



KEN PAXTON
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS

May 7, 2020

Ms. Bhavani Madiseti-Vemireddy
Assistant County Attorney
Williamson County
405 M.L.K. Street #7
Georgetown, Texas 78626

OR2020-13060

Dear Ms. Madiseti-Vemireddy:

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#827060 (2020-172-PIA).

Williamson County (the "county") received a request for the name and contact information of the individual who adopted a specified dog. You claim the submitted information is excepted from disclosure under section 552.1177 of the Government Code. We have considered the exception you claim and reviewed the submitted information.

Initially, we note the requestor seeks only the name and contact information of the individual at issue, which we marked. The county has submitted information that contains information beyond these specific pieces of information. Thus, the portions of the submitted documents that do not consist of the information requested are not responsive to the present request. This ruling does not address the public availability of any information that is not responsive to the request and the county is not required to release that information in response to the request.

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.

Gov't Code § 552.1177(a). The county asserts the responsive information identifies a person who adopted an animal from the county's regional animal shelter. The county indicates its regional animal shelter made a humane disposition of the animal at issue under an order of the commissioner's court. Based on these representations and our review, we agree the county must withhold the responsive information under section 552.1177 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 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,

Britni Ramirez
Assistant Attorney General
Open Records Division

BR/jlbm

Ref: ID# 827060

Enc. Submitted documents

c: Requestor
(w/o enclosures)