



ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS
GREG ABBOTT

May 23, 2014

Ms. Talibah Young
Senior Assistant General Counsel
Office of the General Counsel
University of Houston
311 E Cullen Building
Houston, Texas 77204-2028

OR2014-08914

Dear Ms. Young:

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# 523648.

The University of Houston (the "university") received a request for information pertaining to any money donated to the university by a named employee. You claim the requested information is excepted from disclosure under sections 552.1235 and 552.117 of the Government Code. We have considered the exceptions you claim.

Section 552.1235 of the Government Code excepts from disclosure "the name or other information that would tend to disclose the identity of a person, other than a governmental body, who makes a gift, grant, or donation of money or property to an institution of higher education[.]" Gov't Code § 552.1235(a). For purposes of this exception, "institution of higher education" is defined by section 61.003 of the Education Code. *Id.* § 552.1235(c). Section 61.003 defines an "institution of higher education" as meaning "any public technical institute, public junior college, public senior college or university, medical or dental unit, public state college, or other agency of higher education as defined in this section." Educ. Code § 61.003(8). Because the request is for donations made by a named employee, the existence of any responsive information necessarily reveals the identity of a donor to the

university. Consequently, to the extent any responsive information exists, it must be withheld under section 552.1235 of the Government Code.¹

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, 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.

Sincerely,



Jennifer Luttrall
Assistant Attorney General
Open Records Division

JL/akg

Ref: ID# 523648

Enc. Submitted documents

c: Requestor
(w/o enclosures)

¹As we are able to make this determination, we need not address your remaining argument against disclosure.