ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS
GREG ABBOTT

November 20, 2013

Ms. Ana Vieira
Office of General Counsel
The University of Texas System
201 West Seventh Street
Austin, Texas 78701-2902

OR2013-17477A

Dear Ms. Vieira:

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# 510008 (OGC# 150875).

This office issued Open Records Letter No. 2013-17477 (2013) on October 8, 2013. We have examined this ruling and determined Open Records Letter No. 2013-17477 is incorrect. Where this office determines that an error was made in the decision process under sections 552.301 and 552.306, and that error resulted in an incorrect decision, we will correct the previously issued ruling. Consequently, this decision serves as the correct ruling and is a substitute for Open Records Letter No. 2013-17477. *See generally* Gov't Code § 552.011 (providing that Office of the Attorney General may issue a decision to maintain uniformity in application, operation, and interpretation of the Act).

The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center (the "university") received a request for documents relating to a named individual and termination of his employment at the university, his performance at Children's Medical Center ("Children's"), or communications with external government authorities. You state that, as permitted by section 552.024(c) of the Government Code, you will redact information subject to section 552.117 of the

Government Code.[1] You claim a portion of the submitted information is not subject to the Act. You claim that the submitted information is excepted from disclosure under sections 552.101, 552.102, 552.107, and 552.111 of the Government Code. You also state that you notified Children's and the Texas Medical Board (the "board") of the request for information and of these entities' right to submit arguments to this office as to why the submitted information should not be released. *See id.* § 552.305(d); *see also* Open Records Decision No. 542 (1990) (statutory predecessor to section 552.305 permits governmental body to rely on interested third party to raise and explain applicability of exception in the Act in certain circumstances). We have received comments from Children's and the board. We have considered the exceptions you claim and reviewed the submitted representative sample of information.[2] We have also considered comments from an attorney for the requestor. *See* Gov't Code § 552.304 (interested party may submit comments stating why information should or should not be released).

Initially, the university has marked information that is not responsive to the request for information because it does not pertain to the individual named in the request and the requested categories of information. This ruling does not address the public availability of any information that is not responsive to the request, and the university is not required to release this information in response to this request.

Next, Children's claims a portion of the submitted information is not responsive to the present request for information. We note a governmental body must make a good-faith effort to relate a request to information that is within its possession or control. *See* Open Records Decision No. 561 at 8-9 (1990). In this case, the university has reviewed its records and determined the documents at issue are responsive to the request. Thus, we find the university has made a good-faith effort to relate the request to information within its possession or control. Accordingly, we will determine whether the university must release the submitted information under the Act.

Now we address Children's assertion that its submitted information is not subject to the Act. The Act is applicable only to "public information." *See* Gov't Code §§ 552.002, .021. Section 552.002(a) defines "public information" as

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[1]Section 552.117 of the Government Code excepts from disclosure the home addresses and telephone numbers, emergency contact information, social security numbers, and family member information of current or former officials or employees of a governmental body. Gov't Code § 552.117(a)(1). Section 552.024 of the Government Code authorizes a governmental body to withhold information subject to section 552.117 without requesting a decision from this office if the employee or official or former employee or official chooses not to allow public access to the information. *See id.* § 552.024(c)(2).

[2]We assume the "representative sample" of records submitted to this office are truly representative of the requested records as a whole. *See* Open Records Decision Nos. 499 (1988), 497 (1988). This open records letter does not reach, and, therefore, does not authorize the withholding of, any other requested records to the extent those records contain substantially different types of information than those submitted to this office.

> information that is written, produced, collected, assembled, or maintained under a law or ordinance or in connection with the transaction of official business:
>
> (1) by a governmental body;
>
> (2) for a governmental body and the governmental body:
>
> (A) owns the information;
>
> (B) has a right of access to the information; or
>
> (C) spends or contributes public money for the purpose of writing, producing, collecting, assembling, or maintaining the information; or
>
> (3) by an individual officer or employee of a governmental body in the officer's or employee's official capacity and the information pertains to official business of the governmental body.

Gov't Code § 552.002. Information that is collected, assembled, or maintained by a third party may be subject to disclosure under the Act if a governmental body owns or has a right of access to the information. *See* Open Records Decision No. 462 (1987); *cf.* Open Records Decision No. 499 (1988).

