



KEN PAXTON
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS

July 20, 2022

Ms. Meredith Riede
City Attorney
City of Sugar Land
P.O. Box 110
Sugar Land, Texas 77479-0110

OR2022-21123

Dear Ms. Riede:

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# 960911 (ORR# W014273).

The City of Sugar Land (the "city") received a request for records related to a specified incident. The city states it is releasing some of the requested information. The city claims some of the submitted information is excepted from disclosure under section 552.101 of the Government Code. We have considered the exception the city claims 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. This exception encompasses section 826.0211 of the Health and Safety Code, which provides, in part, the following:

(a) Information contained in a rabies vaccination certificate or in any record compiled from the information contained in one or more certificates that identifies or tends to identify an owner or an address, telephone number, or other personally identifying information of an owner of a vaccinated animal is confidential and not subject to disclosure under [the Act]. The information contained in the certificate or record may not include the social security number or the driver's license number of the owner of the vaccinated animal.

Id. § 826.0211(a). We note section 826.0211 is applicable only to information contained in a rabies vaccination certificate or in a record compiled from information contained in one or more rabies vaccination certificates. The submitted information consists of rabies

vaccination certificates. Upon review, we agree section 826.0211 is applicable to portions of the submitted information. Accordingly, the city must withhold the names, address, and telephone number of the owners of the animal under section 552.101 of the Government Code in conjunction with section 826.0211(a) of the Health and Safety Code. However, the remaining information at issue does not identify or tend to identify an owner of a vaccinated animal. Therefore, the city may not withhold any of the remaining information under section 552.101 of the Government Code in conjunction with section 826.0211(a) of the Health and Safety 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,

Claire V. Morris Sloan
Assistant Attorney General
Open Records Division

CVMS/jxd

Ref: ID# 960911

Enc. Submitted documents

c: Requestor
(w/o enclosures)