



KEN PAXTON
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS

November 26, 2019

Mr. Zachary Brown
Assistant City Attorney
City of Austin
P.O. Box 1088
Austin, Texas 78767

OR2019-33485

Dear Mr. Brown:

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# 797713 (ORR# X003785).

The City of Austin (the "city") received a request for information pertaining to a specified animal. The city states it has released some of the requested information, but 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.

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:

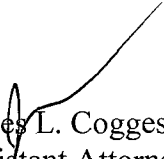
Except as provided by Subsection (b), information is confidential and excepted from [required public disclosure] if the information relates to the name, address, telephone number, e-mail address, driver's license number, social security number, or other personally identifying information of a person 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)). Upon review, we find the city has failed to establish section 552.1177 of the Government Code is applicable to any of the submitted information. Therefore, the city may not withhold the information it has marked on that ground. Accordingly, the city must release the submitted 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,



James L. Coggeshall
Assistant Attorney General
Open Records Division

JLC/eb

Ref: ID# 797713

Enc. Submitted documents

c: Requestor
(w/o enclosures)