



**KEN PAXTON**  
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS

July 13, 2022

Ms. Tessa K. Meredith  
Counsel for the City of Pilot Point  
Messer Fort McDonald PLLC  
6371 Preston Road, Suite 200  
Frisco, Texas 75034

OR2022-20189

Dear Ms. Meredith:

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# 957117.

The City of Pilot Point (the "city"), which you represent, received four requests from the same requestor for information pertaining to the city manager and the fire and police departments. The city states it has released some of the requested information, but claims the submitted information is either not subject to the Act or excepted from disclosure under sections 552.108 and 552.139 of the Government Code. We have considered the claimed exceptions and reviewed the submitted information.

Exhibit C contains the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement ("commission") identification numbers of peace officers. Section 552.002(a) of the Government Code defines "public information" as

information that is written, produced, collected, assembled, or maintained under a law or ordinance or in connection with the transaction of official business:

- (1) by a governmental body;
- (2) for a governmental body and the governmental body:
  - (A) owns the information;

(B) has a right of access to the information; or

(C) spends or contributes public money for the purpose of writing, producing, collecting, assembling, or maintaining the information; or

(3) by an individual officer or employee of a governmental body in the officer's or employee's official capacity and the information pertains to official business of the governmental body.

Gov't Code § 552.002(a). In Open Records Decision No. 581 (1990), this office determined certain computer information, such as source codes, documentation information, and other computer programming, that has no significance other than its use as a tool for the maintenance, manipulation, or protection of public property is not the kind of information made public under section 552.021 of the Government Code. We understand an officer's commission identification number is a unique computer-generated number assigned to peace officers for identification in the commissioner's electronic database, and may be used as an access device number on the commission website. Accordingly, we find the commission identification numbers in the submitted information do not constitute public information under section 552.002 of the Government Code. Therefore, the submitted commission identification numbers are not subject to the Act and the city is not required to release them. However, we find the city has not established the audit number it has marked in Exhibit 3 consists of a commission identification number for purposes of section 552.002. Therefore, this information is subject to the Act and the city must release it.

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

(a) Information is excepted from the requirements of Section 552.021 if it is information that relates to computer network security, to restricted information under 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; [and]

(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[.]

Gov't Code § 552.139(a), (b)(1)-(2). The city informs us Exhibit 2 relates to the police department's network security and the operation and access of the police department's

computer network. Upon review, we agree the city must withhold Exhibit 2 under section 552.139 of the Government Code.<sup>1</sup>

In summary, the submitted commission identification numbers are not subject to the Act and the city is not required to release them. The city must withhold Exhibit 2 under section 552.139 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/mo

Ref: ID# 957117

c: Requestor

---

<sup>1</sup> As our ruling is dispositive, we do not address the other argument of the city to withhold this information.