



**KEN PAXTON**  
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS

April 8, 2015

Ms. Rebecca R. Walton  
County Attorney  
County of Hardin  
Office of the County Attorney  
Hardin County Sheriff's Office  
P.O. Box 1990  
Kountze, Texas 77625

OR2015-06661

Dear Ms. Walton:

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# 559263.

The Hardin County Sheriff's Office (the "sheriff's office") received a request for a crime statistics report for a specified address. You claim some of the submitted information is excepted from disclosure under section 552.101 of the Government Code. We have considered the exception you claim 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 chapter 772 of the Health and Safety Code. Chapter 772 authorizes the development of local emergency communications districts. Section 772.318 of the Health and Safety Code is applicable to emergency 9-1-1 districts established in accordance with chapter 772. *See* Open Records Decision No. 649 (1996). This section makes the originating telephone numbers and addresses of 9-1-1 callers furnished by a 9-1-1 service supplier confidential. *Id.* at 2. Section 772.318 applies to an emergency communication district for a county with a population of more than 20,000. We understand Hardin County is part of an emergency communication district established under section 772.318. We note the submitted

information contains information pertaining to 9-1-1 calls and includes addresses of 9-1-1 callers. You do not indicate, however, whether that information was furnished by a 9-1-1 service supplier. Therefore, we will rule conditionally. To the extent the addresses we have marked consist of the originating addresses of 9-1-1 callers that were furnished by a 9-1-1 service supplier, this information is confidential under section 772.318 of the Health and Safety Code and the sheriff's office must withhold it under section 552.101 of the Government Code. If this information does not consist of the originating addresses of 9-1-1 callers provided by a 9-1-1 service supplier, then the sheriff's office may not withhold the marked information under section 552.101 in conjunction with section 772.318. However, we find you have failed to demonstrate any of the remaining information consists of the originating address or telephone number of a 9-1-1 caller, and the sheriff's office may not withhold any of the remaining information under section 552.101 of the Government Code in conjunction with section 772.318 of the Health and Safety Code. As you raise no other exceptions to disclosure of the remaining information, the sheriff's office must release it.

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.

Sincerely,



Kristi L. Godden  
Assistant Attorney General  
Open Records Division

KLG/cz

Ref: ID# 559263

Enc. Submitted documents

c: Requestor  
(w/o enclosures)