



ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS

GREG ABBOTT

April 20, 2011

Ms. Charlotte Towe
Assistant General Counsel
TDCJ - Office of the General Counsel
P.O. Box 4004
Huntsville, Texas 77342-4004

OR2011-05523

Dear Ms. Towe:

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# 415045.

The Texas Department of Criminal Justice (the "department") received a request for a specified inter-office communication. You claim the submitted information is excepted from disclosure under section 552.134 of the Government Code. We have considered the exception you claim and reviewed the submitted information.

Section 552.134 of the Government Code relates to information about inmates of the department. This exception provides in relevant part:

- (a) Except as provided by Subsection (b) or by Section 552.029 [of the Government Code], information obtained or maintained by the Texas Department of Criminal Justice is excepted from [required public disclosure] 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). In this instance, some of the submitted information pertains to the conduct of a department employee. As such, this information is not "about an inmate" for purposes of section 552.134 and may not be withheld on that basis. However, upon review, we find the information we have marked pertains to individuals confined as inmates in a

facility operated by the department. We find this information is subject to section 552.134. We also find the exceptions in section 552.029 are not applicable in this instance. Therefore, the department must withhold the information we have marked under section 552.134(a) of the Government Code. As you raise no further exceptions to disclosure, the remaining information must be released to the requestor.

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, toll free at (888) 672-6787.

Sincerely,



Sean Nottingham
Assistant Attorney General
Open Records Division

SN/eeg

Ref: ID# 415045

Enc. Submitted documents

c: Requestor
(w/o enclosures)