



ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS
GREG ABBOTT

November 13, 2013

Ms. Judy Hickman
Records Division
Beaumont Police Department
P.O. Box 3827
Beaumont, Texas 77704-3827

OR2013-19779

Dear Ms. Hickman:

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# 505838.

The Beaumont Police Department (the "department") received a request for information pertaining to case number 2008-30728. You state the department has released most of the requested information. You claim some of the submitted information is excepted from disclosure under section 552.130 of the Government Code. We have considered the exception you claim and reviewed the submitted information.

Section 552.130 of the Government Code excepts from disclosure information that relates to a motor vehicle title or registration issued by an agency of this state or another state or country. Gov't Code § 552.130(a)(2). Upon review, we agree one of the submitted audio recordings contains a license plate number subject to section 552.130 of the Government Code. You assert the department does not have the technological ability to redact the license plate number from the audio recording. However, because the department has the ability to copy the audio recording in order to submit it for our review, we believe the department has the capacity to produce a copy of the audio recording without the motor vehicle record information at issue. Therefore, we conclude the department must withhold the license plate number in the "caller1.wav" audio recording under section 552.130 of the Government Code. As you raise no further exception to disclosure, the remaining information 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.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,



Cindy Nettles
Assistant Attorney General
Open Records Division

CN/dls

Ref: ID# 505838

Enc. Submitted documents

c: Requestor
(w/o enclosures)