



ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS  
GREG ABBOTT

December 3, 2012

Ms. LeAnn M. Quinn  
City Secretary  
City of Cedar Park  
450 Cypress Creek Road  
Cedar Park, Texas 78613

OR2012-19405

Dear Ms. Quinn:

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# 476677 (Reference Number 13-079).

The City of Cedar Park (the "city") received a request for a specified incident report. You state the city will make some information available to the requestor. Additionally, you state the city will withhold driver's license numbers pursuant to section 552.130(c) of the Government Code.<sup>1</sup> You also state the city will withhold a license plate number under section 552.130(a)(2) of the Government Code and personal e-mail addresses under section 552.137 of the Government Code pursuant to Open Records Decision No. 684 (2009).<sup>2</sup> You further state the city will withhold social security numbers pursuant

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<sup>1</sup>Section 552.130 of the Government Code permits a governmental body to redact the information described in subsections 552.130(a)(1) and (a)(3), such as driver's license numbers, without the necessity of seeking a decision from the attorney general. *See* Gov't Code § 552.130(c). If a governmental body redacts such information, it must notify the requestor in accordance with section 552.130(e). *See id.* § 552.130(d), (e).

<sup>2</sup>Open Records Decision No. 684 permits a governmental body to redact Texas license plate numbers and personal e-mail addresses of members of the public, which are made confidential by sections 552.130(a)(2) and 552.137, respectively, without requesting an attorney general decision.

to section 552.147(b) of the Government Code.<sup>3</sup> You claim portions of the submitted information are excepted from disclosure under sections 552.101, 552.108, 552.130, and 552.136 of the Government Code. We have considered the exceptions you claim and reviewed the submitted information.

Section 552.108(a)(1) of the Government Code excepts from disclosure “[i]nformation held by a law enforcement agency or prosecutor that deals with the detection, investigation, or prosecution of crime . . . if . . . release of the information would interfere with the detection, investigation, or prosecution of crime[.]” Gov’t Code § 552.108(a)(1). A governmental body must reasonably explain how and why section 552.108 is applicable to the information at issue. *See id.* § 552.301(e)(1)(A); *Ex parte Pruitt*, 551 S.W.2d 706 (Tex. 1977). You state the information submitted as Exhibit C is related to a pending criminal investigation. Based on your representation and our review, we conclude the city may withhold Exhibit C under section 552.108(a)(1) of the Government Code. *See Houston Chronicle Publ’g Co. v. Department of Houston*, 531 S.W.2d 177 (Tex. Civ. App.—Houston [14th Dist.] 1975) (court delineates law enforcement interests present in active cases), *writ ref’d n.r.e. per curiam*, 536 S.W.2d 559 (Tex. 1976).

Section 552.101 of the Government Code excepts from disclosure “information considered to be confidential by law, either constitutional, statutory, or by judicial decision” and encompasses information made confidential by statute. Gov’t Code § 552.101. Section 552.101 encompasses the doctrine of common-law privacy, which protects information that is highly intimate or embarrassing, such that its release would be highly objectionable to a person of ordinary sensibilities, and of no legitimate public interest. *See Indus. Found. v. Tex. Indus. Accident Bd.*, 540 S.W.2d 668, 685 (Tex. 1976). This office has found that personal financial information not relating to the financial transaction between an individual and a governmental body is excepted from disclosure under common-law privacy. *See Open Records Decision No. 600* (1992) (personal financial choices concerning insurance are generally confidential). Upon review, we agree the city must withhold the personal financial information you have marked in Exhibit B under section 552.101 of the Government Code in conjunction with common-law privacy.

Section 552.130(a)(2) of the Government Code excepts from disclosure information related to a motor vehicle title or registration issued by an agency of this state or another state or country. *See Gov’t Code § 552.130(a)(2)*. We agree the city must withhold the vehicle identification number you have marked in Exhibit B under section 552.130 of the Government Code.

Section 552.136 of the Government Code states that “[n]otwithstanding any other provision of [the Act], a credit card, debit card, charge card, or access device number that is collected,

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<sup>3</sup>Section 552.147(b) of the Government Code authorizes a governmental body to redact a living person’s social security number from public release without the necessity of requesting a decision from this office under the Act. Gov’t Code § 552.147(b).

assembled, or maintained by or for a governmental body is confidential.” *Id.* § 552.136(b); *see id.* § 552.136(a) (defining “access device”). This office has determined an insurance policy number is an access device number for purposes of section 552.136. We therefore agree the city must withhold the insurance policy number you have marked in Exhibit B under section 552.136 of the Government Code.

In summary, the city may withhold Exhibit C under section 552.108(a)(1) of the Government Code. The city must withhold (1) the information you have marked in Exhibit B under section 552.101 of the Government Code in conjunction with common-law privacy, (2) the vehicle identification number you have marked in Exhibit B under section 552.130(a)(2) of the Government, and (3) the insurance policy number you have marked in Exhibit B under section 552.136 of the Government Code. The remaining information at issue in Exhibit B must be released.

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/ag

Ref: ID# 476677

Enc. Submitted documents

c: Requestor  
(w/o enclosures)