



**KEN PAXTON**  
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS

February 12, 2016

Ms. Charla Thomas  
Deputy City Attorney  
City of Temple  
2 North Main, Suite 308  
Temple, Texas 76501

OR2016-03510

Dear Ms. Thomas:

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# 598872.

The City of Temple (the "city") received a request for architectural and structural drawings for a specified facility. Although you take no position as to whether the submitted information is excepted under the Act, you state release of this information may implicate the proprietary interests of a named individual; Clark & Fuller, PLLC; Holste & Associates, Inc.; and Kohutek Engineering & Testing, Inc. Accordingly, you state, and provide documentation showing, you notified these third parties of the request for information and of their rights to submit arguments to this office as to why the information at issue should not be released. *See Gov't Code §§ 552.304, .305(d); see also* Open Records Decision No. 542 at 3 (1990) (statutory predecessor to section 552.305 permits governmental body to rely on interested third party to raise and explain applicability of exception in the Act in certain circumstances). We have reviewed the submitted information.

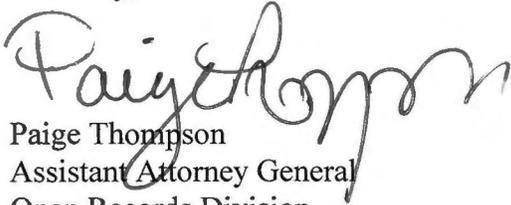
An interested third party is allowed ten business days after the date of its receipt of the governmental body's notice under section 552.305(d) to submit its reasons, if any, as to why information relating to that party should be withheld from public disclosure. *See Gov't Code § 552.305(d)(2)(B)*. As of the date of this letter, we have not received comments from any of the third parties explaining why the submitted information should not be released. Therefore, we have no basis to conclude any of the third parties have protected proprietary

interests in the submitted information. *See id.* § 552.110; Open Records Decision Nos. 661 at 5-6 (1999) (to prevent disclosure of commercial or financial information, party must show by specific factual evidence, not conclusory or generalized allegations, that release of requested information would cause that party substantial competitive harm), 552 at 5 (1990) (party must establish *prima facie* case that information is trade secret), 542 at 3. Accordingly, the city may not withhold the submitted information on the basis of any proprietary interest the third parties may have in the information. As no exceptions to disclosure have been raised, the submitted 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](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,



Paige Thompson  
Assistant Attorney General  
Open Records Division

PT/sb

Ref: ID# 598872

Enc. Submitted documents

c: Requestor  
(w/o enclosures)

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Architect  
1023 Canyon Creek Drive, Suite 125  
Temple, Texas 76502  
(w/o enclosures)

Mr. Justin Fuller  
Clark & Fuller, PLLC  
215 North Main Street  
Temple, Texas 76501  
(w/o enclosures)

Mr. Gordon Kohutek  
Kohutek Engineering & Testing, Inc.  
3200 East University Avenue  
Georgetown, Texas 78626  
(w/o enclosures)

Mr. Stephen Stewart  
Holste & Associates, Inc.  
6671 Southwest Freeway, Suite 850  
Houston, Texas 77074  
(w/o enclosures)