



KEN PAXTON
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS

November 5, 2019

Ms. Megan Rathel
Assistant City Attorney
City of Waco
P.O. Box 2570
Waco, Texas 76702-2570

OR2019-31169

Dear Ms. Rathel:

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# 795474 (LGL 19-151; WQA 63891).

The City of Waco (the "city") received a request for information pertaining to a specified animal. The city claims some of the submitted information is excepted from disclosure under section 552.1177 of the Government Code. We have considered the claimed exception and reviewed the submitted information. We have also received and considered comments submitted by the requestor. *See* Gov't Code § 552.304 (providing that interested party may submit written comments regarding why information should or should not be released).

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)). The city asserts the information it has marked under section 552.1177 identifies a person who adopted an animal from the city's municipal animal shelter. We understand the municipal animal shelter made a humane disposition of the animal at issue under a municipal ordinance. Based on these representations and our review, we agree the city must withhold the information it has marked under section 552.1177 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 <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,



Erin Groff
Assistant Attorney General
Open Records Division

EMG/be

Ref: ID# 795474

Enc. Submitted documents

c: Requestor
(w/o enclosures)