



ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS  
GREG ABBOTT

November 21, 2011

Mr. Benjamin Sampract  
Assistant City Attorney  
City of Fort Worth  
1000 Throckmorton Street, 3rd Floor  
Fort Worth, Texas 76102

OR2011-17180

Dear Mr. Sampract:

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# 437081 (Fort Worth PIR No. W011491).

The City of Fort Worth Water Department (the "city") received a request for a specified water bill.<sup>1</sup> You claim portions of the submitted information are excepted from disclosure under section 552.136 of the Government Code. We have considered the exception you claim and reviewed the submitted information.

Section 552.136 of the Government Code provides that "[n]otwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, a credit card, debit card, charge card, or access device number that is collected, assembled, or maintained by or for a governmental body is confidential." An access device number is one that may be used to (1) obtain money, goods, services, or another thing of value, or (2) initiate a transfer of funds other than a transfer originated solely by paper instrument, and includes an account number. Gov't Code § 552.136(a). You assert the customer and location numbers at issue comprise a customer utility account number that can be used to obtain utility services. Based on your representations, we agree the city must

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<sup>1</sup>We note the city sought and received clarification of the information requested. See Gov't Code § 552.222 (providing if request for information is unclear, governmental body may ask requestor to clarify request).

withhold the information you have marked under section 552.136. The city must release the remaining information 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](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,



Ana Carolina Vieira  
Assistant Attorney General  
Open Records Division

ACV/agn

Ref: ID# 437081

Enc. Submitted documents

c: Requestor  
(w/o enclosures)