



**ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS**  
**GREG ABBOTT**

November 28, 2012

Mr. Steven E. Meyer  
Assistant City Attorney  
Arlington Police Department  
P.O. Box 1065, Mail Stop 04-0200  
Arlington, Texas 76004-1065

OR2012-19115

Dear Mr. Meyer:

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# 472182 (Police Department Reference No. 9047).

The Arlington Police Department (the "department") received a request for information pertaining to a named individual, including four specified arrests. You claim the submitted information is excepted from disclosure under section 552.101 of the Government Code. We have considered the exception you claim and reviewed the submitted information.

Initially, we note you have only submitted information pertaining to one of the specified arrests for our review. Thus, to the extent any additional responsive information existed when the present request was received, we assume it has been released. If such information has not been released, then it must be released at this time. *See Gov't Code §§ 552.301(a), .302; see also Open Records Decision No. 664 (2000) (if governmental body concludes that no exceptions apply to requested information, it must release information as soon as possible).*

Section 552.101 of the Government Code excepts from disclosure "information considered to be confidential by law, either constitutional, statutory, or by judicial decision." Gov't Code § 552.101. Section 552.101 of the Government Code encompasses information made confidential by other statutes, including section 261.201 of the Family Code, which provides in relevant part:

(a) Except as provided by Section 261.203, the following information is confidential, is not subject to public release under [the Act] and may be disclosed only for purposes consistent with this code and applicable federal or state law or under rules adopted by an investigating agency:

(1) a report of alleged or suspected abuse or neglect made under this chapter and the identity of the person making the report; and

(2) except as otherwise provided in this section, the files, reports, records, communications, audiotapes, videotapes, and working papers used or developed in an investigation under this chapter or in providing services as a result of an investigation.

Fam. Code § 261.201(a). Upon review, we find you have not explained how the submitted information was used in an investigation conducted under chapter 261. Consequently, we find you have failed to adequately demonstrate how this report was used or developed in an investigation of child abuse or neglect under chapter 261 of the Family Code. *See id.* § 261.001(1), (4) (defining “abuse” and “neglect” for purposes of section 261.201). We therefore conclude section 261.201 is not applicable to the submitted information. Accordingly, the department may not withhold any of the submitted information pursuant to section 552.101 of the Government Code in conjunction with section 261.201 of the Family Code.

We note some of the submitted information is subject to section 552.130 of the Government Code.<sup>1</sup> Section 552.130 provides information relating to a motor vehicle operator’s license, driver’s license, motor vehicle title, or registration issued by an agency of this state or another state or country is excepted from public release. *See Gov’t Code* § 552.130. Accordingly, the department must withhold the information we have marked under section 552.130 of the Government Code. The department 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,

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<sup>1</sup>The Office of the Attorney General will raise a mandatory exception on behalf of a governmental body, but ordinarily will not raise other exceptions. *See* Open Records Decision Nos. 481 (1987), 480 (1987), 470 (1987).

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,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Paigelay".

Paige Lay  
Assistant Attorney General  
Open Records Division

PL/tch

Ref: ID# 472182

Enc. Submitted documents

cc: Requestor  
(w/o enclosures)