



# THE ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS

AUSTIN, TEXAS 78711

**JOHN L. HILL**  
ATTORNEY GENERAL

June 27, 1975

The Honorable Wilson E. Speir  
Director  
Texas Department of Public Safety  
P. O. Box 4087  
Austin, Texas 78773

Open Records Decision No. 97  
  
Re: Information concerning  
commercial motor vehicle  
leases required to be filed with  
Department of Public Safety.

Dear Colonel Speir:

Pursuant to section 7 of the Open Records Act, article 6252-17a, V. T. C. S., you request our decision on whether certain information concerning leased commercial motor vehicles is excepted from disclosure under section 3(a)(1), which excepts information deemed confidential by law.

Article 6701c-1, V. T. C. S., requires that copies of leases of certain commercial motor vehicles be filed with the Department. Section 4 of this article provides in pertinent part as follows:

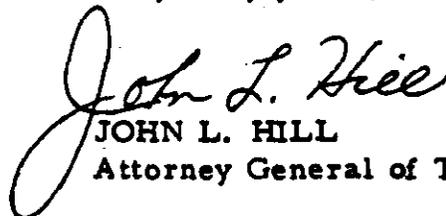
All information contained in any lease, memorandum, or agreement filed with the Department of Public Safety as required by Section 2 of this Act shall, with the exception of the name and address of the registered owner, the name and address of the person other than the owner, under whose supervision, direction and control the same is being operated, and a full description of the commercial motor vehicle or truck-tractor covered thereby, shall be for the confidential use of the Department of Public Safety. . . .

You have been asked to provide certain specific information with respect to a number of leases: who filed the required information; who signed the leases; what revisions, if any, have been made in the original records filed; and the present status of a particular file. In addition, the requestor asks for copies of any such leases or related information which contains the name of a particular individual.

In light of this express provision making information in these leases confidential, most of the information requested is excepted from disclosure by virtue of this provision and section 3(a)(1). Of course, the information specified in the quoted provision is public and should be disclosed. The contents of any revision should not be revealed except to the extent that they identify the registered owner, the lessee, and the vehicle.

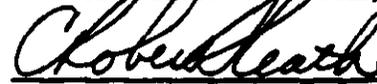
As to information regarding the present status of a particular file, we are unable to make a determination absent specification of the kind of information which the requestor is thereby seeking. You are, of course, required to either confirm or deny the existence of any particular lease about which the requestor inquires. Cf. Open Records Decision No. 88 (1975). Finally, it is our opinion that the statute prohibits the furnishing of copies of leases containing the name of a particular individual, since the furnishing of such copies would clearly reveal information not excepted from the confidentiality provisions of article 6701c-1, V. T. C. S.

Very truly yours,

  
JOHN L. HILL  
Attorney General of Texas

APPROVED:

  
DAVID M. KENDALL, First Assistant

  
C. ROBERT HEATH, Chairman  
Opinion Committee

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