



KEN PAXTON
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS

April 27, 2020

Ms. P. Armstrong
Assistant City Attorney
City of Dallas
1400 South Lamar
Dallas, Texas 75215

OR2020-11792

Dear Ms. Armstrong:

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# 828970 (ORR# D036674-121419).

The City of Dallas (the "city") received a request for photographs of specified police officers. You claim the submitted information is excepted from disclosure under section 552.139 of the Government Code.¹ We have considered the exception you claim and reviewed the submitted information.

Section 552.139 of the Government Code provides, in pertinent part, "a photocopy or other copy of an identification badge issued to an official or employee of a governmental body" is confidential. Gov't Code § 552.139(b)(3). The submitted information consists of copies of identification badges of city police officers. Therefore, the city must withhold the submitted information under section 552.139(b)(3) 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

¹ We note the city did not comply with section 552.301 of the Government Code in requesting a ruling from this office. *See* Gov't Code § 552.301(b), (e). Nonetheless, because the exception you claim can provide a compelling reason to overcome the presumption of openness, we will consider its applicability to the submitted information. *See id.* §§ 552.007, .302, .352.

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,

Meagan Hunter
Assistant Attorney General
Open Records Division

MH/jlbm

Ref: ID# 828970

Enc. Submitted documents

c: Requestor
(w/o enclosures)