



KEN PAXTON
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS

April 10, 2019

Ms. Elizabeth Lutton
Legal Advisor
Dallas County Sheriff's Office
133 North Riverfront Boulevard, LB-31
Dallas, Texas 75207-4313

OR2019-09665

Dear Ms. Lutton:

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# 767011.

The Dallas County Sheriff's Office (the "sheriff's office") received a request for all inmates booked into the Dallas County Jail during a specified time period. You claim the submitted information is not subject to the Act. In the alternative, you claim the submitted information is excepted from disclosure under section 552.101 of the Government Code. We have considered your arguments and reviewed the submitted information.

The sheriff's office argues the submitted information is contained in the Adult Information System (the "AIS") and, thus, consists of judicial records not subject to the Act. The Act applies only to information "written, produced, collected, assembled, or maintained under a law or ordinance or in connection with the transaction of official business" by a governmental body. Gov't Code § 552.002(a)(1). However, the Act's definition of "governmental body" does not include the judiciary. *Id.* § 552.003(1)(B). Information "collected, assembled, or maintained by or for the judiciary" is not subject to the Act but instead is "governed by rules adopted by the Supreme Court of Texas or by other applicable laws and rules." *Id.* § 552.0035(a); *cf.* Open Records Decision No. 131 (1976) (applying statutory predecessor to judiciary exclusion under Gov't Code § 552.003(1)(B) prior to enactment of Gov't Code § 552.0035). You state the AIS is an electronic computer database maintained by the Dallas County Sheriff (the "sheriff") on behalf of the Dallas County

(the “county”) judiciary regarding criminal offenses and offenders in the county. You state the information at issue is maintained by the sheriff to assist the county judiciary in the tracking of criminal cases and criminal defendants. Based on your representations, we conclude the information at issue is information collected, assembled, or maintained by or for the judiciary. Thus, the submitted information is not subject to the Act and need not be released under the Act.¹

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,



Jesse Harvey
Assistant Attorney General
Open Records Division

JH/mo

Ref: ID# 767011

Enc. Submitted documents

c: Requestor
(w/o enclosures)

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