



KEN PAXTON
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS

May 19, 2020

Ms. Katie Lentz
Open Records
Williamson County Sheriff's Office
508 South Rock Street
Georgetown, Texas 78626

OR2020-13998

Dear Ms. Lentz:

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# 830795.

The Williamson County Sheriff's Office (the "sheriff's office") received a request for information pertaining to "sex offender compliance checks" on a specified date. The sheriff's office indicates it will withhold information pursuant to section 552.130(c) of the Government Code.¹ The sheriff's office claims some of the submitted information is excepted from disclosure under section 552.152 of the Government Code. We have considered the claimed exception and reviewed the submitted information.

Section 552.152 of the Government Code provides the following:

Information in the custody of a governmental body that relates to an employee or officer of the governmental body is excepted from the requirements of Section 552.021 if, under the specific circumstances pertaining to the employee or officer, disclosure of the information would subject the employee or officer to a substantial threat of physical harm.

¹ Section 552.130(c) of the Government Code allows a governmental body to redact the information described in section 552.130(a) without the necessity of seeking a decision from the attorney general. *See* Gov't Code § 552.130(c). If a governmental body redacts such information, it must notify the requestor in accordance with section 552.130(e). *See id.* § 552.130(d), (e).

Gov't Code § 552.152. The sheriff's office represents release of the submitted information that identifies undercover officers would subject the officers to a substantial threat of physical harm. Upon review, we find the sheriff's office has demonstrated release of the information at issue would subject the officers to a substantial threat of physical harm. Therefore, the sheriff's office must withhold the information it has marked under section 552.152 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.

James L. Coggeshall
Assistant Attorney General
Open Records Division

JLC/mo

Ref: ID# 830795

Enc. Submitted documents

c: Requestor
(w/o enclosures)