



**KEN PAXTON**  
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS

September 26, 2017

Mr. Andrew Heston  
Assistant District Attorney  
Brazoria County  
111 East Locust, Suite 408A  
Angleton, Texas 77515

OR2017-22066

Dear Mr. Heston:

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# 684128.

The Brazoria County District Attorney's Office (the "district attorney's office") received a request for report number 2017094623. The district attorney's office claims the submitted information is excepted from disclosure under section 552.108 of the Government Code. We have considered the exception the district attorney's office claims and reviewed the submitted information.

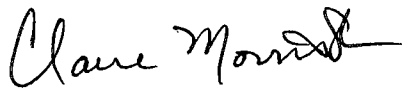
Section 552.108(a)(2) of the Government Code excepts from disclosure information concerning an investigation that did not result in conviction or deferred adjudication. *See* Gov't Code § 552.108(a)(2). A governmental body claiming section 552.108(a)(2) must demonstrate the requested information relates to a criminal investigation that has concluded in a final result other than a conviction or deferred adjudication. *See id.* § 552.301(e)(1)(A) (governmental body must provide comments explaining why exceptions raised should apply to information requested). The district attorney's office states the submitted information relates to a closed criminal investigation that did not result in conviction or deferred adjudication. Based on this representation and our review, we agree section 552.108(a)(2) is applicable to the submitted information.

However, section 552.108 does not except from disclosure basic information about an arrested person, an arrest, or a crime. *Id.* § 552.108(c). Basic information refers to the information held to be public in *Houston Chronicle Publishing Co. v. City of Houston*, 531 S.W.2d 177 (Tex. Civ. App.—Houston [14th Dist.] 1975), *writ ref'd n.r.e. per curiam*, 536 S.W.2d 559 (Tex. 1976). *See also* Open Records Decision No. 127 (1976) (summarizing types of information considered to be basic information). The district attorney's office asserts it need not release basic information in this instance on the basis of the decision in *City of Carrollton v. Paxton*, 490 S.W.3d 187 (Tex. App.—Austin 2016, pet. filed). However, we note a petition for review was filed with the Texas Supreme Court on September 12, 2016. Tex. R. App. P. 53.7. Accordingly, the district attorney's office may not withhold basic information based on the court's decision in that case. Thus, with the exception of the basic information, which must be released, the district attorney's office may withhold the submitted information under section 552.108(a)(2) 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](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,



Claire V. Morris Sloan  
Assistant Attorney General  
Open Records Division

CVMS/bw

Ref: ID# 684128

Enc. Submitted documents

c: Requestor  
(w/o enclosures)