



ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS
GREG ABBOTT

April 17, 2013

Mr. Thomas H. Walston
General Counsel
State Office of Administrative Hearings
P.O. Box 13025
Austin, Texas 78711-3025

OR2013-06237

Dear Mr. Walston:

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# 484335.

The State Office of Administrative Hearings (the "office") received a request for an electronic copy of the office's latest revision of the computer security manual or policy. You claim the submitted information is excepted from disclosure under section 552.139 of the Government Code. We have considered the exception you claim and reviewed the submitted information.

Section 552.139(a) of the Government Code provides:

(a) Information is excepted from [required public disclosure] if it is information that relates to computer network security, to restricted information under Section 2059.055 [of the Government Code], or to the design, operation, or defense of a computer network.

Gov't Code § 552.139(a). You assert, and provide an affidavit stating, the information contained in the submitted information would be valuable to a hacker targeting the office. Specifically, you explain the submitted information reveals specific network information, software used by the office, details about the office's file server, information about the antivirus system, portable computer checkout procedures, how workstations interact with each other, and the locations of network equipment, wiring closets, and servers. Thus, you

argue the submitted information relates to the office's network security and the design, operation, or defense of the office's computer network and, therefore, is excepted from public disclosure under section 552.139(a). Based on your representations, we find the submitted information is related to computer network security and the design, operation, or defense of a computer network. Thus, the office must withhold the submitted information under section 552.139(a).

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,



David L. Wheelus
Assistant Attorney General
Open Records Division

DLW/dls

Ref: ID# 484335

Enc. Submitted documents

c: Requestor
(w/o enclosures)