



**KEN PAXTON**  
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS

February 10, 2022

Ms. Dylbia L. Jefferies Vega  
Attorney  
Cameron County Commissioners Court  
1100 East Monroe Street  
Brownsville, Texas 78520

OR2022-03987

Dear Ms. Vega:

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# 930220 (Reference No. W001842-110921).

Cameron County (the "county") received a request for certain plans regarding the county's information technology. You claim the submitted information is excepted from disclosure under section 552.139 of the Government Code. We have considered the claimed exception and reviewed the submitted information.

Section 552.139 of the Government Code provides, in relevant part:

- (a) Information is excepted from [required public disclosure] if it is information that relates to computer network security, to restricted information under Section 2059.055 [of the Government Code], or to the design, operation, or defense of a computer network.
- (b) The following information is confidential:
  - (1) a computer network vulnerability report;
  - (2) any other assessment of the extent to which data processing operations, a computer, a computer program, network, system, or system interface, or software of a governmental body or of a

contractor of a governmental body is vulnerable to unauthorized access or harm, including an assessment of the extent to which the governmental body's or contractor's electronically stored information containing sensitive or critical information is vulnerable to alteration, damage, erasure, or inappropriate use; [and]

...

(4) information directly arising from a governmental body's routine efforts to prevent, detect, investigate, or mitigate a computer security incident, including information contained in or derived from an information security log.

Gov't Code § 552.139(a), (b)(1)-(2), (4). Section 2059.055 of the Government Code provides, in pertinent part:

(b) Network security information is confidential under this section if the information is:

(1) related to passwords, personal identification numbers, access codes, encryption, or other components of the security system of a governmental entity;

(2) collected, assembled, or maintained by or for a governmental entity to prevent, detect, or investigate criminal activity; or

(3) related to an assessment, made by or for a governmental entity or maintained by a governmental entity, of the vulnerability of a network to criminal activity.

*Id.* § 2059.055(b). You state the information at issue “outlines the county’s process by which to protect and maintain the county’s information technology.” We understand this information relates to the design, operation, or defense of the county’s computer network. We also understand release of this information could allow unauthorized access to the county’s computer network and potential access to confidential and sensitive records. Based upon these representations and our review, we find section 552.139 is applicable to the information at issue. Accordingly, the county must withhold the submitted information under section 552.139 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,

James M. Graham  
Assistant Attorney General  
Open Records Division

JMG/jxd

Ref: ID# 930220

Enc. Submitted documents

c: Requestor  
(w/o enclosures)