



**KEN PAXTON**  
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS

June 14, 2016

Mr. Andrew Wipke  
Assistant District Attorney  
Wichita County District Attorney's Office  
900 Seventh Street  
Wichita Falls, Texas 76301-2482

OR2016-13517

Dear Mr. Wipke:

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# 614099 (ORR.917).

The Wichita County District Attorney's Office (the "district attorney's office") received a request for information pertaining to bail bond companies licensed in Wichita County. 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 third parties. Accordingly, you state, and provide documentation showing, you notified A-AA Bail Bonds, AAR Bail Bonds, Big D's Bail Bonds, Black Horse Bail Bonds, Brenda Green Bail Bonds, Buddy's Bail Bonds, Bunch Bail Bonds, Central Bail Bonds II, Cheryl's Bail Bonds, Karen's Bail Bonds, Kent Knowles Bail Bonds, Mom's Bail Bonds, My Bondsman Bail Bonds, and URBondsman of the request for information and of their right to submit arguments to this office as to why the submitted information should not be released. *See* Gov't Code § 552.305(d); *see also* Open Records Decision No. 542 (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.

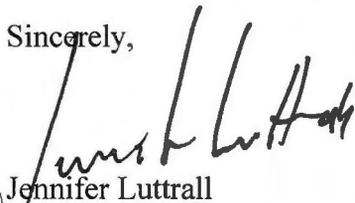
We note an interested third party is allowed ten business days after the date of its receipt of the governmental body's notice under section 552.305(d) to submit its reasons, if any, as to why information relating to that party should be withheld from public disclosure. *See* Gov't

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 their information should not be released. Therefore, we have no basis to conclude any of the third parties has a protected proprietary interest 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 district attorney's office may not withhold any of the information at issue on the basis of any proprietary interest the third parties may have in it. As no exceptions 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,



Jennifer Luttrall  
Assistant Attorney General  
Open Records Division

JL/akg

Ref: ID# 614099

Enc. Submitted documents

c: Requestor  
(w/o enclosures)

14 Third Parties  
(w/o enclosures)