Children's states it is a private, not-for-profit corporation that specializes in the delivery of health care services to children. Children's further states that it is not part of the university or the University of Texas System and that physicians who practice at Children's do so as members of the independently organized Children's medical staff. Children's states the physician at issue was employed by the university but also held hospital privileges at Children's. Children's explains that the records at issue were generated in connection with the review of the physician at issue by Children's Medical/Dental Staff Peer Review Committee and Children's Medical Executive Committee and sent to university employees in their capacity as members of Children's medical committees. Children's further explains that the university played no role in this process. Thus, Children's argues it did not "create, collect, assemble, or maintain information for [the university]." After reviewing Children's arguments and the information at issue, we agree that the information we have indicated does not constitute "information that is written, produced, collected, assembled, or maintained under a law or ordinance or in connection with the transaction of official business" by or for the university. *See* Gov't Code § 552.002; *see also* Open Records Decision No. 635 (1995) (statutory predecessor not applicable to personal information unrelated to official business and created or maintained by state employee involving *de minimis* use of state resources).

Therefore, we conclude the information we have indicated is not subject to the Act, and the university need not release it in response to this request.[3]

The university argues portions of the remaining information are not subject to the Act pursuant to section 181.006 of the Health and Safety Code. Section 181.006 states "[f]or a covered entity that is a governmental unit, an individual's protected health information . . . is not public information and is not subject to disclosure under [the Act]." Health & Safety Code § 181.006(2). We will assume, without deciding, the university is a covered entity. Section 181.006(2) does not remove protected health information from the Act's application, but rather states this information is "not public information and is not subject to disclosure under [the Act]." We interpret this to mean a covered entity's protected health information is subject to the Act's application. Furthermore, this statute, when demonstrated to be applicable, makes confidential the information it covers. Thus, we will consider the other arguments for the remaining information.

Next, you inform us a portion of the requested information is subject to a previous ruling from this office, in response to which this office issued Open Records Letter No. 2011-13213 (2011). The requestor's attorney asserts that the circumstances in the prior ruling have changed. However, the university informs us that the law, facts, and circumstances on which the prior ruling was based have not changed. Whether the circumstances at issue have changed is a question of fact. Open Records Decision Nos. 592 at 2 (1991), 552 at 4 (1990), 435 at 4 (1986). This office is unable to resolve disputes of fact in the open records ruling process. Accordingly, we must rely upon the facts alleged to us by the governmental body requesting our opinion, or upon those facts that are discernable from the documents submitted for our inspection. *See* ORD 552 at 4. Based on the university's representation and our review, we find that the law, facts, and circumstances on which the prior ruling was based have not changed, and the university may continue to rely on the prior ruling as a previous determination and withhold or release the requested information we have previously ruled on in accordance with Open Records Letter No. 2011-13213. *See* Open Records Decision No. 673 (2001) (so long as law, facts, and circumstances on which prior ruling was based have not changed, first type of previous determination exists where requested information is precisely same information as was addressed in prior attorney general ruling, ruling is addressed to same governmental body, and ruling concludes that information is or is not excepted from disclosure). However, because the remaining responsive information is not encompassed by the previous determination, we will address the remaining submitted arguments.

We next address the requestor's attorney's assertion that the university failed to comply with the procedural requirements of section 552.301(e-1) of the Government Code. The requestor's attorney states that the university redacted some of the statutory language and

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[3]As our ruling is dispositive for this information, we need not address the remaining arguments against its disclosure.

