



KEN PAXTON
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS

July 18, 2022

Ms. Dawn Roberts
Assistant City Attorney
City of Arlington
P.O. Box 90231
Arlington, Texas 76004-3231

OR2022-20766

Dear Ms. Roberts:

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# 960218 (Ref. No. 133547).

The City of Arlington (the "city") received a request for adoption records pertaining to specified animals. The city states it released some of the requested information. The city claims the submitted information is excepted from disclosure under section 552.1177 of the Government Code. We have considered the claimed exception and reviewed the submitted representative sample of information.¹

Section 552.1177(a) of the Government Code relates to the humane disposition by a municipality or county of an animal and provides the following:

Except as provided by Subsection (b), information is confidential and excepted from [required public disclosure] if the information relates to the name, address, telephone number, e-mail address, driver's license number, social security number, or other personally identifying information of a person who obtains ownership or control of an animal from a municipality or county making a humane disposition of the animal under a municipal ordinance or an order of the commissioners court.

¹ We assume the representative sample of records submitted to this office is truly representative of the requested records as a whole. *See* Open Records Decision Nos. 499 (1988), 497 (1988). This open records letter does not reach, and therefore does not authorize the withholding of, any other requested records to the extent those records contain substantially different types of information than that submitted to this office.

Gov't Code § 552.1177(a). The city asserts the information at issue identifies persons who adopted an animal from the city's animal shelter. The city also indicates its animal shelter made humane dispositions of the animals at issue under a municipal ordinance. Based upon these representations and our review, we agree the city must withhold the information it marked under section 552.1177 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,

Katie Stallcup
Assistant Attorney General
Open Records Division

AKS/mo

Ref: ID# 960218

Enc. Submitted documents

c: Requestor
(w/o enclosures)