



KEN PAXTON
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS

December 15, 2020

Mr. Brian Sears
Assistant General Counsel
Texas Department of Public Safety
P.O. Box 4087
Austin, Texas 78773-0001

OR2020-31381

Dear Mr. Sears:

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# 858380 (Ref. No. 20-3060).

The Texas Department of Public Safety (the "department") received a request for information pertaining to a specified incident. You claim the requested information is the subject of a previous request for a ruling. We have considered the submitted argument.

You state the requested information was the subject of a previous request for a ruling, as a result of which this office issued Open Records Letter No. 2020-25431 (2020). In that ruling, we determined with the exception of basic information, which must be released, the department may withhold the submitted information under section 552.108(a)(1) of the Government Code. We have no indication the law, facts, or circumstances on which the prior ruling was based have changed. Thus, the department may continue to rely on Open Records Letter No. 2020-25431 as a previous determination and withhold or release the information at issue in accordance with that ruling. *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 a prior attorney general ruling, ruling is addressed to same governmental body, and ruling concludes that information is or is not excepted from disclosure).

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,

Meredith L. Coffman
Assistant Attorney General
Open Records Division

MLC/be

Ref: ID# 858380

c: Requestor