



ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS
GREG ABBOTT

January 25, 2013

Ms. Teresa J. Brown
Senior Open Records Assistant
City of Plano Police Department
P.O. Box 860358
Plano, Texas 75086-0358

OR2013-01448

Dear Ms. Brown:

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# 478310 (Plano Ref. # BOOJ110812).

The Plano Police Department (the "department") received a request for information related to report number 12-049443, including specified video footage. You state you have released some of the requested information. You claim that the submitted information is excepted from disclosure under section 552.130 of the Government Code. We have considered the exception you claim and reviewed the submitted information.

Initially, you acknowledge that the department failed to meet the deadlines prescribed by section 552.301 of the Government Code in requesting an open records decision from our office. Gov't Code § 552.301(b). Pursuant to section 552.302 of the Government Code, a governmental body's failure to comply with the requirements of section 552.301 results in the legal presumption that the requested information is public and must be released unless the governmental body demonstrates a compelling reason to withhold the information from disclosure. *See id.* § 552.302; *Simmons v. Kuzmich*, 166 S.W.3d 342, 350 (Tex. App.—Fort Worth 2005, no pet.); *Hancock v. State Bd. of Ins.*, 797 S.W.2d 379, 381-82 (Tex. App.—Austin 1990, no writ) (governmental body must make compelling demonstration to overcome presumption of openness pursuant to statutory predecessor to section 552.302); *see also* Open Records Decision No. 630 (1994). The presumption that information is public under section 552.302 can be overcome by demonstrating that the information is confidential by law or third-party interests are at stake. *See* Open Records Decision Nos. 630 at 3, 325

at 2 (1982). Because section 552.130 can provide a compelling reason for non-disclosure, we will consider the applicability of this exception to the information at issue.

Section 552.130 of the Government Code excepts from public disclosure information relating to a motor vehicle title or registration issued by an agency of this state or another state or country. *See* Gov't Code § 552.130(a)(2). The submitted compact disc contains license plate numbers that are excepted from disclosure under section 552.130(a)(2). Because the department states it lacks the technological capability to redact such information from this video recording, we agree the department must withhold it in its entirety under section 552.130(a)(2) of the Government Code.

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,



Vanessa Burgess
Assistant Attorney General
Open Records Division

VB/dls

Ref: ID# 478310

Enc. Submitted documents

c: Requestor
(w/o enclosures)