



ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS
GREG ABBOTT

December 18, 2009

Ms. Andrea Sheehan
Law Offices of Robert E. Luna, P.C.
4411 North Central Expressway
Dallas, Texas 75205

OR2009-17950

Dear Ms. Sheehan:

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# 370880.

The Carrollton-Farmers Branch Independent School District (the "district"), which you represent, received a request for information relating to agreements, contracts, and understandings with attorneys other than your law offices. You state that some of the requested information has been released. You claim that some of the submitted information is excepted from disclosure under section 552.136 of the Government Code. We have considered the exception you claim and reviewed the information you submitted.

Section 552.136 of the Government Code provides that "[n]otwithstanding any other provision of [the Act], a credit card, debit card, charge card, or access device number that is collected, assembled, or maintained by or for a governmental body is confidential." *Id.* § 552.136(b); *see id.* § 552.136(a) (defining "access device"). We agree that the district must withhold the insurance policy number you have marked under section 552.136. We note that the submitted information also includes bank account and routing numbers. The district also must withhold that information, which we have marked, under section 552.136.¹

¹We note this office recently issued Open Records Decision No. 684 (2009), a previous determination to all governmental bodies authorizing them to withhold ten categories of information, including an insurance policy number, a bank account number, and a bank routing number under section 552.136 of the Government Code, without the necessity of requesting an attorney general decision.

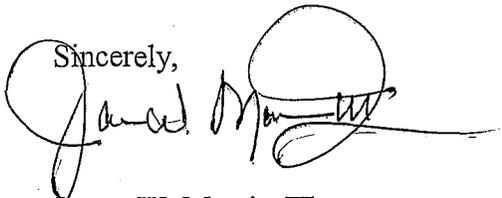
You also note that some of the submitted information appears to be protected by copyright. A governmental body must allow inspection of copyrighted information unless an exception to disclosure applies to the information. ~~See Attorney General Opinion JM-672 (1987).~~ An officer for public information also must comply with copyright law, however, and is not required to furnish copies of copyrighted information. *Id.* A member of the public who wishes to make copies of copyrighted information must do so unassisted by the governmental body. In making copies, the member of the public assumes the duty of compliance with the copyright law and the risk of a copyright infringement suit. *See Open Records Decision No. 550 at 8-9 (1990).*

In summary, the district must withhold the marked insurance policy, bank account, and bank routing numbers under section 552.136 of the Government Code. The rest of the submitted information must be released, but any information that is protected by copyright may only be released in accordance with copyright law.

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 http://www.oag.state.tx.us/open/index_orl.php, or call the Office of the Attorney General's Open Government Hotline, toll free, at (877) 673-6839. Questions concerning the allowable charges for providing public information under the Act must be directed to the Cost Rules Administrator of the Office of the Attorney General, toll free, at (888) 672-6787.

Sincerely,



James W. Morris, III
Assistant Attorney General
Open Records Division

JWM/cc

Ref: ID# 370880

Enc: Submitted documents

c: Requestor
(w/o enclosures)