citations of the statutes claimed from the copy of the written comments sent to the requestor and, thus, the information responsive to the request is subject to required public disclosure. Section 552.301(e-1) of the Government Code requires a governmental body that submits written comments to the attorney general under section 552.301(e)(1)(A) to send a copy of those comments to the person who requested the information from the governmental body within fifteen business-days of receiving the request for information. Gov't Code § 552.301(e-1). Pursuant to section 552.302 of the Government Code, a governmental body's failure to comply with the procedural requirements of section 552.301 results in the legal presumption that the information is public and must be released unless the governmental body demonstrates a compelling reason to withhold the information to overcome this presumption. *Id.* § 552.302; *Simmons v. Kuzmich*, 166 S.W.3d 342, 350 (Tex. App.—Fort Worth 2005, no pet.); *Hancock v. State Bd. of Ins.*, 797 S.W.2d 379, 381-82 (Tex. App.—Austin 1990, no writ) (governmental body must make compelling demonstration to overcome presumption of openness pursuant to statutory predecessor to section 552.302); Open Records Decision No. 630 (1994). A compelling reason generally exists when information is confidential by law or third-party interests are at stake. *See* Open Records Decision Nos. 630 at 3, 325 at 2 (1982). We note the sections redacted are claimed by the university in conjunction with section 552.101 of the Government Code. Regardless of whether the university failed to meet its section 552.301(e-1) burden, section 552.101 is a mandatory exception that constitutes a compelling reason sufficient to overcome the presumption of openness caused by the failure to comply with section 552.301. *See* Gov't Code §§ 552.007, .352. Accordingly, we will consider the university's arguments under section 552.101.

Section 552.101 of the Government Code excepts from disclosure "information considered to be confidential by law, either constitutional, statutory, or by judicial decision." *Id.* § 552.101. Section 552.101 encompasses information made confidential by other statutes, such as section 160.007 of the Occupations Code and section 161.032 of the Health and Safety Code. Section 160.007 of the Occupations Code provides, in relevant part:

> (a) Except as otherwise provided by this subtitle, each proceeding or record of a medical peer review committee is confidential, and any communication made to a medical peer review committee is privileged.

Occ. Code § 160.007(a). A medical peer review committee is "the governing board of a health care entity . . . that operates under written bylaws approved by the policy-making body or the governing board of the health care entity and is authorized to evaluate the quality of medical and health care services[.]" *Id.* § 151.002(a)(8). Section 161.032 of the Health and Safety Code addresses the broader category of medical committees and provides in relevant part:

> (a) The records and proceedings of a medical committee are confidential and are not subject to court subpoena.

. . .

> (c) Records, information, or reports of a medical committee, medical peer review committee, or compliance officer and records, information, or reports provided by a medical committee, medical peer review committee, or compliance officer to the governing body of a public hospital, hospital district, or hospital authority are not subject to disclosure under [the Act].

. . .

> (f) This section and Subchapter A, Chapter 160, Occupations Code, do not apply to records made or maintained in the regular course of business by a hospital, health maintenance organization, medical organization, university medical center or health science center, hospital district, hospital authority, or extended care facility.

Health & Safety Code § 161.032(a), (c), (f). For purposes of this confidentiality provision, a "'medical committee' includes any committee, including a joint committee, of . . . a hospital [or] a medical organization [or] a university medical school or health science center [or] a hospital district [.]" *Id.* § 161.031(a). Section 161.0315 provides in relevant part that "[t]he governing body of a hospital, medical organization, university medical school or health science center [or] hospital district . . . may form . . . a medical committee, as defined by section 161.031, to evaluate medical and health care services[.]" *Id.* § 161.0315(a).

The precise scope of the "medical committee" provision has been the subject of a number of judicial decisions. *See, e.g., Memorial Hosp.—The Woodlands v. McCown*, 927 S.W.2d 1 (Tex. 1996); *Barnes v. Whittington*, 751 S.W.2d 493 (Tex. 1988); *Jordan v. Fourth Supreme Judicial Dist.*, 701 S.W.2d 644 (Tex. 1986). These cases establish that "documents generated by the committee in order to conduct open and thorough review" are confidential. This protection extends "to documents that have been prepared by or at the direction of the committee for committee purposes." *Jordan*, 701 S.W.2d at 647-48. Protection does not extend to documents "gratuitously submitted to a committee" or "created without committee impetus and purpose." *Id.* at 648; *see also* Open Records Decision No. 591 (1991) (construing, among other statutes, statutory predecessor to section 161.032).

Further, section 161.032 does not make confidential "records made or maintained in the regular course of business by a . . . university medical center or health science center[.]" Health & Safety Code § 161.032(f); *see also McCown*, 927 S.W.2d at 10 (stating reference to statutory predecessor to section 160.007 of the Occupations Code in section 161.032 of the Health and Safety Code is clear signal records should be accorded same treatment under both statutes in determining if they were made in ordinary course of business). The phrase "records made or maintained in the regular course of business" has been construed to mean

records that are neither created nor obtained in connection with a medical committee's deliberative proceedings. *See McCown*, 927 S.W.2d at 9-10.

