



ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS
GREG ABBOTT

July 17, 2013

Ms. Michele Freeland
Legal Assistant
Office of General Counsel
Texas Department of Public Safety
P.O. Box 4087
Austin, Texas 78773-0001

OR2013-12227

Dear Ms. Freeland:

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# 493503 (PIR# 13-1728).

The Texas Department of Public Safety (the "department") received a request for all license plate numbers listed as stolen in Texas for a specified time period. You claim the requested 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.

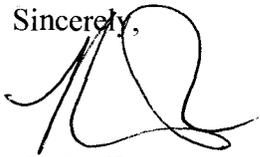
Section 552.130 of the Government Code provides information relating to a motor vehicle title or registration issued by an agency of this state or another state or country is excepted from public release. *See* Gov't Code § 552.130(a)(2). Accordingly, the department must withhold the requested license plate numbers under section 552.130 of the Government Code.¹

¹Open Records Decision No. 684 is a previous determination to all governmental bodies authorizing them to withhold certain information, including Texas license plate numbers under section 552.130 of the Government Code, without the necessity of requesting an attorney general decision. However, the Texas legislature recently amended section 552.130 to allow a governmental body to redact the information described in subsection 552.130(a)(2) of the Government Code without the necessity of seeking a decision from the attorney general. Act of May 6, 2013, 83rd Leg., R.S., S.B. 458, § 1 (to be codified as an amendment to Gov't Code § 552.130(c)). If a governmental body redacts such information, it must notify the requestor in accordance with section 552.130(e). *See* Gov't Code § 552.130(d), (e). Thus, the statutory amendment to section 552.130 of the Government Code supercedes Open Records Decision No. 684. Therefore, a governmental body may redact information subject to subsection 552.130(a)(2) only in accordance with section 552.130, not Open Records Decision No. 684.

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,



Nneka Kanu
Assistant Attorney General
Open Records Division

NK/bhf

Ref: ID# 493503

Enc. Submitted documents

c: Requestor
(w/o enclosures)