



ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS  
GREG ABBOTT

June 5, 2013

~~Ms. Neera Chatterjee~~  
Office of General Counsel  
The University of Texas System  
201 West Seventh Street  
Austin, Texas 78701

OR2013-09307

Dear Ms. Chatterjee:

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# 491363 (UT OGC# 149466).

The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston (the "university") received a request for copies of its information technology policies and related documents linked to on a specified university webpage. You state you will release some information to the requestor. You claim the remaining information is excepted from disclosure under sections 552.101 and 552.139 of the Government Code. We have considered the exceptions you claim and reviewed the submitted information.

Section 552.139 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.

(b) The following information is confidential:

(1) a computer network vulnerability report; [and]

(2) any other assessment of the extent to which data processing operations, a computer, a computer program, network, system, or system interface, or software of a governmental body or of a contractor of a governmental body is vulnerable to unauthorized access or harm, including an assessment of the extent to which the governmental body's or contractor's electronically stored information containing sensitive or critical information is vulnerable to alteration, damage, erasure, or inappropriate use[.]

Gov't Code § 552.139. Section 2059.055 of the Government Code provides in pertinent part:

(b) Network security information is confidential under this section if the information is:

- (1) related to passwords, personal identification numbers, access codes, encryption, or other components of the security system of a state agency;
- (2) collected, assembled, or maintained by or for a governmental entity to prevent, detect, or investigate criminal activity; or
- (3) related to an assessment, made by or for a governmental entity or maintained by a governmental entity, of the vulnerability of a network to criminal activity.

*Id.* § 2059.055(b). You state the submitted information relates to the design, operation, and defense of the university's computer network. You state the submitted information "relates to network security as well as to restricted information under § 2059.055." Further, you assert the release of the information at issue would "make the network security of the university vulnerable to criminal activity." Based on your representations and our review, we find you have demonstrated the submitted information relates to computer network security, and the design, operation, or defense of the university's computer network. Accordingly, the university must withhold the submitted information under section 552.139 of the Government Code.<sup>1</sup>

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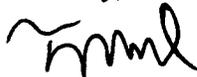
<sup>1</sup>As our ruling for this information is dispositive, we need not address your remaining arguments against its release.

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.texasattorneygeneral.gov/open/orl\\_ruling\\_info.shtml](http://www.texasattorneygeneral.gov/open/orl_ruling_info.shtml), 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 may be directed to the Office of the Attorney General, toll free, at (888) 672-6787.

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Sincerely,



Tim Neal  
Assistant Attorney General  
Open Records Division

TN/dls

Ref: ID# 491363

Enc. Submitted documents

c: Requestor  
(w/o enclosures)