You state the documents you have marked were created by or for medical committees of the university. You inform us the Credentialing and Privileges Committee makes recommendations to the Medical Services Research and Development Board and the University Hospital Board regarding "whether particular health care providers may be given privileges and credentials to provide services at the [u]niversity's hospitals, including its affiliate hospital Children's[.]" You state the Peer Review Committee "conduct[s] peer evaluations, assesses the qualifications of faculty, and tracks faculty performance" and makes recommendations to the Promotions and Tenure Committee and provides information to the Credentialing and Privileges Committee and the Medical Executive Committee. Finally, you state the Professional Liability Committee reviews and investigates claims involving potential medical malpractice liability against the university and provides guidance to university attorneys regarding litigation strategy. We agree each of these committees is a "medical committee" for purposes of section 161.031. Upon review, we find the information at issue was prepared at the direction of the named university committees and for committee purposes. Accordingly, the university must withhold the information we have indicated in the remaining information under section 552.101 in conjunction with section 161.032 of the Health and Safety Code.[4]

You also seek to withhold certain documents you assert were created by the Children's Medical Executive Committee, which you inform us makes recommendations to Children's Board of Managers on "matters of peer review, credentialing and privileging of physicians, approval of hospital rules and regulations, bylaws changes, and quality and safety." We note, however, that the information at issue consists of a letter from a university faculty member to the dean of the university regarding the status of the named individual's faculty appointment, a letter from the dean of the university to the named individual pertaining to his faculty appointment, and the named individual's letter with attachments to the university dean with regard to the appointment status. We find you have not explained how these communications between university staff members pertaining to the appointment status of a university faculty member constitute a confidential record of the Children's Medical Executive Committee. Therefore, we find this information is not confidential under section 160.007 of the Occupations Code or section 161.032 of the Health and Safety Code and may not be withheld under section 552.101 on that basis. *See Harris Hosp. v. Schattman*, 734 S.W.2d 759 (Tex. App.—Fort Worth 1987, writ denied) (letters written by hospital to physician were discoverable in medical malpractice action against physician and hospital; physician was obviously aware of information contained in letters, including identities of any sources of criticism of physician contained therein, and thus, denial of

[4]As our ruling is dispositive for this information, we need not address the remaining arguments against its disclosure.

discovery of correspondence would not serve intended purpose of permitting open and thorough review of physician's practice and right to continued practice on hospital's staff).

The university and the board assert some of the remaining information is confidential under section 164.007 of the Occupations Code, which is also encompassed by section 552.101. Section 164.007(c) provides:

> Each complaint, adverse report, investigation file, other investigation report, and other investigative information in the possession of or received or gathered by the board or its employees or agents relating to a license holder, an application for license, or a criminal investigation or proceeding is privileged and confidential and is not subject to discovery, subpoena, or other means of legal compulsion for release to anyone other than the board or its employees or agents involved in discipline of a license holder. For purposes of this subsection, investigative information includes information relating to the identity of, and a report made by, a physician performing or supervising compliance monitoring for the board.

Occ. Code § 164.007(c). The information at issue consists of information created by or provided to the board relating to a licensed physician. The board argues the information at issue is confidential under section 164.007(c) because the information is part of the board's investigative file regarding the named individual. By its terms, section 164.007(c) makes information confidential when in the possession of the board, its employees, or agents. In this instance, however, the information at issue is in the possession of the university. Furthermore, the university is not acting as an employee or agent of the board in maintaining these records. Therefore, we conclude section 164.007(c) does not make the information at issue confidential in this instance. Consequently, the university may not withhold any of the remaining information under section 552.101 of the Government Code in conjunction with section 164.007 of the Occupations Code.

The university and the board also claim some of the remaining information is subject to section 160.006 of the Occupations Code, which provides in relevant part:

> (a) A record, report, or other information received and maintained by the board under [Subchapter A] or Subchapter B, including any material received or developed by the board during an investigation or hearing and the identity of, and reports made by, a physician performing or supervising compliance monitoring for the board, is confidential.

