



**KEN PAXTON**  
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS

November 13, 2019

Ms. Charla Thomas  
Assistant City Attorney  
City of Temple  
2 North Main Street, Suite 308  
Temple, Texas 76501

OR2019-31959

Dear Ms. Thomas:

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# 796520.

The City of Temple (the "city") received a request for ten categories of information pertaining to a specified accident. You claim the submitted information is excepted from disclosure under section 552.101 of the Government Code. We have considered the exception you claim and reviewed the submitted information.

Initially, we note you have submitted information responsive to only the request for body worn camera recordings pertaining to the specified accident. To the extent any information responsive to the remaining portions of the request existed on the date the city received the request, we assume the city has released it. If the city has not released any such information, it must do so at this time. *See* Gov't Code §§ 552.301(a), .302; *see also* Open Records Decision No. 664 (2000) (if governmental body concludes no exceptions apply to requested information, it must release information as soon as possible).

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. Body worn cameras are subject to chapter 1701 of the Occupations Code. Chapter 1701 provides the procedures a requestor must follow when seeking a body worn camera recording. Occ. Code § 1701.661(a). We determine the requestor provided the

requisite information required by section 1701.661(a) of the Occupations Code. However, section 1701.661(f) provides, in relevant part:

A law enforcement agency may not release any portion . . . of a recording involving the investigation of conduct that constitutes a misdemeanor punishable by fine only and does not result in arrest, without written authorization from the person who is the subject of that portion of the recording or, if the person is deceased, from the person's authorized representative.

*Id.* § 1701.661(f). You state the submitted video recordings consist of body worn camera recordings involving an investigation of conduct that constitutes a misdemeanor punishable by fine only and that did not result in an arrest. You do not indicate you have permission for release from all of the subjects of the recordings at issue. *See id.* Accordingly, we find the city must withhold the submitted information under section 552.101 of the Government Code in conjunction with section 1701.661(f) of the Occupations 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,



Emily Kunst  
Assistant Attorney General  
Open Records Division

EK/mo

Ref: ID# 796520

Enc. Submitted documents

c: Requestor  
(w/o enclosures)