



ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS
GREG ABBOTT

June 28, 2012

Mr. Christopher Gregg
For City of Webster
Gregg & Gregg, P.C.
16055 Space Center Boulevard, Suite 150
Houston, Texas 77062

OR2012-09990

Dear Mr. Gregg:

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# 457776.

The Webster Municipal Court (the "court"), which you represent, received a request for copies of the oaths or statements of office and bond of thirteen named individuals, information regarding a traffic stop involving the requestor, two City of Webster ("city") ordinances, the city's federal identification number, and the driver's license numbers of the thirteen named individuals. The request also asks a series of questions regarding the proof and law relied upon by the city in the requestor's case. You claim the submitted information is excepted from disclosure under section 552.108 of the Government Code. We have considered the exception you claim and reviewed the submitted information.

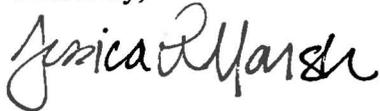
We note the Act is applicable to information "collected, assembled, or maintained under a law or ordinance or in connection with the transaction of official business by a governmental body." Gov't Code § 552.002(a)(1). However, the Act's definition of "governmental body" "does not include the judiciary." *Id.* § 552.003(1)(B). Information "collected, assembled, or maintained by or for the judiciary" is not subject to the Act but instead is "governed by rules adopted by the Supreme Court of Texas or by other applicable laws and rules." *Id.* § 552.0035(a); *cf.* Open Records Decision No. 131 (1976) (applying statutory predecessor to judiciary exclusion under Gov't Code § 552.003(1)(B) prior to enactment of Gov't Code § 552.0035). The present request is for information maintained by the court. Accordingly, we conclude the requested information is not subject to the Act and need not

be released in response to this request for information.¹ As we are able to make this determination, we do not address your exception to disclosure.

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,



Jessica Marsh
Assistant Attorney General
Open Records Division

JM/dls

Ref: ID# 457776

Enc. Submitted documents

c: Requestor
(w/o enclosures)

¹We note records of the judiciary may be public under other sources of law. See Gov't Code § 29.007(d)(4) (complaints filed with municipal court clerk), (f) (municipal court clerks shall perform duties prescribed by law for county court clerk); Local Gov't Code § 191.006 (records belonging to office of county clerk shall be open to public unless access restricted by law or court order); see also *Star-Telegram, Inc. v. Walker*, 834 S.W.2d 54, 57 (Tex. 1992) (documents filed with courts are generally considered public and must be released); Attorney General Opinions DM-166 (1992) at 2-3 (public has general right to inspect and copy judicial records), H-826 (1976); Open Records Decision No. 25 (1974).