ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS
GREG ABBOTT

December 17, 2012

Ms. Lillian Guillen Graham
Assistant City Attorney
City of Mesquite
P.O. Box 850137
Mesquite, Texas 75185-0137

OR2012-20250

Dear Ms. Graham:

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# 474086.

The Mesquite Police Department (the "department") received a request for a specified call sheet. You state the department will redact driver's license numbers under section 552.130(c) of the Government Code and Texas license plate numbers under section 552.130 of the Government Code pursuant to Open Records Decision No. 684 (2009).[1] You also state the department will redact some information pursuant to Open Records Letter Nos. 2012-06459 (2012) and 2012-01375 (2012).[2] You claim some of the submitted information is excepted from disclosure under sections 552.101 and 552.130

[1]Section 552.130(c) of the Government Code allows a governmental body to redact the information described in subsections 552.130(a)(1) and (a)(3) 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). Open Records Decision No. 684 is a previous determination to all governmental bodies authorizing them to withhold specific categories of information without the necessity of requesting an attorney general decision, including Texas license plate numbers under section 552.130(a)(2) of the Government Code.

[2]Open Records Letter Nos. 2012-06459 and 2012-01375 are previous determinations to the department authorizing the department to withhold the price of a motor vehicle and information that reveals the existence of a motor vehicle lien, respectively, from a call sheet under section 552.101 in conjunction with common-law privacy, without requesting a decision from this office.

of the Government Code. We have considered the exceptions you claim and reviewed the submitted information.

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 encompasses the doctrine of common-law privacy, which protects information that (1) contains highly intimate or embarrassing facts, the publication of which would be highly objectionable to a reasonable person, and (2) is not of legitimate concern to the public. *Indus. Found. v. Tex. Indus. Accident Bd.*, 540 S.W.2d 668, 685 (Tex. 1976). The type of information considered intimate or embarrassing by the Texas Supreme Court in *Industrial Foundation* included information relating to sexual assault, pregnancy, mental or physical abuse in the workplace, illegitimate children, psychiatric treatment of mental disorders, attempted suicide, and injuries to sexual organs. *Id.* at 683. This office has found personal financial information not relating to the financial transaction between an individual and a governmental body is excepted from required public disclosure under common-law privacy. *See* Open Records Decision Nos. 600 (1992), 545 (1990). Upon review, we find portions of the submitted information are highly intimate or embarrassing and not of legitimate public concern. Therefore, the department must withhold the information we have marked under section 552.101 of the Government Code in conjunction with common-law privacy.

Section 552.130 of the Government Code provides that information related to a motor vehicle operator's license or driver's license, title, or registration issued by a Texas agency, or an agency of another state or country, is excepted from public release. Gov't Code § 552.130(a)(1), (2). Upon review, we find the department must withhold the information you have marked, in addition to the information we have marked, under section 552.130 of the Government Code.

In summary, the department must withhold the information we have marked under section 552.101 of the Government Code and the information you have marked, in addition to the information we have marked, under section 552.130 of the Government Code. The department must release the remaining information.

Finally, you ask this office to issue a previous determination that would permit the department to withhold motor vehicle registration information under section 552.130(a)(2) of the Government Code without the necessity of requesting a decision from this office. We decline to issue such a previous determination at this time. Accordingly, 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 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,

Jennifer Burnett
Assistant Attorney General
Open Records Division

JB/tch

Ref: ID# 474086

Enc. Submitted documents

c: Requestor
(w/o enclosures)