



KEN PAXTON
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS

October 31, 2019

Mr. William Overton
Assistant General Counsel
Texas Department of Criminal Justice
P.O. Box 4004
Huntsville, Texas 77342-4004

OR2019-30818

Dear Mr. Overton:

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# 794461 (OGC# PP0152).

The Texas Department of Criminal Justice (the "department") received a request for all grievances filed by the requestor during his incarceration at the department. You claim the submitted information is excepted from disclosure under section 552.134 of the Government Code. We have considered the exception you claim and reviewed the submitted representative sample of information.¹

Section 552.134(a) of the Government Code relates to inmates of the department and provides, in relevant part:

(a) Except as provided by Subsection (b) or by Section 552.029 [of the Government Code], information obtained or maintained by the [department] is excepted from [required public disclosure] if it is information about an inmate who is confined in a facility operated by or under a contract with the department.

Gov't Code § 552.134(a). You state the submitted information constitutes information about an inmate confined in a facility operated by the department. You state section 552.029 of the Government Code does not apply to the information at issue. Upon review,

¹ We assume that the "representative sample" of records submitted to this office is truly representative of the requested records as a whole. See Open Records Decision Nos. 499 (1988), 497 (1988). This open records letter does not reach, and therefore does not authorize the withholding of, any other requested records to the extent that those records contain substantially different types of information than that submitted to this office.

we find the submitted information is subject to section 552.134 of the Government Code, and the department must withhold it on this basis.

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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Patrick P. Mehaffy". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Patrick P. Mehaffy
Assistant Attorney General
Open Records Division

PPM/rm

Ref: ID# 794461

Enc. Submitted documents

c: Requestor
(w/o enclosures)