



KEN PAXTON
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS

December 5, 2017

Ms. Judy Hickman
Assistant Supervisor
Records Division
Beaumont Police Department
P.O. Box 3827
Beaumont, Texas 77704-3827

OR2017-27582

Dear Ms. Hickman:

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# 689682.

The Beaumont Police Department (the "department") received a request for specified audio and video recordings pertaining to a specified incident. We understand the department will withhold social security numbers under section 552.147(b) of the Government Code.¹ You claim the submitted information is excepted from disclosure under section 552.130 of the Government Code.² We have considered the exception you claim and reviewed the submitted information.

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

¹Section 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. Gov't Code § 552.147(b).

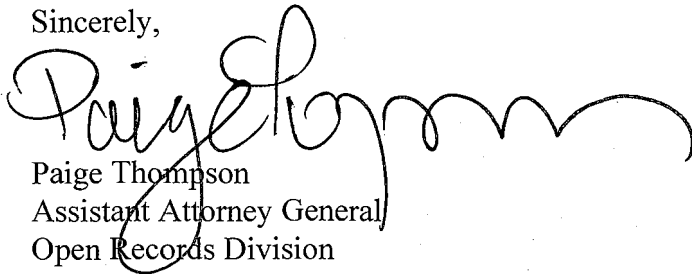
²We note the department did not comply with section 552.301 of the Government Code in requesting a ruling from this office. See Gov't Code § 552.301(b). Nonetheless, because section 552.130 of the Government Code can provide a compelling reason to overcome the presumption of openness, we will consider its applicability to the submitted information. See *id.* §§ 552.007, .302, .352.

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 submitted video recordings contain motor vehicle record information. You state the department lacks the technological capability to redact the confidential information in the video recordings. Accordingly, the department must withhold the submitted video recordings in their entireties under section 552.130 of the Government Code. *See* Open Records Decision No. 364 (1983).

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 "Paige Thompson", with a large, stylized flourish extending to the right.

Paige Thompson
Assistant Attorney General
Open Records Division

PT/eb

Ref: ID# 689682

Enc. Submitted documents

c: Requestor
(w/o enclosures)