



KEN PAXTON
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS

February 27, 2017

Mr. James R. Evans, Jr.
Counsel for Blanco County Appraisal District
Hargrove & Evans, LLP
4425 Mopac South, Building 3, Suite 400
Austin, Texas 78735

OR2017-04227

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# 647439.

The Blanco County Appraisal District (the "district"), which you represent, received a request for e-mail addresses of named individuals. You claim the submitted information is excepted from disclosure under section 552.137 of the Government Code. We have considered the exception you claim and reviewed the submitted information.

Section 552.137 of the Government Code excepts from disclosure "an e-mail address of a member of the public that is provided for the purpose of communicating electronically with a governmental body" unless the member of the public consents to its release or the e-mail address is of a type specifically excluded by subsection (c). *See* Gov't Code § 552.137(a)-(c). Here, subsection (c) does not apply. Upon review, we find the district must withhold the submitted e-mail addresses under section 552.137 of the Government Code, unless their owners affirmatively consent to their public disclosure.

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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Michelle Case", followed by a small flourish or mark.

D. Michelle Case
Assistant Attorney General
Open Records Division

DMC/eb

Ref: ID# 647439

Enc. Submitted documents

c: Requestor
(w/o enclosures)