



KEN PAXTON
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS

June 6, 2019

Ms. Jennifer Smith
Assistant District Attorney
Hidalgo County
100 East Cano Street
Edinburg, Texas 78539

OR2019-15021

Dear Ms. Smith:

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# 776688 (ORR# 2019-0066).

The Hidalgo County Public Affairs Office (the "county") received a request for information pertaining to a named employee. The county states it will release some of the requested information, but claims the submitted information is excepted from disclosure under section 552.117 of the Government Code. We have considered the claimed exception and reviewed the submitted information.

Section 552.117(a)(1) of the Government Code excepts from disclosure the current and former home addresses and telephone numbers, emergency contact information, social security numbers, and family member information of current or former employees or officials of a governmental body who request that this information be kept confidential under section 552.024 of the Government Code. Gov't Code § 552.117(a)(1). Whether a particular item of information is protected by section 552.117(a)(1) must be determined at the time of the governmental body's receipt of the request for the information. *See* Open Records Decision No. 530 at 5 (1989). Thus, information may be withheld under section 552.117(a)(1) only on behalf of a current or former employee or official who made a request for confidentiality under section 552.024 prior to the date of the governmental body's receipt of the request for the information. Information may not be withheld under section 552.117(a)(1) on behalf of a current or former employee or official who did not timely request under section 552.024

the information be kept confidential. The submitted information includes documentation showing the employee whose information is at issue timely elected to keep confidential their home address, telephone number, social security number, emergency contact information, and whether they have family members. Accordingly, the county must withhold the information we marked under section 552.117(a)(1) 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,



Jesse Harvey
Assistant Attorney General
Open Records Division

JH/eb

Ref: ID# 776688

Enc. Submitted documents

c: Requestor
(w/o enclosures)