



**KEN PAXTON**  
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS

July 19, 2019

Ms. LeAnn M. Quinn  
City Secretary  
City of Cedar Park  
450 Cypress Creek Road  
Cedar Park, Texas 78613

OR2019-19761

Dear Ms. Quinn:

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# 776204 (Reference Nos. 19-954, 19-964, and 19-965).

The City of Cedar Park (the "city") received three requests from the same requestor for information pertaining to calls for service to a specified address during a certain time period. You state the city does not have information responsive to a portion of the request.<sup>1</sup> You claim portions of the submitted information are excepted from disclosure under sections 552.101, 552.130, and 552.136 of the Government Code. We have considered the exceptions you claim and reviewed the submitted information.

Section 552.101 of the Government Code excepts from disclosure "information considered to be confidential by law, either constitutional, statutory, or by judicial decision." Gov't Code § 552.101. Section 552.101 encompasses the doctrine of common-law privacy, which protects information that is (1) highly intimate or embarrassing, the publication of which would be highly objectionable to a reasonable person, and (2) not of legitimate concern to the public. *Indus. Found. v. Tex. Indus. Accident Bd.*, 540 S.W.2d 668, 685 (Tex. 1976). To

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<sup>1</sup> The Act does not require a governmental body that receives a request to create information that did not exist when the request was received. See *Econ. Opportunities Dev. Corp. v. Bustamante*, 562 S.W.2d 266 (Tex. Civ. App.—San Antonio 1978, writ dismissed); Open Records Decision Nos. 605 at 2 (1992), 563 at 8 (1990), 555 at 1-2 (1990), 452 at 3 (1986), 362 at 2 (1983).

demonstrate the applicability of common-law privacy, both prongs of this test must be satisfied. *Id.* at 681-82. Types of information considered intimate or embarrassing by the Texas Supreme Court are delineated in *Industrial Foundation*. *Id.* at 683. This office has concluded some kinds of medical information are generally highly intimate or embarrassing. *See* Open Records Decision No. 455 (1987). Additionally, we note the Third Court of Appeals has concluded public citizens' dates of birth are protected by common-law privacy pursuant to section 552.101. *See Paxton v. City of Dallas*, No. 03-13-00546-CV, 2015 WL 3394061, at \*3 (Tex. App.—Austin May 22, 2015, pet. denied) (mem. op.). A compilation of an individual's criminal history is highly embarrassing information, the publication of which would be highly objectionable to a reasonable person. *Cf. U.S. Dep't of Justice v. Reporters Comm. for Freedom of the Press*, 489 U.S. 749, 764 (1989) (when considering prong regarding individual's privacy interest, court recognized distinction between public records found in courthouse files and local police stations and compiled summary of information and noted that individual has significant privacy interest in compilation of one's criminal history). Furthermore, we find a compilation of a private citizen's criminal history is generally not of legitimate concern to the public.

Upon review, we find portions of the submitted information satisfy the standard articulated in *Industrial Foundation*. Therefore, the city must withhold the information it marked and the additional information we marked in Exhibit B under section 552.101 of the Government Code in conjunction with common-law privacy.

You state the city will redact information pursuant to section 552.130(c) of the Government Code.<sup>2</sup> Upon review, we find most of the information the city marked consists of motor vehicle record information that is confidential under section 552.130. However, we find some of the information the city marked does not consist of motor vehicle record information for purposes of section 552.130. This information, which we have marked for release, may not be withheld on that basis. Accordingly, with the exception of the information we marked for release, the city must withhold the motor vehicle record information it marked under section 552.130 of the Government Code.

Section 552.136 of the Government Code provides, “[n]otwithstanding any other provision of [the Act], a credit card, debit card, charge card, or access device number that is collected, assembled, or maintained by or for a governmental body is confidential.” Gov’t Code § 552.136(b); *see id.* § 552.136(a) (defining “access device”). This office has determined gate access codes are access device numbers for purposes of section 552.136. Accordingly, the city must withhold the gate access code it marked under section 552.136 of the Government Code.

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<sup>2</sup> Section 552.130(c) of the Government Code allows a governmental body to redact the information described in section 552.130(a) without the necessity of seeking a decision from the attorney general. *See* Gov’t Code § 552.130(c). If a governmental body redacts such information, it must notify the requestor in accordance with section 552.130(e). *See id.* § 552.130(d), (e).

In summary, the city must withhold the information it marked and the additional information we marked in Exhibit B under section 552.101 of the Government Code in conjunction with common-law privacy. With the exception of the information we marked for release, the city must withhold the motor vehicle record information it marked under section 552.130 of the Government Code. The city must withhold the gate access code it marked under section 552.136 of the Government Code. The city must release the remaining information.

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](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,



Kimbell Kesling  
Attorney  
Open Records Division

KK/eb

Ref: ID# 776204

Enc. Submitted documents

c: Requestor  
(w/o enclosures)