



KEN PAXTON
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS

October 2, 2019

Ms. Bhavani Madiseti-Vemireddy
Assistant County Attorney
Williamson County
405 Martin Luther King Street, Box 7
Georgetown, Texas 78626

OR2019-27650

Dear Ms. Madiseti-Vemireddy:

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# 788939 (ORR# 2019-335-PIA).

Williamson County (the "county") received a request for the name and contact information related to the individual who adopted a specified animal. You claim the submitted information is excepted from disclosure under section 552.1177 of the Government Code. We have considered the exception you claim and reviewed the submitted information.

Initially, we note the requestor only seeks the name and contact information related to the individual who adopted the specified animal. Accordingly, the remaining submitted information is not responsive to the instant request. The county need not release non-responsive information in response to this request, and this ruling will not address that information.

Section 552.1177(a) of the Government Code relates to the humane disposition by a municipality or county of an animal and provides the following:

Except as provided by Subsection (b), information is confidential and excepted from [required public disclosure] if the information relates to the name, address, telephone number, e-mail address, driver's license number, social security number, or other personally identifying information of a person who obtains ownership or control of an animal from a municipality or county making a humane disposition of the animal under a municipal ordinance or an order of the commissioners court.

Act of May 25, 2019, 86th Leg., R.S., H.B. 2828, § 1 (to be codified as Gov't Code § 552.1177(a)). You assert the responsive information identifies a person who adopted an animal from the Williamson County Regional Animal Shelter. We understand the county's animal shelter made a humane disposition of the animal at issue under an order of the commissioner's court. Upon review, we agree the information at issue is subject to section 552.1177 of the Government Code. Therefore, the county must withhold the responsive information under section 552.1177 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 <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,



Tim Neal
Assistant Attorney General
Open Records Division

TN/gw

Ref: ID# 788939

Enc. Submitted documents

c: Requestor
(w/o enclosures)