



KEN PAXTON  
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS

July 12, 2016

Mr. Zachariah T. Evans  
Counsel for the City of Balch Springs  
Akers & Akers, LLP  
13809 Research Boulevard, Suite 250  
Austin, Texas 78750

OR2016-15688

Dear Mr. Evans:

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# 624074.

The City of Balch Springs (the "city") received a request for information pertaining to capias warrants issued by the city's Municipal Court (the "court") during a specified time period. You argue the submitted information does not consist of public information subject to the Act. We have considered the submitted argument and reviewed the submitted information.

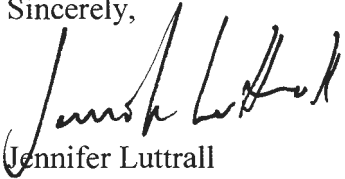
The Act is applicable to information "collected, assembled, or maintained under a law or ordinance or in connection with the transaction of official business by a governmental body." Gov't Code § 552.002(a)(1). However, the Act's definition of "governmental body" "does not include the judiciary." *Id.* § 552.003(1)(B). Information "collected, assembled, or maintained by or for the judiciary" is not subject to the Act but is instead "governed by rules adopted by the Supreme Court of Texas or by other applicable laws and rules." *Id.* § 552.0035(a); *cf.* Open Records Decision No. 131 (1976) (applying statutory predecessor to judiciary exclusion under Gov't Code § 552.003(1)(B) prior to enactment of Gov't Code § 552.0035). Therefore, the Act neither authorizes information held by the judiciary to be withheld, nor does it require such information be disclosed. *See* Open Records Decision No. 25 (1974). You inform us the submitted information consists of documents of the court and thus consists of judicial records maintained by the court. Based on your representations,

we conclude the requested information is not subject to the Act and need not be released in response to this request for 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,



Jennifer Luttrall  
Assistant Attorney General  
Open Records Division

JL/som

Ref: ID# 624074

Enc. Submitted documents

c: Requestor  
(w/o enclosures)