



ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS  
GREG ABBOTT

February 10, 2012

Ms. Neera Chatterjee  
Office of the General Counsel  
The University of Texas System  
201 West Seventh Street  
Austin, Texas 78701-2902

OR2012-02176

Dear Ms. Chatterjee:

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# 445230 (OGC # 141090).

The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center (the "university") received a request for all records pertaining to a named individual. You state you are releasing some of the requested information. You also state that, as permitted by section 552.024(c) of the Government Code, you will redact information subject to section 552.117 of the Government Code.<sup>1</sup> In addition, you state you will redact personal e-mail addresses under section 552.137 of the Government Code in accordance with Open Records Decision No. 684 (2009).<sup>2</sup> You claim that the submitted information is excepted from disclosure under

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<sup>1</sup>Section 552.117 of the Government Code excepts from disclosure the home addresses and telephone numbers, emergency contact information, social security numbers, and family member information of current or former officials or employees of a governmental body. Gov't Code § 552.117(a). Section 552.024 of the Government Code authorizes a governmental body to withhold information subject to section 552.117 without requesting a decision from this office if the employee or official or former employee or official chooses not to allow public access to the information. *See id.* § 552.024(c)(2).

<sup>2</sup>This office issued Open Records Decision No. 684, a previous determination to all governmental bodies, which authorizes the withholding of ten categories of information, including personal e-mail addresses of members of the public under section 552.137 of the Government Code, without the necessity of requesting an attorney general decision.

§§ 552.108(a)(1), .301(e)(1)(A); *see also Ex parte Pruitt*, 551 S.W.2d 706 (Tex. 1977). You inform us, and have submitted correspondence from the university's police department confirming, that the submitted information relates to an active criminal investigation by the university's police department. Based upon these representations and our review, we conclude that the release of the information you have marked would interfere with the detection, investigation, or prosecution of crime. *See Houston Chronicle Publ'g Co. v. City of Houston*, 531 S.W.2d 177 (Tex. Civ. App.—Houston [14th Dist.] 1975) (court delineates law enforcement interests that are present in active cases), *writ ref'd n.r.e. per curiam*, 536 S.W.2d 559 (Tex. 1976). Accordingly, the university may withhold the information you have marked under section 552.108(a)(1) of the Government Code. The university must release the remaining information.

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,



Sarah Casterline  
Assistant Attorney General  
Open Records Division

SEC/ag

Ref: ID# 445352

Enc. Submitted documents

c: 2 Requestors  
(w/o enclosures)