



ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS  
GREG ABBOTT

January 29, 2014

Mr. R. Brooks Moore  
Managing Counsel, Governance  
The Texas A&M University System  
301 Tarrow Street, Sixth Floor  
College Station, Texas 77840-7896

OR2014-01624

Dear Mr. Moore:

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# 512141 (TAMU No. 13-739).

The Texas A&M University (the "university") received a request for twelve categories of information pertaining to the university's Cisco IronPort systems. You state the university will release some of the requested information. You claim the submitted information is excepted from disclosure under section 552.139 of the Government Code. We have considered the exception you claim and reviewed the submitted representative sample of information.<sup>1</sup>

Section 552.139 of the Government Code provides:

- (a) Information is excepted from [required public disclosure] if it is information that relates to computer network security, to restricted information under Section 2059.055 [of the Government Code], or to the design, operation, or defense of a computer network.
- (b) The following information is confidential:

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<sup>1</sup>We assume the "representative sample" of records submitted to this office is 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 that submitted to this office.

- (1) a computer network vulnerability report; [and]
- (2) any other assessment of the extent to which data processing operations, a computer, a computer program, network, system, or system interface, or software of a governmental body or of a contractor of a governmental body is vulnerable to unauthorized access or harm, including an assessment of the extent to which the governmental body's or contractor's electronically stored information containing sensitive or critical information is vulnerable to alteration, damage, erasure, or inappropriate use[.]

Gov't Code § 552.139. Section 2059.055 of the Government Code provides in pertinent part:

(b) Network security information is confidential under this section if the information is:

- (1) related to passwords, personal identification numbers, access codes, encryption, or other components of the security system of a state agency;
- (2) collected, assembled, or maintained by or for a governmental entity to prevent, detect, or investigate criminal activity; or
- (3) related to an assessment, made by or for a governmental entity or maintained by a governmental entity, of the vulnerability of a network to criminal activity.

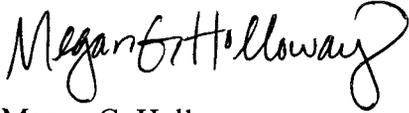
*Id.* § 2059.055(b). You state the submitted information consists of “IP addresses and details of network structure, design, and options used to protect university network and computer systems from attack or unauthorized access,” and release would result in “subjecting the computer network to potential damage.” Based on your representations and our review, we find the submitted information must be withheld under section 552.139 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.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,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Megan G. Holloway". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping "G" and "y".

Megan G. Holloway  
Assistant Attorney General  
Open Records Division

MGH/dls

Ref: ID# 512141

Enc. Submitted documents

c: Requestor  
(w/o enclosures)