



ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS  
GREG ABBOTT

November 6, 2014

Ms. P. Armstrong  
Assistant City Attorney  
Criminal Law and Police Section  
City of Dallas  
1400 South Lamar Street  
Dallas, Texas 75215

OR2014-20218

Dear Ms. Armstrong:

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# 542272 (ORR# 2014-7647).

The Dallas Police Department (the “department”) received a request for information pertaining to a specified incident. You claim the requested information is excepted from disclosure under section 552.108 of the Government Code. We have considered the exception you claim and reviewed the submitted information.<sup>1</sup>

You claim some of the submitted information is excepted from disclosure under section 552.108(a) of the Government Code, which excepts from disclosure “[i]nformation held by a law enforcement agency or prosecutor that deals with the detection, investigation, or prosecution of crime . . . if: (1) release of the information would interfere with the detection, investigation, or prosecution of crime[.]” Gov’t Code § 552.108(a)(1). A governmental body claiming section 552.108(a)(1) must reasonably explain how and why the release of the information at issue would interfere with law enforcement. *See id.* §§ 552.108(a)(1), .301(e)(1)(A); *see also Ex parte Pruitt*, 551 S.W.2d 706, 710 (Tex. 1977). You state the information you have marked relates to a pending criminal investigation or prosecution. Based on this representation, we conclude the release of the

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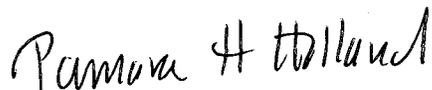
<sup>1</sup>We assume that the “representative sample” of records submitted to this office is truly representative of the requested records as a whole. *See Open Records Decision Nos. 499 (1988), 497 (1988)*. This open records letter does not reach, and therefore does not authorize the withholding of, any other requested records to the extent that those records contain substantially different types of information than that submitted to this office.

information you have marked would interfere with the detection, investigation, or prosecution of crime. *See Houston Chronicle Publ'g Co. v. City of Houston*, 531 S.W.2d 177, 186-87 (Tex. App.—Houston [14th Dist.] 1975) (delineating law enforcement interests present in active cases), *writ ref'd n.r.e. per curiam*, 536 S.W.2d 559 (Tex. 1976). Accordingly, the department may withhold the marked information under section 552.108(a)(1). The department must release the remaining information to this requestor.<sup>2</sup>

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](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,



Tamara H. Holland  
Assistant Attorney General  
Open Records Division

THH/bhf

Ref: ID# 542272

Enc. Submitted documents

c: Requestor  
(w/o enclosures)

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<sup>2</sup>We note the submitted information is not subject to section 261.201 of the Family Code. Fam. Code § 261.201(h). We also note this requestor has a special right of access under section 552.023 of the Government Code to some of the information being released. *See Gov't Code § 552.023(a)*. Therefore, if the department receives another request for this information from a person who does not have a special right of access to this information, the department should resubmit this same information and request another decision from this office. *See id.* §§ 552.301(a), .302; Open Records Decision No. 673 (2001).