



ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS
GREG ABBOTT

July 15, 2014

Mr. Guillermo Trevino
Assistant City Attorney
City of Fort Worth
1000 Throckmorton Street, Third Floor
Fort Worth, Texas 76102

OR2014-12139

Dear Mr. Trevino:

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# 529108 (PIR No. W033629).

The City of Fort Worth (the "city") received a request for all police reports, 9-1-1 calls, call sheets, accident reports, and photographs pertaining to a specified individual. You state you have released some of the requested information to the requestor. You also state the city has redacted the originating telephone number and address of a 9-1-1 caller under section 552.101 of the Government Code in conjunction with section 772.218 of the Health and Safety Code pursuant to the previous determinations issued to the city in Open Records Letter Nos. 2011-15641 (2011) and 2011-15956 (2011), certain motor vehicle record information under section 552.130(c) of the Government Code, e-mail addresses of members of the public under section 552.137 of the Government Code pursuant to Open Records Decision No. 684 (2009), and social security numbers pursuant to section 552.147(b) of the Government Code.¹ You claim the remaining requested information is excepted from

¹Open Records Letter No. 2011-15641 is a previous determination issued to the city authorizing it to withhold, under section 552.101 of the Government Code in conjunction with section 772.218 of the Health and Safety Code, an originating telephone number of a 9-1-1 caller furnished to the city by a service supplier established in accordance with chapter 772 of the Health and Safety Code without the necessity of requesting an attorney general decision. Additionally, Open Records Letter No. 2011-15956 is a previous determination issued to the city authorizing it to withhold, under section 552.101 of the Government Code in conjunction with section 772.218 of the Health and Safety Code, an originating address of a 9-1-1 caller furnished to the city by

disclosure under section 552.101 of the Government Code. We have considered the exception you claim.

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 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, both prongs of this test must be satisfied. *Id.* at 681-82. A compilation of an individual's criminal history is highly embarrassing information, the publication of which would be highly objectionable to a reasonable person. *Cf. U.S. Dep't of Justice v. Reporters Comm. for Freedom of the Press*, 489 U.S. 749, 764 (1989) (finding significant privacy interest in compilation of individual's criminal history by recognizing distinction between public records found in courthouse files and local police stations and compiled summary of criminal history information). Furthermore, we find a compilation of a private citizen's criminal history is generally not of legitimate concern to the public.

The present request seeks unspecified information pertaining to a named individual. This request requires the city to compile the named individual's criminal history and implicates the privacy of the named individual. Therefore, to the extent the city maintains law enforcement records listing the named individual as a suspect, arrestee, or criminal defendant, the city must withhold such information under section 552.101 of the Government Code in conjunction with common-law privacy.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.

a service supplier established in accordance with chapter 772 of the Health and Safety Code without the necessity of requesting an attorney general decision. Section 552.130(c) of the Government Code allows a governmental body to redact the information described in subsection 552.130(a) without the necessity of seeking a decision from the attorney general. *See* Gov't Code § 552.130(c). If a governmental body redacts such information, it must notify the requestor in accordance with section 552.130(e). *See id.* § 552.130(d), (e). Open Records Decision No. 684 is a previous determination to all governmental bodies authorizing them to withhold certain information, including an e-mail address of a member of the public under section 552.137 of the Government Code, without the necessity of requesting an attorney general decision. Section 552.147(b) 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 id.* § 552.147(b).

²As our ruling is dispositive, we need not address your remaining arguments against disclosure.

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,



Meredith L. Coffman
Assistant Attorney General
Open Records Division

MLC/dls

Ref: ID# 529108

Enc. Submitted documents

c: Requestor
(w/o enclosures)