



ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS  
GREG ABBOTT

August 13, 2013

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

OR2013-14078

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# 496132.

The Mesquite Police Department (the "department") received a request for specified call sheets and information related to calls for service at a specified address during a specified period of time. You state the department has released some of the requested information. You state the department will redact some information pursuant to Open Records Letter Nos. 2012-06459 (2012), 2012-01375 (2012), 2011-15761 (2011), and 2011-15075 (2011).<sup>1</sup> You claim portions of the submitted information are excepted from disclosure under sections 552.101 and 552.130 of the Government Code. We have considered the exceptions you claim and reviewed the submitted information.

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<sup>1</sup>Open Records Letter No. 2012-06459 authorizes the department to withhold the price of a motor vehicle in a call sheet under section 552.101 of the Government Code in conjunction with common-law privacy without the necessity of requesting a decision under section 552.301 of the Government Code. Open Records Letter No. 2012-01375 authorizes the department to withhold motor vehicle lien information in a call sheet under section 552.101 in conjunction with common-law privacy without requesting a decision from this office. Open Records Letter Nos. 2011-15761 and 2011-15075 authorize the department to withhold the originating addresses and telephone numbers, respectively, of 9-1-1 callers furnished to the department by a service supplier established in accordance with chapter 772 of the Health and Safety Code under section 552.101 of the Government Code in conjunction with section 772.118 of the Health and Safety Code without requesting a decision from this office.

Section 552.101 of the Government Code excepts from public disclosure “information considered to be confidential by law, either constitutional, statutory, or by judicial decision.” Gov’t Code § 552.101. This section encompasses common-law privacy, which protects information that is (1) highly intimate or embarrassing, the publication of which would be highly objectionable to a reasonable person and (2) not of legitimate concern to the public. *Indus. Found. v. Tex. Indus. Accident Bd.*, 540 S.W.2d 668, 685 (Tex. 1976). To demonstrate the applicability of common-law privacy, both prongs of this test must be demonstrated. *See id.* at 681-82. 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 some kinds of medical information or information indicating disabilities or specific illnesses are excepted from required public disclosure under common-law privacy. *See* Open Records Decision Nos. 455 (1987) (information pertaining to prescription drugs, specific illnesses, operations and procedures, and physical disabilities protected from disclosure), 422 (1984), 343 (1982). Upon review, we find the information we have marked is highly intimate or embarrassing and of no legitimate public interest. Accordingly, the department must withhold the information we have marked under section 552.101 of the Government Code in conjunction with common-law privacy. However, we find you have not demonstrated how the remaining information you have marked is highly intimate or embarrassing and not of legitimate public concern. Thus, the remaining information may not be withheld under section 552.101 in conjunction with common-law privacy.

You assert portions of the remaining information are excepted from disclosure pursuant to section 552.130 of the Government Code. Section 552.130 provides information relating to a motor vehicle operator’s license, driver’s license, motor vehicle title or registration, or personal identification document issued by an agency of this state or another state or country is excepted from public release. *See* Gov’t Code § 552.130. You inform us the department will redact the motor vehicle record information described in subsections 552.130(a)(1) and (a)(3) pursuant to section 552.130(c). Further, you state the department will redact Texas license plate numbers in accordance with Open Records Decision No. 684 (2009). Open Records Decision No. 684 is a previous determination to all governmental bodies authorizing them to withhold certain information, including Texas license plate numbers under section 552.130 of the Government Code. However, the Texas legislature recently amended section 552.130 to allow a governmental body to redact the information described in section 552.130(a)(2) of the Government Code without the necessity of seeking a decision from the attorney general. Act of May 6, 2013, 83rd Leg., R.S., S.B. 458, § 1 (to be codified as an amendment to Gov’t Code § 552.130(c)). Thus, the statutory amendment to section 552.130 of the Government Code supercedes Open Records Decision No. 684. Therefore, a governmental body may redact information subject to subsection 552.130(a)(2) only in accordance with section 552.130, not Open Records Decision No. 684. Upon review, we find most of the information you have marked consists of motor vehicle record

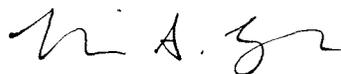
information. However, you have failed to demonstrate portions of the information you have marked consist of motor vehicle record information. Accordingly, with the exception of the information we have marked for release, the department must withhold the motor vehicle record information you marked and the additional motor vehicle record information we marked under section 552.130 of the Government Code.

In summary, the department must withhold the information we marked under section 552.101 of the Government Code in conjunction with common-law privacy. With the exception of the information we marked for release, the department must withhold the motor vehicle record information you marked and the additional motor vehicle record information we marked under section 552.130 of the Government Code. The remaining information must be released.

You also ask this office to issue a previous determination that would permit the department to withhold motor vehicle record information under section 552.130(a)(2) of the Government Code without the necessity of requesting a decision under section 552.301 of the Government Code. As noted above, section 552.130(c) now allows a governmental body to redact the motor vehicle record information described in section 552.130(a)(2) without requesting a decision from the attorney general. *See* Act of May 6, 2013, 83rd Leg., R.S., S.B. 458, § 1 (to be codified as an amendment to Gov't Code § 552.130(c)). Therefore, 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 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.texasattorneygeneral.gov/open/orl\\_ruling\\_info.shtml](http://www.texasattorneygeneral.gov/open/orl_ruling_info.shtml), 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 may be directed to the Office of the Attorney General, toll free, at (888) 672-6787.

Sincerely,



Nicholas A. Ybarra  
Assistant Attorney General  
Open Records Division

NAY/dls

Ref: ID# 496132

Enc. Submitted documents

c: Requestor  
(w/o enclosures)