



**KEN PAXTON**  
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS

September 10, 2019

Ms. Katie Leininger  
Assistant City Attorney  
City of Pearland  
3519 Liberty Drive  
Pearland, Texas 77581

OR2019-25201

Dear Ms. Leininger:

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# 785132.

The Pearland Municipal Court (the "court") received a request for the "Citation List" for July of 2019. The court claims the submitted information is either not responsive to the request or is excepted from disclosure under section 552.130 of the Government Code. We have considered the submitted arguments and reviewed the submitted information.

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. 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). The request for information was received by the court. Thus, the request is for information maintained by the court. Accordingly, we conclude the requested information is not subject to the Act and the court is not required to release it in response to this request for information.<sup>1</sup>

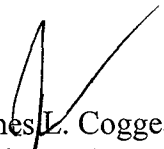
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<sup>1</sup>As our ruling is dispositive, we do not address the arguments of the court to withhold this information.

Finally, the City of Pearland asks this office to issue a previous determination that would permit it to withhold certain information in the possession of the court under section 552.101 of the Government Code in conjunction with the federal Driver's Privacy Protection Act of 1994, section 2721 of title 18 of the United States Code, without the necessity of requesting a decision from this office. We decline to issue such a previous determination at this time. Accordingly, this letter ruling is limited to the particular records 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 records or 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 <https://www.texasattorneygeneral.gov/open-government/members-public/what-expect-after-ruling-issued> or call the OAG's Open Government Hotline, toll free, at (877) 673-6839. Questions concerning the allowable charges for providing public information under the Public Information Act may be directed to the Cost Rules Administrator of the OAG, toll free, at (888) 672-6787.

Sincerely,



James L. Coggeshall  
Assistant Attorney General  
Open Records Division

JLC/be

Ref: ID# 785132

Enc. Submitted documents

c: Requestor  
(w/o enclosures)