



ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS
GREG ABBOTT

April 23, 2013

Ms. Amy Benya
Assistant General Counsel
Office of the General Counsel
Texas Department of Criminal Justice
P.O. Box 4004
Huntsville, Texas 77342-4004

OR2013-06628

Dear Ms. Benya:

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# 485245.

The Texas Department of Criminal Justice (the "department") received a request for information pertaining to family members of a deceased inmate. You claim the submitted information is excepted from disclosure under section 552.134 of the Government Code. We have considered the exception you claim and reviewed the submitted information.

Section 552.134 of the Government Code encompasses information relating to inmates and former inmates of the department and provides:

(a) Except as provided by Subsection (b) or by Section 552.029, information obtained or maintained by the [department] is excepted from [required public disclosure] if it is information about an inmate who is confined in a facility operated by or under a contract with the department.

Gov't Code § 552.134(a). Upon review, we agree the submitted information consists of records pertaining to a deceased inmate who was confined in a facility operated by the department and is, therefore, subject to section 552.134. We find the exceptions in

section 552.029 are not applicable in this instance. Accordingly, the department must withhold the submitted information under section 552.134(a) of the Government Code.

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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jennifer Burnett", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Jennifer Burnett
Assistant Attorney General
Open Records Division

JB/tch

Ref: ID# 485245

Enc. Submitted documents

c: Requestor
(w/o enclosures)