



KEN PAXTON
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS

December 19, 2017

Ms. Michelle Buendia
Assistant City Attorney
Criminal Law and Police Section
City of Dallas
1400 South Lamar, 6th Floor, 6W
Dallas, Texas 75215

OR2017-28785

Dear Ms. Buendia:

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# 688287 (ORR No. 2017-20759).

The Dallas Police Department (the "department") received a request for information pertaining to a specified automobile accident. You claim the submitted information is excepted from disclosure under sections 552.101 and 552.108 of the Government Code. We have considered the exceptions you claim and reviewed the submitted information.

Initially, we note the requested information includes a department body worn camera video. 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(a) provides:

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 video at issue pursuant to chapter 1701, our ruling does not reach this information and it need not be released.¹ 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).

We note the remaining requested information was the subject of a previous request for information from the same requestor, as a result of which this office issued Open Records Letter No. 2017-20297 (2017). We have no indication there has been any change in the law, facts, or circumstances on which the previous ruling was based. Accordingly, we conclude the department must rely on Open Records Letter No. 2017-20297 as a previous determination and withhold or release the remaining requested information in accordance with that ruling. *See* Open Records Decision No. 673 (2001) (so long as law, facts, and circumstances on which prior ruling was based have not changed, first type of previous determination exists where requested information is precisely same information as was addressed in prior attorney general ruling, ruling is addressed to same governmental body, and ruling concludes that information is or is not excepted from disclosure). As our ruling is dispositive, we do not consider your arguments against disclosure.

In summary, pursuant to section 1701.661 of the Occupations Code, as the requestor did not properly request the body worn camera video at issue pursuant to chapter 1701 of the Occupations Code, our ruling does not reach this information, and the department need not release the submitted body camera video in response to this request for information. The department must rely on Open Records Letter No. 2017-20297 as a previous determination and withhold or release the remaining requested information in accordance with that ruling.

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/>

¹As we are able to make this determination, we need not address the remaining argument against disclosure of this information.

[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,



Britni Ramirez
Assistant Attorney General
Open Records Division

BR/sb

Ref: ID# 688287

Enc. Submitted documents

c: Requestor
(w/o enclosures)