



**KEN PAXTON**  
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS

July 27, 2016

Ms. Lauren Downey  
Assistant Attorney General  
Public Information Coordinator  
General Counsel Division  
Office of the Attorney General  
P.O. Box 12548  
Austin, Texas 78711-2548

OR2016-16877

Dear Ms. Downey:

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# 620183 (PIR Nos. 16-44171 and 16-44246).

The Office of the Attorney General (the "OAG") received a request for employment disputes, complaints, lawsuits, settlements, or personnel action challenges related to a named former OAG employee and a request for agreements signed by current or former OAG employees who have received more than a specified amount of emergency leave in 2015 or 2016.<sup>1</sup> We understand the OAG redacted some information subject to section 552.117 of the Government Code pursuant to section 552.024(c) of the Government Code.<sup>2</sup> Although you take no position as to whether the submitted information is excepted under the Act, you state

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<sup>1</sup>We note the first requestor clarified his request. *See* Gov't Code § 552.222(b) (stating if information requested is unclear to governmental body or if large amount of information has been requested, governmental body may ask requestor to clarify or narrow request, but may not inquire into purpose for which information will be used).

<sup>2</sup>Section 552.024(c)(2) of the Government Code authorizes a governmental body to redact information protected by section 552.117(a)(1) of the Government Code without the necessity of requesting a decision under the Act if the current or former employee or official to whom the information pertains timely chooses not to allow public access to the information. *See* Gov't Code § 552.024(c)(2). If a governmental body redacts such information, it must notify the requestor in accordance with subsections 552.024(c-1) and (c-2). *See id.* § 552.024(c-1)-(c-2).

release of this information may implicate the interests of two former OAG employees. Accordingly, you state, and provide documentation showing, you notified these employees of the requests 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 (providing that interested party may submit comments stating why information should or should not be released). We have reviewed the submitted information.

As of the date of this letter, we have not received comments from the former OAG employees explaining why the submitted information should not be released. As no exceptions to disclosure have been raised for this information, it 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/dls

Ref: ID# 620183

Enc. Submitted documents

c: 2 Requestors  
(w/o enclosures)

2 Third Parties  
(w/o enclosures)