



KEN PAXTON
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS

May 7, 2015

Ms. Patricia Fleming
Assistant General Counsel
TDCJ - Office of the General Counsel
P.O. Box 4004
Huntsville, Texas 77342-4004

OR2015-08917

Dear Ms. Fleming:

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# 562843.

The Texas Department of Criminal Justice (the "department") received a request for information pertaining to legal settlements and judgments paid by the department during a specified time period. The department claims portions of the submitted information are excepted from disclosure under section 552.134 of the Government Code. We have considered the exception the department claims and reviewed the submitted representative sample of information.¹

Section 552.134 of the Government Code relates to inmates of the department and provides, in pertinent part:

- (a) Except as provided by Subsection (b) or by Section 552.029 [of the Government Code], information obtained or maintained by the [department] is excepted from [required public disclosure] if it is information about an

¹We assume the "representative sample" of records submitted to this office is truly representative of the requested records as a whole. *See* Open Records Decision Nos. 499 (1988), 497 (1988). This open records letter does not reach, and therefore does not authorize the withholding of, any other requested records to the extent those records contain substantially different types of information than that submitted to this office.

inmate who is confined in a facility operated by or under a contract with the department.

Gov't Code § 552.134(a). The department states the information it has marked constitutes information about inmates confined in a facility operated by the department. The department states section 552.029 of the Government Code does not apply to the information at issue. Upon review, we find the information at issue is subject to section 552.134 of the Government Code. Accordingly, the department must withhold the information it has marked under section 552.134 of the Government Code. As the department raises no further exceptions against disclosure, the remaining 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,



Rahat Huq
Assistant Attorney General
Open Records Division

RSH/dls

Ref: ID# 562843

Enc. Submitted documents

c: Requestor
(w/o enclosures)