KEN PAXTON
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS

September 30, 2020

Ms. Cynthia Tynan
Senior Attorney & Public Information Coordinator
Office of General Counsel
The University of Texas System
210 West 7th Street
Austin, Texas 78701-2901

OR2020-24521

Dear Ms. Tynan:

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# 847320 (OGC# 198088).

The University of Texas at Arlington (the "university") received a request for a specified bid tabulation. Although the university takes no position regarding whether the submitted information is excepted from disclosure, the university states its release may implicate the proprietary interests of TA Instruments – Waters, LLC ("TA Instruments"). Accordingly, the university states, and provides documentation showing, it notified TA Instruments of the request and of its right to submit arguments to this office. *See* Gov't Code § 552.305(d); *see also* Open Records Decision No. 542 (1990) (statutory predecessor to section 552.305 permits governmental body to rely on interested third party to raise and explain applicability of exception in the Act in certain circumstances). We received comments from TA Instruments stating it does not object to release of its information. We have reviewed the submitted information. As no exceptions to disclosure have been raised, the university must release the submitted 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,

Katie Stallcup
Assistant Attorney General
Open Records Division

AKS/jm

Ref: ID# 847320

Enc. Submitted documents

c: Requestor
(w/o enclosures)

Third Party
(w/o enclosures)