



KEN PAXTON
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS

February 17, 2017

Mr. Marc J. Schnall
Counsel for the City of Selma
Langley & Banack Incorporated
745 East Mulberry, Suite 900
San Antonio, Texas 78212

OR2017-03677

Dear Mr. Schnall:

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# 652338.

The Selma Police Department (the "department"), which you represent, received a request for information pertaining to a specified incident. You state the department will release some information. You state the department will redact certain information pursuant to section 552.130(c) of the Government Code, section 552.147(b) of the Government Code, and Open Records Letter No. 2016-23715 (2016).¹ You claim some of the submitted information was not properly requested under chapter 1701 of the Occupations Code. You claim the remaining information is excepted from disclosure under section 552.130 of the Government Code. We have considered your arguments and reviewed the submitted information.

¹Section 552.130(c) of the Government Code allows a governmental body to redact the information described in section 552.130(a) without the necessity of seeking a decision from the attorney general. *See Gov't Code* § 552.130(c). If a governmental body redacts such information, it must notify the requestor in accordance with section 552.130(e). *See id.* § 552.130(d), (e). Section 552.147(b) of the Government Code authorizes a governmental body to redact a living person's social security number from public release without requesting a decision from this office under the Act. *Id.* § 552.147(b). Open Records Letter No. 2016-08169 authorizes the City of Selma to withhold the dates of birth of public citizens under section 552.101 of the Government Code in conjunction with common-law privacy without requesting a decision from this office.

The submitted information includes police officers' body worn camera recordings. Body worn cameras are subject to chapter 1701 of the Occupations Code. Chapter 1701 provides the procedures a requestor must follow when seeking a body worn camera recording. Section 1701.661 provides, in relevant part, the following:

(a) A member of the public is required to provide the following information when submitting a written request to a law enforcement agency for information recorded by a body worn camera:

- (1) the date and approximate time of the recording;
- (2) the specific location where the recording occurred; and
- (3) the name of one or more persons known to be a subject of the recording.

Occ. Code § 1701.661(a). In this instance, the requestor does not give the requisite information under section 1701.661(a). As the requestor did not properly request the body worn camera recordings at issue pursuant to chapter 1701, our ruling does not reach this information and it need not be released. However, pursuant to section 1701.661(b), a "failure to provide all the information required by Subsection (a) to be part of a request for recorded information does not preclude the requestor from making a future request for the same recorded information." *Id.* § 1701.661(b).

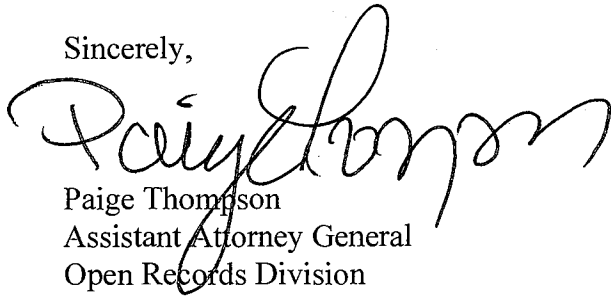
Section 552.130 of the Government Code provides information relating to a motor vehicle operator's license, driver's license, motor vehicle title or registration, or personal identification document issued by an agency of this state or another state or country is excepted from public release. *See Gov't Code § 552.130.* Upon review, we find the remaining video recording contains motor vehicle record information. You state the department lacks the technological capability to redact the confidential information in the video recording. Accordingly, the department must withhold the remaining video recording in its entirety under section 552.130 of the Government Code. *See Open Records Decision No. 364 (1983).*

In summary, pursuant to section 1701.661 of the Occupations Code, the submitted body camera recordings at issue were not properly requested pursuant to chapter 1701 of the Occupations Code and need not be released to this requestor in response to this request for information. The department must withhold the remaining video recording in its entirety under section 552.130 of the Government Code.

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, 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/eb

Ref: ID# 652338

Enc. Submitted documents

c: Requestor
(w/o enclosures)