



DAN MORALES
ATTORNEY GENERAL

Office of the Attorney General
State of Texas

January 25, 1991

Ms. Pamela Wells
Assistant Civil Attorney
Denton County Commissioners Court
Courthouse on the Square
110 W. Hickory
Denton, Texas 76201

OR91-062

Dear Ms. Wells:

You ask whether certain information is subject to required public disclosure under the Texas Open Records Act, article 6252-17a, V.T.C.S. Your request was assigned ID# 11374.

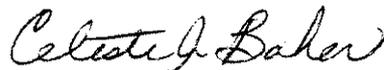
We have considered the exception you claimed, specifically section 3(a)(8), known as the law enforcement exception, and have reviewed the documents at issue. You have advised us by phone that two of the four requested offense reports and related investigatory material concern police investigations that are open and subject to further investigation. The open matters have been assigned case numbers 9008283 and 9019644. You have also informed us that the remaining offense reports and materials concern matters that are closed. The two closed matters have been assigned case numbers 9009204 and 9014219.

As indicated in our letter to you dated January 11, 1991, the information contained in the two offense reports that relate to closed matters may be withheld only if disclosure of the particular information in question will unduly interfere with law enforcement and crime prevention. See, e.g., Open Records Decision Nos. 531 (1989); 252 (1980); 216 (1978). You have advised us by letter that you have released all the material requested with regard to closed case numbers 9009204 and 9014219.

With regard to the two open case files, you may withhold all but the front pages of the two offense reports. See Heard v. Houston Post Co., 684 S.W.2d 210 (Tex. Civ. App. - Houston [1st Dist.] 1984, writ ref'd n.r.e.); City of Houston v. Houston Chronicle Publishing Co., 673 S.W.2d 316 (Tex. App. - Houston [1st Dist.] 1984, no writ); Open Records Decision Nos. 408 (1984); 127 (1976); see also Open Records Decision No. 531 (1989). Copies of these decisions are enclosed.

Because case law and prior published open records decisions resolve your request, we are resolving this matter with this informal letter ruling rather than with a published open records decision. If you have questions about this ruling, please refer to OR91-062.

Yours very truly,



Celeste A. Baker
Assistant Attorney General
Opinion Committee

CAB/le

Ref.: ID# 11374, 11484

Enclosures: ORD Nos. 531, 408, 252, 216, & 127
Marked documents

cc: Larry Lecuyer
Southwest Investigation Services
P.O. Box 2850
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