



## Office of the Attorney General

State of Texas

October 16, 1992

DAN MORALES  
ATTORNEY GENERAL

Ms. Debra A. Drayovitch  
City Attorney  
City of Denton  
Municipal Building  
Denton, Texas 76201

OR92-270

Dear Ms. Drayovitch:

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# 15481.

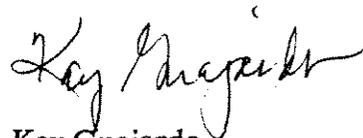
The City of Denton received a request for the police call record of December 17, 1991, for the hours between 10:30 and 11:45 a.m. and for a listing of the telephone numbers from which calls for police assistance were made during that same time period. You submitted for our review copies of police call records for the requisite time period. You did not submit a list of the telephone numbers from which calls were made during that time period. You assert that you may withhold the requested information based on the informer's privilege which is incorporated in section 3(a)(1) of the Open Records Act and section 3(a)(8) of the Open Records Act, "the law enforcement exception."

Section 3(a)(8) of the Open Records Act protects a law enforcement agency's records if their release would unduly interfere with law enforcement. *Ex parte Pruitt*, 551 S.W.2d 706 (Tex. 1977), Open Records Decision No. 582 (1990). The release of information which reveals the identity of witnesses or informants interferes with a law enforcement agency's ability to enforce the law. Open Records Decision No. 333 (1982). The police call records contain information which reveals the identity of individuals who are reporting possible criminal violations. We therefore conclude that section 3(a)(8) authorizes you to withhold the name, address, telephone number and other information that reveals the identity of the individual who made the police call. Likewise, if the city possesses the requested list of telephone

numbers from which calls were made to the police on December 17, 1991, you may also withhold it pursuant to section 3(a)(8), since its disclosure might reveal the identity of a witness or informant.

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 OR92-270.

Yours very truly,



Kay Guajardo  
Assistant Attorney General  
Opinion Committee

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