



KEN PAXTON
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS

April 8, 2015

Ms. Captoria Brown
Paralegal
Office of the City Attorney
City of Carrollton
1945 East Jackson Road
Carrollton, Texas 75006

OR2015-06735

Dear Ms. Brown:

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# 559310 (City ID# 4277).

The Carrollton Police Department (the "department") received a request for the personnel file pertaining to a named officer. You state some information was released to the requestor. You claim portions of the submitted information are excepted from disclosure under section 552.152 of the Government Code. We have considered the exception you claim and reviewed the submitted information.

Initially, we note the submitted information includes an officer's Texas Commission on Law Enforcement ("TCOLE") identification number. In Open Records Decision No. 581 (1990), this office determined certain computer information, such as source codes, documentation information, and other computer programming, that has no significance other than its use as a tool for the maintenance, manipulation, or protection of public property is not the kind of information made public under section 552.021 of the Government Code. We understand the officer's TCOLE identification number is a unique computer-generated number assigned to peace officers for identification in the commissioner's electronic database, and may be

providing public information under the Act may be directed to the Office of the Attorney General, toll free, at (888) 672-6787.

Sincerely,



Lauren Dahlstein
Assistant Attorney General
Open Records Division

LMD/som

Ref: ID# 559310

Enc. Submitted documents

c: Requestor
(w/o enclosures)

used as an access device number on the TCOLE website. Thus, we find the officer's TCOLE number does not constitute public information under section 552.002 of the Government Code. Therefore, the officer's TCOLE number is not subject to the Act and need not be released to the requestor.

You seek to withhold the names of undercover officers in the submitted information under section 552.152 of the Government Code, which provides:

Information in the custody of a governmental body that relates to an employee or officer of the governmental body is excepted from [required public disclosure] if, under the specific circumstances pertaining to the employee or officer, disclosure of the information would subject the employee or officer to a substantial threat of physical harm.

Gov't Code § 552.152. You state release of the officers' names would subject the officers to a substantial threat of physical harm. Therefore, we find section 552.152 is applicable to the information you marked. Accordingly, we conclude the department must withhold the officers' names you marked under section 552.152 of the Government Code.

Section 552.137 of the Government Code excepts from disclosure "an e-mail address of a member of the public that is provided for the purpose of communicating electronically with a governmental body," unless the member of the public consents to its release or the e-mail address is of a type specifically excluded by subsection (c). Gov't Code § 552.137(a)-(c). The e-mail address we have marked is not of a type excluded by subsection (c). Accordingly, the department must withhold the e-mail address we have marked under section 552.137 of the Government Code, unless the owner affirmatively consents to its release.

In summary, the officer's TCOLE number is not subject to the Act and need not be released to the requestor. The department must withhold the officers' names you marked under section 552.152 of the Government Code. The department must withhold the e-mail address we have marked under section 552.137 of the Government Code, unless the owner affirmatively consents to its release. The department must release the remaining information.

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