



KEN PAXTON
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS

August 31, 2020

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

OR2020-21801

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# 842368 (PIR No. C070660).

The City of Austin (the "city") received a request for the contact information pertaining to the adoption of a specified animal. You claim some of 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 representative sample of information.¹

Initially, we note the requestor only seeks the contact information pertaining to the specified adoption, which you marked. Accordingly, the remaining submitted information is not responsive to the instant request. The city need not release non-responsive information in response to this request, and this ruling will not address that 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

¹ We assume the "representative sample" of records submitted to this office is truly representative of the requested records as a whole. See Open Records Decision Nos. 499 (1988), 497 (1988). This open records letter does not reach, and therefore does not authorize the withholding of, any other requested records to the extent that those records contain substantially different types of information than that submitted to this office.

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 city asserts the information at issue identifies a person who adopted an animal from the city's animal shelter. The city also represents its animal shelter made a humane disposition of the animal at issue under a municipal ordinance. Based on these representations and our review, we agree the city must withhold the information you marked 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/mo

Ref: ID# 842368

Enc. Submitted documents

c: Requestor
(w/o enclosures)