



**KEN PAXTON**  
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS

September 29, 2017

Ms. Yvette Aguilar  
Assistant City Attorney  
City of Corpus Christi  
P.O. Box 9277  
Corpus Christi, Texas 78469-9277

OR2017-22341

Dear Ms. Aguilar:

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# 679126 (CCPD File No. RWat1).

The Corpus Christi Police Department (the "department") received a request for all information pertaining to a specified automobile accident. You state you will release some of the information. You claim the submitted information is excepted from disclosure under section 552.1085 of the Government Code. We have considered the exception you claim and reviewed the submitted information.

You seek to withhold the submitted information pursuant to section 552.1085 of the Government Code. Section 552.1085 provides, in pertinent part:

(c) A sensitive crime scene image in the custody of a governmental body is confidential and excepted from the requirements of Section 552.021 and a governmental body may not permit a person to view or copy the image except as provided by this section. This section applies to any sensitive crime scene image regardless of the date that the image was taken or recorded.

Gov't Code § 552.1085(c). For purposes of section 552.1085, "sensitive crime scene image" means "a photograph or video recording taken at a crime scene, contained in or part of a closed criminal case, that depicts a deceased person in a state of dismemberment,

decapitation, or similar mutilation or that depicts the deceased person's genitalia." *See id.* § 552.1085(a)(6). You state the submitted photographs consist of sensitive crime scene images that you state were taken at a crime scene as part of a criminal case that is now closed. Further, it appears none of the exceptions in section 552.1085 apply in this instance. Based on your representations and our review, we agree the photographs consist of sensitive crime scene images for the purposes of section 552.1085. Therefore, the department must withhold the submitted information under section 552.1085(c) 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,



Sidney M. Pounds  
Assistant Attorney General  
Open Records Division

SMP/gw

Ref: ID# 679126

Enc: Submitted documents

c: Requestor  
(w/o enclosures)