



ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS
GREG ABBOTT

December 8, 2011

Ms. Jordan Hale
Assistant Attorney General
Assistant Public Information Coordinator
General Counsel Division
Office of the Attorney General
P.O. Box 12548
Austin, Texas 78711-2548

OR2011-18124

Dear Ms. Hale:

You ask whether certain information is subject to required public disclosure under chapter 552 of the Government Code. Your request was assigned ID# 440332 (PIR No. 11-31879).

The Office of the Attorney General (the "OAG") received a request for information concerning certain contracts for janitorial and mowing services. The OAG released most of the information and asserts the employees' user IDs are excepted from public disclosure under section 552.139 of the Government Code. We have considered the OAG's argument and reviewed the submitted information.

Section 552.139 provides in part:

(a) Information is excepted from the requirements of Section 552.021 if it is information that relates to computer network security, . . . , or to the design, operation, or defense of a computer network.

Gov't Code § 552.139(a). The OAG states the employees' user IDs allow the employees access to the OAG's secure computer system and network as unique user codes. Based on this argument, we agree the employees' user IDs pertain to computer network security or the design, operation, or defense of a computer network for purposes of section 552.139(a).

Therefore, the OAG must withhold the marked employees' user IDs under section 552.139(a).

The OAG asks this office to issue a previous determination permitting it to withhold an employee's user ID under section 552.139 of the Government Code. *See* Gov't Code § 552.301(a) (allowing governmental body to withhold information subject to previous determination); Open Records Decision No. 673 (2001). After due consideration, we have decided to grant the OAG's request. Therefore, this letter ruling serves as a previous determination under section 552.301(a) that the OAG must withhold an employee's user ID under section 552.139 of the Government Code. So long as the elements of law, fact, and circumstances do not change so as to no longer support the findings set forth above, the OAG need not ask for a decision from this office again with respect to this type of information. *See* ORD 673 at 7.

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,



Yen-Ha Le
Assistant Attorney General
Open Records Division

YHL/sdk

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Enc: Submitted document

c: Requestor
(w/o enclosure)