



**KEN PAXTON**  
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS

July 7, 2016

Ms. Alexis G. Allen  
Counsel for the City of Lancaster  
Nichols, Jackson, Dillard, Hager & Smith, L.L.P.  
1800 Ross Tower  
500 North Akard Street  
Dallas, Texas 75201

OR2016-15350

Dear Ms. Allen:

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# 622805 (Lancaster ID No. W002002-060616).

The City of Lancaster (the "city"), which you represent, received a request for the names of city police officers. You claim some of the submitted information is excepted from disclosure under section 552.101 of the Government Code. We have considered the exception you claim and reviewed the submitted information.

Section 552.152 of the Government Code provides:

Information in the custody of a governmental body that relates to an employee or officer of the governmental body is excepted from the requirements of Section 552.021 if, under the specific circumstances pertaining to the employee or officer, disclosure of the information would subject the employee or officer to a substantial threat of physical harm.

Gov't Code § 552.152.<sup>1</sup> You inform us the information you marked identifies an officer who has or is currently working in the capacity of an undercover officer. You argue release of this officer's identity would jeopardize his safety and would place his life in danger. Based on

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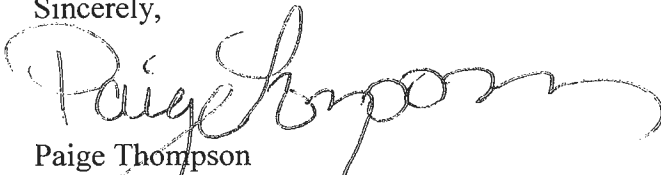
<sup>1</sup>The Office of the Attorney General will raise a mandatory exception on behalf of a governmental body, but ordinarily will not raise other exceptions. See Open Records Decision Nos. 481 (1987), 480 (1987), 470 (1987).

your representations and our review, we find you have demonstrated the release of the information at issue would subject the officer at issue to a substantial threat of harm. Thus, the city must withhold the name of the officer you marked under section 552.152 of the Government Code.<sup>2</sup> As you raise no other exceptions to disclosure, the city must release the remaining information.

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/dls

Ref: ID# 622805

Enc. Submitted documents

c: Requestor  
(w/o enclosures)

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<sup>2</sup>As our ruling is dispositive, we need not address your arguments against disclosure of this information.