on or after September 1, 1997 are confidential under section 58.007. For purposes of section 58.007, "child" means a person who is ten years of age or older and

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<sup>1</sup>Although, you raise section 552.108 of the Government Code as an exception to disclosure of the requested information, you have provided no arguments regarding the applicability of section 552.108. Since you have not submitted arguments concerning section 552.108, we assume that you no longer urge it. *See* Gov't Code §§ 552.301(b), (e), 302. We note that section 552.101 of the Government Code is the proper exception to raise when asserting information is confidential under section 58.007 of the Family Code.

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*037739*

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under seventeen years of age. *See* Fam. Code § 51.02(2). Section 58.007 provides in pertinent part as follows:

(c) Except as provided by Subsection (d), law enforcement records and files concerning a child and information stored, by electronic means or otherwise, concerning the child from which a record or file could be generated may not be disclosed to the public and shall be:

(1) if maintained on paper or microfilm, kept separate from adult files and records;

(2) if maintained electronically in the same computer system as records or files relating to adults, be accessible under controls that are separate and distinct from controls to access electronic data concerning adults; and

(3) maintained on a local basis only and not sent to a central state or federal depository, except as provided by Subchapters B, D, and E.

...

(e) Law enforcement records and files concerning a child may be inspected or copied by a juvenile justice agency as that term is defined by Section 58.101, a criminal justice agency as that term is defined by Section 411.082, Government Code, the child, and the child's parent or guardian.

...

(j) Before a child or a child's parent or guardian may inspect or copy a record or file concerning the child under Subsection (e), the custodian of the record or file shall redact:

(1) any personally identifiable information about a juvenile suspect, offender, victim, or witness who is not the child; and

(2) any information that is excepted from required disclosure under Chapter 552, Government Code, or other law.

*Id.* § 58.007(c), (e), (j). Upon review, we agree that the submitted information involves a juvenile engaged in delinquent conduct occurring after September 1, 1997; therefore, the submitted information is subject to section 58.007. We note, however, that the submitted

information reveals the requestor is a parent of the juvenile offender listed in the report. Therefore, the requestor has a right to inspect law enforcement records concerning his child under section 58.007(e). *See id.* § 58.007(e). However, personally identifiable information concerning any other juvenile suspects, offenders, victims, or witnesses must be redacted pursuant to section 58.007(j)(1) of the Family Code. *See id.* § 58.007(j)(1). Accordingly, the department must withhold the information we have marked under section 552.101 of the Government Code in conjunction with section 58.007(j)(1) of the Family Code. As no further exceptions against its disclosure are raised, the department must release the remaining information to this requestor.<sup>2</sup>

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](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, toll free, at (888) 672-6787.

Sincerely,



Laura Ream Lemus  
Assistant Attorney General  
Open Records Division

LRL/jb

Ref: ID# 377765

Enc. Submitted documents

c: Requestor  
(w/o enclosures)

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<sup>2</sup>We note that the requestor has a special right of access to the information being released in this instance. Because such information is confidential with respect to the general public, if the department receives another request for this information from a different requestor, the department must again seek a ruling from this office.