



KEN PAXTON
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS

January 8, 2019

Mr. Juan A. Roque
Assistant District Attorney
Civil Division
Bexar County District Attorney's Office
101 West Nueva Street, 7th Floor
San Antonio, Texas 78205

OR2019-00403

Dear Mr. Roque:

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# 745170 (ORR# 6879).

The Bexar County Auditor's Office (the "auditor's office") received a request for a specified audit report. The auditor's office claims the submitted information is excepted from disclosure under section 552.116 of the Government Code. We have considered the exception the auditor's office claims and reviewed the submitted information.

Section 552.116 of the Government Code provides,

- (a) An audit working paper of an audit of the state auditor or the auditor of a state agency, an institution of higher education as defined by Section 61.003, Education Code, a county, a municipality, a school district, a hospital district, or a joint board operating under Section 22.074, Transportation Code, including any audit relating to the criminal history background check of a public school employee, is excepted from [required

public disclosure]. If information in an audit working paper is also maintained in another record, that other record is not excepted from [public disclosure] by this section.

(b) In this section:

(1) "Audit" means an audit authorized or required by a statute of this state or the United States, the charter or an ordinance of a municipality, an order of the commissioners court of a county, the bylaws adopted by or other action of the governing board of a hospital district, a resolution or other action of a board of trustees of a school district, including an audit by the district relating to the criminal history background check of a public school employee, or a resolution or other action of a joint board described by Subsection (a) and includes an investigation.

(2) "Audit working paper" includes all information, documentary or otherwise, prepared or maintained in conducting an audit or preparing an audit report, including:

(A) intra-agency and interagency communications; and

(B) drafts of the audit report or portions of those drafts.

Gov't Code § 552.116. The auditor's office asserts the submitted information consists of an audit working paper pertaining to an audit conducted by the auditor's office. The auditor's office explains the information consists of a draft of an audit report. The auditor's office states the audit is authorized by sections 112.006 and 115.001 of the Local Government Code. *See id.* § 552.116(b)(1); *see also* Local Gov't Code § 112.006, 115.007. Based on these representations and our review, we agree the submitted information constitutes an audit working paper. Therefore, the auditor's office may withhold the submitted information under section 552.116 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, 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 cursive script, appearing to read "Claire V. Morris Sloan".

Claire V. Morris Sloan
Assistant Attorney General
Open Records Division

CVMS/som

Ref: ID# 745170

Enc. Submitted documents

c: Requestor
(w/o enclosures)