



**KEN PAXTON**  
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS

April 8, 2022

Ms. Casandra C. Ortiz  
Counsel for the City of Sandy Oaks  
Kassahn and Ortiz  
9901 I.H. 10 West, Suite 800  
San Antonio, Texas 78230

OR2022-10351

Dear Ms. Ortiz:

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# 941554 (ORR# 14.1001).

The City of Sandy Oaks (the "city") received a request for a specified incident report. The city claims some of the submitted information is excepted from disclosure under sections 552.101 and 552.130 of the Government Code. The city states it notified two interested parties of its receipt of the request for information.<sup>1</sup> See Gov't Code § 552.304 (interested party may submit comments stating why information should or should not be released). We have considered the claimed exceptions and reviewed the submitted information.

Section 552.101 of the Government Code excepts from disclosure "information considered to be confidential by law, either constitutional, statutory, or by judicial decision." Gov't Code § 552.101. Section 552.101 encompasses information subject to chapter 550 of the Transportation Code. Section 550.065 applies only to a written report of an accident required under section 550.061, 550.062, or 601.004. Transp. Code § 550.065(a)(1). Chapter 550 requires the creation of a written report when the accident resulted in injury to or the death of a person or damage to the property of any person to the apparent extent of \$1,000 or more. *Id.* §§ 550.061 (operator's accident report), .062 (officer's accident report). An accident report is privileged and for the confidential use of the Texas Department of Transportation or a local governmental agency of Texas that has use for the information for accident prevention purposes. *Id.* § 550.065(b). However, a governmental entity shall release an accident report in accordance with subsections (c) and (c-1). *Id.* § 550.065(c),

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<sup>1</sup> As of the date of this letter, we have not received correspondence from any third party regarding the requested information.

(c-1). Section 550.065(c) provides a governmental entity shall release an accident report to a person or entity listed under this subsection. *Id.* § 550.065(c).

The submitted information contains a CR-3 accident report that is subject to chapter 550 of the Transportation Code. The requestor is not a person listed under section 550.065(c). Thus, the submitted accident report is confidential under section 550.065(b), and the city must withhold it under section 552.101 of the Government Code.<sup>2</sup> However, section 550.065(c-1) requires the city to create a redacted accident report that may be requested by any person. *Id.* § 550.065(c-1). The redacted accident report may not include the information listed in subsection (f)(2). *Id.* Therefore, the city must release the redacted accident report pursuant to section 550.065(c-1) of the Transportation Code.

Section 552.130 of the Government Code provides information relating to a motor vehicle operator's license, driver's license, motor vehicle title or registration, or personal identification document issued by an agency of this state or another state or country is excepted from public release. *See* Gov't Code § 552.130. We agree the city must withhold the information it has marked in the submitted photographs under section 552.130 of the Government Code.<sup>3</sup>

In summary, the city must withhold the submitted accident report under section 552.101 of the Government Code in conjunction with section 550.065(b) of the Transportation Code, but release the redacted accident report pursuant to section 550.065(c-1) of the Transportation Code. The city must withhold the information it has marked in the submitted photographs under section 552.130 of the Government Code. The city must release the remaining 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,

James L. Coggeshall  
Assistant Attorney General  
Open Records Division

JLC/jm

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<sup>2</sup> As our ruling is dispositive, we do not address the other arguments of the city to withhold this information.

<sup>3</sup> As our ruling is dispositive, we do not address the other arguments of the city to withhold this information.

Ref: ID# 941554

Enc. Submitted documents

c: Requestor  
(w/o enclosures)