Id. § 160.006(a). By its terms, section 160.006(a) makes information confidential if it is maintained by the board. The board argues some of the remaining information was developed by the board and is contained in its investigative files. However, we note the information at issue is maintained by the university. Accordingly, we conclude none of the

remaining information is confidential under section 160.006(a). Thus, the university may not withhold any of the remaining information under section 552.101 of the Government Code on this basis.

Section 552.107(1) of the Government Code protects information coming within the attorney-client privilege. Gov't Code § 552.107(1). When asserting the attorney-client privilege, a governmental body has the burden of providing the necessary facts to demonstrate the elements of the privilege in order to withhold the information at issue. Open Records Decision No. 676 at 6-7 (2002). First, a governmental body must demonstrate that the information constitutes or documents a communication. *Id.* at 7. Second, the communication must have been made "for the purpose of facilitating the rendition of professional legal services" to the client governmental body. TEX. R. EVID. 503(b)(1). The privilege does not apply when an attorney or representative is involved in some capacity other than that of providing or facilitating professional legal services to the client governmental body. *In re Tex. Farmers Ins. Exch.*, 990 S.W.2d 337, 340 (Tex. App.—Texarkana 1999, orig. proceeding) (attorney-client privilege does not apply if attorney acting in a capacity other than that of attorney). Governmental attorneys often act in capacities other than that of professional legal counsel, such as administrators, investigators, or managers. Thus, the mere fact that a communication involves an attorney for the government does not demonstrate this element. Third, the privilege applies to only communications between or among clients, client representatives, lawyers, and lawyer representatives. TEX. R. EVID. 503(b)(1). Thus, a governmental body must inform this office of the identities and capacities of the individuals to whom each communication at issue has been made. Lastly, the attorney-client privilege applies to only a confidential communication, *id.*, meaning it was "not intended to be disclosed to third persons other than those to whom disclosure is made in furtherance of the rendition of professional legal services to the client or those reasonably necessary for the transmission of the communication." *Id.* 503(a)(5). Whether a communication meets this definition depends on the intent of the parties involved at the time the information was communicated. *Osborne v. Johnson*, 954 S.W.2d 180, 184 (Tex. App.—Waco 1997, orig. proceeding). Moreover, because the client may elect to waive the privilege at any time, a governmental body must explain that the confidentiality of a communication has been maintained. Section 552.107(1) generally excepts an entire communication that is demonstrated to be protected by the attorney-client privilege unless otherwise waived by the governmental body. *See Huie v. DeShazo*, 922 S.W.2d 920, 923 (Tex. 1996) (privilege extends to entire communication, including facts contained therein).

You state the information you have marked constitutes communications between university officials, employees, and attorneys that were made for the purpose of facilitating the rendition of professional legal services to the university. You also state the communications were intended to be confidential and have remained confidential. Based on your

representations and our review, we find the university may withhold the information you have marked under section 552.107(1) of the Government Code.[5]

Section 552.101 of the Government Code also encompasses the Medical Practice Act (the "MPA"), which governs access to medical records. Occ. Code §§ 151.001-168.202. Section 159.002 of the MPA provides:

> (a) A communication between a physician and a patient, relative to or in connection with any professional services as a physician to the patient, is confidential and privileged and may not be disclosed except as provided by this chapter.
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> (b) A record of the identity, diagnosis, evaluation, or treatment of a patient by a physician that is created or maintained by a physician is confidential and privileged and may not be disclosed except as provided by this chapter.
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> (c) A person who receives information from a confidential communication or record as described by this chapter, other than a person listed in Section 159.004 who is acting on the patient's behalf, may not disclose the information except to the extent that disclosure is consistent with the authorized purposes for which the information was first obtained.

Id. § 159.002. Information that is subject to the MPA includes both medical records and information obtained from those medical records. *See id.* §§ 159.002, .004. The information we have marked consists of information obtained from medical records. The university must withhold the marked information under section 552.101 of the Government Code in conjunction with section 159.002 of the Occupations Code.[6] However, we find none of the remaining information constitutes a record of the identity, diagnosis, evaluation, or treatment of a patient by a physician that was created or is maintained by a physician. Accordingly, the university may not withhold any of the remaining information under section 552.101 of the Government Code in conjunction with the MPA.

