



ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS  
GREG ABBOTT

January 22, 2013

Ms. Cynthia Steiner  
Assistant City Attorney  
Office of the City Attorney  
City of Mesquite  
P.O. Box 850137  
Mesquite, Texas 75185-0137

OR2013-01232

Dear Ms. Steiner:

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# 480884.

The Mesquite Police Department (the "department") received a request for information involving the requestor's residence. You state some of the requested information has been released. You claim some of the submitted information is excepted from disclosure under sections 552.101, 552.130, and 552.147 of the Government Code. We have considered the exceptions you claim and reviewed the information you submitted.

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. You claim section 552.101 in conjunction with common-law privacy, which protects information that is highly intimate or embarrassing, such that its release would be highly objectionable to a person of ordinary sensibilities, and of no legitimate public interest. *See Indus. Found. v. Tex. Indus. Accident Bd.*, 540 S.W.2d 668, 685 (Tex. 1976). To demonstrate the applicability of common-law privacy, both elements of the test must be established. *See id.* at 681-82. Common-law privacy encompasses the specific types of information held to be intimate or embarrassing in *Industrial Foundation*. *See id.* at 683 (information related to sexual assault, pregnancy, mental or physical abuse in workplace, illegitimate children, psychiatric treatment of mental disorders, attempted suicide, and injuries to sexual organs). This office has determined other types of information also are private under section 552.101. *See generally* Open Records Decision No. 659 at 4-5 (1999)

(summarizing information attorney general has held to be private). We conclude the information you have marked is highly intimate or embarrassing and not a matter of legitimate public interest. Therefore, the department must withhold the marked information under section 552.101 of the Government Code in conjunction with common-law privacy.

Section 552.130 of the Government Code excepts from disclosure information related to a motor vehicle operator's or driver's license or permit issued by an agency of this state or another state or country. *See Gov't Code § 552.130(a)(1)*. We conclude the department must withhold the driver's license number you have marked and the additional driver's license information we have marked under section 552.130 of the Government Code.

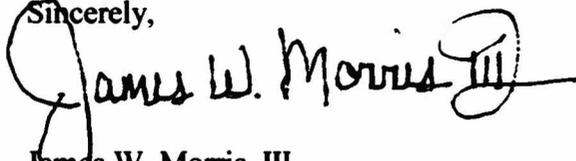
Section 552.147 of the Government Code states "[t]he social security number of a living person is excepted from" required public disclosure under the Act. *Id.* § 552.147(a). We conclude the department may withhold the social security number you have marked under section 552.147 of the Government Code.

In summary, the department (1) must withhold the information you have marked under section 552.101 of the Government Code in conjunction with common-law privacy; (2) must withhold the driver's license number you have marked and the additional driver's license information we have marked under section 552.130 of the Government Code; and (3) may withhold the social security number you have marked under section 552.147 of the Government Code. The rest of the submitted information must be released.

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](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,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James W. Morris III". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J" and a stylized "M".

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

JWM/bhf

Ref: ID# 480884

Enc: Submitted documents

c: Requestor  
(w/o enclosures)