



ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS
GREG ABBOTT

May 21, 2014

Mr. Mark G. Mann
Assistant City Attorney
City of Garland
P.O. Box 469002
Garland, Texas 75046-9002

OR2014-08751

Dear Mr. Mann:

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# 528199 (GCA 14-0327).

The Garland Police Department (the "department") received a request for a specified report. You inform us you have released some information to the requestor. You claim some of the submitted information is excepted from disclosure under sections 552.101 and 552.130 of the Government Code.¹ We have considered the exceptions you claim and reviewed the submitted information.

Section 552.101 of the Government Code excepts from disclosure "information considered to be confidential by law, either constitutional, statutory, or by judicial decision." Gov't Code § 552.101. Section 552.101 encompasses information protected by other statutes. Juvenile law enforcement records relating to delinquent conduct or conduct indicating a need for supervision that occurred on or after September 1, 1997, are confidential under section 58.007(c) of the Family Code. *See* Fam. Code § 51.03(a), (b) (defining "delinquent conduct" and "conduct indicating a need for supervision"). Section 58.007 provides in relevant part:

¹Although you do not specifically raise section 552.130, you have marked information for which you appear to claim this exception. Accordingly, we will address section 552.130, as this section is a mandatory exception to disclosure. *See* Gov't Code §§ 552.007, .352; Open Records Decision No. 674 at 3 n.4 (2001) (mandatory exceptions).

(c) Except as provided by Subsection (d), law enforcement records and files concerning a child and information stored, by electronic means or otherwise, concerning the child from which a record or file could be generated may not be disclosed to the public and shall be:

(1) if maintained on paper or microfilm, kept separate from adult files and records;

(2) if maintained electronically in the same computer system as records or files relating to adults, be accessible under controls that are separate and distinct from controls to access electronic data concerning adults; and

(3) maintained on a local basis only and not sent to a central state or federal depository, except as provided by Subchapters B, D, and E.

...

(e) Law enforcement records and files concerning a child may be inspected or copied by a juvenile justice agency as that term is defined by Section 58.101, a criminal justice agency as that term is defined by Section 411.082, Government Code, the child, and the child's parent or guardian.

...

(j) Before a child or a child's parent or guardian may inspect or copy a record or file concerning the child under Subsection (e), the custodian of the record or file shall redact:

(1) any personally identifiable information about a juvenile suspect, offender, victim, or witness who is not the child; and

(2) any information that is excepted from required disclosure under Chapter 552, Government Code, or other law.

Id. § 58.007(c), (e), (j). For purposes of section 58.007(c), a "child" is a person ten years of age or older and under seventeen years of age at the time of the reported conduct. *See id.* § 51.02(2). Upon review, we find the submitted information involves juvenile delinquent conduct occurring after September 1, 1997; therefore, the submitted information is subject to section 58.007. However, the requestor is a parent of the juvenile offender listed in the report. Therefore, the requestor has a right to inspect law enforcement records concerning her child under section 58.007(e). *See id.* § 58.007(e). However, personally identifiable information concerning any other juvenile suspects, offenders, victims, or witnesses must be redacted pursuant to section 58.007(j)(1) of the Family Code. *See id.* § 58.007(j)(1).

Accordingly, the department must withhold the personally identifiable information pertaining to the other juveniles listed in the report, which you have marked, under section 552.101 of the Government Code in conjunction with section 58.007(j)(1) of the Family Code. Section 58.007(j)(2) further provides that information subject to any other exception to disclosure under the Act or other law must also be redacted. *See id.* § 58.007(j)(2). Accordingly, we will consider whether the remaining information is otherwise excepted from disclosure under the Act.

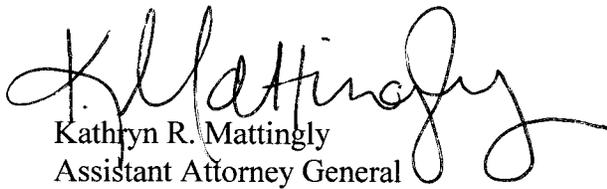
Section 552.130 excepts from disclosure information relating to a motor vehicle operator's or driver's license or permit or a motor vehicle title or registration issued by an agency of this state or another state or country. *See Gov't Code* § 552.130(a)(1)-(2). The department must withhold the information you have marked under section 552.130 of the Government Code.

In summary, the department must withhold the personally identifiable information pertaining to the other juveniles listed in the report, which you have marked, under section 552.101 of the Government Code in conjunction with section 58.007(j)(1) of the Family Code. The department must withhold the information you have marked under section 552.130 of the Government Code. The department must release the remaining information to the requestor.²

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,


Kathryn R. Mattingly
Assistant Attorney General
Open Records Division

KRM/bhf

²We note this requestor has a special right of access under section 58.007(e) of the Family Code to the information being released. Therefore, if the department receives another request for this information from a different requestor, the department must again seek a ruling from this office.

Ref: ID# 528199

Enc. Submitted documents

c: Requestor
(w/o enclosures)