Section 552.101 of the Government Code also encompasses the doctrine of 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,

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[5]As our ruling is dispositive for this information, we need not address the remaining arguments against its disclosure.

[6]As our ruling is dispositive for this information, we need not address the remaining argument against its disclosure.

both prongs of this test must be satisfied. *Id.* at 681-82. Types of information considered intimate and embarrassing by the Texas Supreme Court are delineated in *Industrial Foundation. Id.* at 683. Additionally, this office has concluded some kinds of medical information are generally highly intimate or embarrassing, *see* Open Records Decision No. 455 (1987), and personal financial information not relating to a financial transaction between an individual and a governmental body is highly intimate or embarrassing and of no legitimate public interest, *see* Open Records Decision Nos. 600 (1992), 545 (1990). We note because the common-law right to privacy is a personal right that lapses at death, common-law privacy does not protect information that relates only to a deceased individual. *Moore v. Charles B. Pierce Film Enters., Inc.*, 589 S.W.2d 489, 491 (Tex. App.—Texarkana 1979, writ ref'd n.r.e.); *see also* Attorney General Opinions JM-229 (1984), H-917 (1976); Open Records Decision No. 272 at 1 (1981). Upon review, we find the information we have marked satisfies the standard articulated by the Texas Supreme Court in *Industrial Foundation.* Accordingly, the university 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 any of the remaining information at issue is highly intimate or embarrassing and not of legitimate public concern. Thus, none of the remaining information may be withheld under section 552.101 in conjunction with common-law privacy.

Section 552.101 of the Government Code also encompasses constitutional privacy. Constitutional privacy consists of two interrelated types of privacy: (1) the right to make certain kinds of decisions independently and (2) an individual's interest in avoiding disclosure of personal matters. *See* ORD 455 at 4. The first type protects an individual's autonomy within "zones of privacy," which include matters related to marriage, procreation, contraception, family relationships, and child rearing and education. *Id.* The second type of constitutional privacy requires a balancing between the individual's privacy interests and the public's need to know information of public concern. *Id.* The information must concern the "most intimate aspects of human affairs." *Id.* at 5 (citing *Ramie v. City of Hedwig Village, Texas*, 765 F.2d 490 (5th Cir. 1985)). Upon review, we find you have failed to demonstrate how any portion of the remaining information falls within the zones of privacy or implicates an individual's privacy interests for purposes of constitutional privacy. Therefore, the university may not withhold any of the remaining information under section 552.101 on the basis of constitutional privacy.

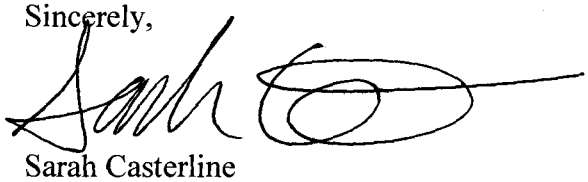
Section 552.102(a) of the Government Code excepts from disclosure "information in a personnel file, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy." Gov't Code § 552.102(a). The Texas Supreme Court held section 552.102(a) excepts from disclosure the dates of birth of state employees in the payroll database of the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts. *Tex. Comptroller of Pub. Accounts v. Attorney Gen. of Tex.*, 354 S.W.3d 336 (Tex. 2010). Upon review, we agree the university must withhold the date of birth we have marked under section 552.102(a) of the Government Code.

In summary, the information we have indicated is not subject to the Act, and the university need not release it in response to this request. The university may withhold or release the requested information we have previously ruled on in accordance with Open Records Letter No. 2011-13213. The university must withhold the information we have indicated under section 552.101 of the Government Code in conjunction with section 161.032 of the Health and Safety Code. The university may withhold the information you have marked under section 552.107(1) of the Government Code. The university must withhold the marked information under section 552.101 of the Government Code in conjunction with section 159.002 of the Occupations Code and common-law privacy and section 552.102(a) of the Government Code. The remaining information must be released.[7]

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.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,



Sarah Casterline
Assistant Attorney General
Open Records Division

SEC/tch

Ref: ID# 510008

Enc. Submitted documents

c: Requestor
(w/o enclosures)

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[7]We note the remaining information contains a social security number. Section 552.147 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. *See* Gov't Code § 552.147(b).

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