



ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS
GREG ABBOTT

June 2, 2014

Mr. Eric D. Bentley
Associate General Counsel
Office of General Counsel
University of Houston System
311 East Cullen Building
Houston, Texas 77204-2028

OR2014-09410

Dear Mr. Bentley:

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# 524484.

The University of Houston (the "university") received a request for the contract between the university and Coursera, Inc. ("Coursera") for a specified project and budget information for the same project. You inform us the university released the budget information to the requestor. Although you take no position on the public availability of the submitted information, you state the release of the submitted information may implicate the proprietary interests of Coursera. Accordingly, you inform us, and provide documentation showing, you notified Coursera of the request and of the company's right to submit comments to this office as to why the submitted information should not be released to the requestor. *See Gov't Code* § 552.305(d); *see also* Open Records Decision No. 542 (1990) (determining statutory predecessor to section 552.305 permits governmental body to rely on interested third party to raise and explain applicability of exception to disclosure under the Act in certain circumstances). We have reviewed the submitted information.

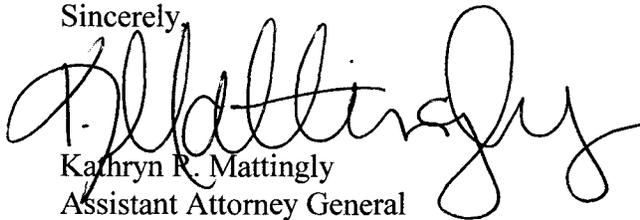
We note an interested third party is allowed ten business days after the date of its receipt of the governmental body's notice under section 552.305(d) of the Government Code to submit its reasons, if any, as to why information relating to that party should be withheld from public disclosure. *See Gov't Code* § 552.305(d)(2)(B). As of the date of this letter, we have not received comments from Coursera on why the company's submitted information should not be released. Therefore, we have no basis to conclude Coursera has protected proprietary

interests in the submitted information. *See id.* § 552.110; Open Records Decision Nos. 661 at 5-6 (1999) (to prevent disclosure of commercial or financial information, party must show by specific factual evidence, not conclusory or generalized allegations, release of requested information would cause party substantial competitive harm), 552 at 5 (1990) (party must establish *prima facie* case information is trade secret), 542 at 3. Accordingly, the university may not withhold any portion of the submitted information on the basis of any proprietary interest Coursera may have in it. As no exceptions to disclosure have been raised, the submitted information must be released.

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,



Kathryn R. Mattingly
Assistant Attorney General
Open Records Division

KRM/bhf

Ref: ID# 524484

Enc. Submitted documents

c: Requestor
(w/o enclosures)

Ms. Daphne Koller
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(w/o enclosures)