



KEN PAXTON
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS

July 27, 2020

Rebecca R. Walton
County Attorney
Hardin County
P.O. Box 516
Kountze, Texas 77625

OR2020-18673

Dear Ms. Walton:

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# 837122.

The Hardin County Sheriff's Office (the "sheriff's office") received two requests from the same requestor for information pertaining to a specified incident. You claim the submitted information is excepted from disclosure under sections 552.101, 552.103, and 552.108 of the Government Code. We have considered the exceptions you claim and reviewed the submitted information.

We note the submitted information was the subject of a previous request for a ruling, in response to which this office issued Open Records Letter No. 2020-09854 (2020). In that ruling, we determined that, with the exception of basic information, which must be released, the sheriff's office may withhold the submitted information under section 552.108(a)(2) of the Government Code. We have no indication the law, facts, and circumstances on which the prior ruling was based have changed. Thus, the sheriff's office may continue to rely on Open Records Letter No. 2020-09854 as a previous determination and withhold or release the requested information in accordance with that ruling.¹ *See* Open Records Decision No. 673 (2001) (so long as law, facts, and circumstances on which prior ruling was based have not changed, first type of previous determination exists where requested information is precisely same information as was addressed in prior attorney general ruling, ruling is addressed to same governmental body, and ruling concludes that information is or is not excepted from disclosure).

¹ As we are able to make this determination, we need not address your arguments against disclosure of this 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,

Blake Brennan
Assistant Attorney General
Open Records Division

BBX/mo

Ref: ID# 837122

Enc. Submitted documents

c: Requestor
(w/o enclosures)