



KEN PAXTON
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS

March 20, 2015

Ms. Lauren F. Crawford
First Assistant City Attorney
City of Bryan
P.O. Box 1000
Bryan, Texas 77805-1000

OR2015-05374

Dear Ms. Crawford:

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# 557052.

The City of Bryan (the "city") received a request for eleven categories of information pertaining to a specific traffic accident. The city states it has released some information. The city claims portions of the submitted information are excepted from disclosure under section 552.101 of the Government Code. We have considered the exception the city claims and reviewed the submitted information.

Section 552.101 of the Government Code excepts from disclosure "information considered to be confidential by law, either constitutional, statutory, or by judicial decision." Gov't Code § 552.101. This section encompasses information protected by other statutes, such as section 773.091 of the Health and Safety Code, which provides in part:

(b) Records of the identity, evaluation, or treatment of a patient by emergency medical services personnel or by a physician providing medical supervision that are created by the emergency medical services personnel or physician or maintained by an emergency medical services provider are confidential and privileged and may not be disclosed except as provided by this chapter.

Health & Safety Code § 773.091(b). This confidentiality “does not extend to information regarding the presence, nature of injury or illness, age, sex, occupation, and city of residence of a patient who is receiving emergency medical services.” *Id.* § 773.091(g). Upon review, we agree the submitted information constitutes EMS records that are subject to chapter 773 of the Health and Safety Code. Accordingly, the city must withhold the submitted EMS records under section 552.101 in conjunction with section 773.091(b), except for information subject to section 773.091(g), which 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,



Rahat Huq
Assistant Attorney General
Open Records Division

RSH/dls

Ref: ID# 557052

Enc. Submitted documents

c: Requestor
(w/o enclosures)