



**KEN PAXTON**  
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS

July 22, 2015

Ms. Molly Cost  
Assistant General Counsel  
Texas Department of Public Safety  
5805 North Lamar Boulevard  
Austin, Texas 78773-0001

OR2015-14969

Dear Ms. Cost:

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# 573702 (PIR # 15-2203).

The Department of Public Safety (the "department") received a request for safety inspection information for used vehicles identified by vehicle inspection number ("VIN") and by vehicle make, model and year. The requestor seeks the following specified data elements for each vehicle: date of inspection, pass/fail overall result, retest, test counter, inspection expiration date, and odometer. The requestor states he does not seek any personally identifying information. You ask whether the submitted information is excepted from disclosure under section 552.130(a)(2) of the Government Code. We have considered the exception you raise and reviewed the submitted representative sample of the requested information.<sup>1</sup>

Section 552.130(a)(2) excepts from disclosure information that relates to a motor vehicle title or registration issued by an agency of this state or another state or country. Gov't Code § 552.130(a)(2). Section 552.130 does not prohibit a governmental body from publicly

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<sup>1</sup>We assume that 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 that those records contain substantially different types of information than that submitted to this office. The submitted representative sample does not include every data element the requestor states he seeks.

disclosing a VIN, if the VIN is not accompanied by or identified with any personal information about an individual. Attorney General Opinion GA-0673 (2008). In this case, the information at issue is not accompanied by or identified with any personal information about an individual, and thus, the VINs do not relate to a motor vehicle title or registration for purposes of section 552.130(a)(2). Furthermore, the submitted information does not constitute information that is protected under section 552.130. Therefore, we conclude section 552.130 does not apply to the submitted information and the department must release the information to the requestor.

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,



Kay Hastings  
Assistant Attorney General  
Open Records Division

KH/sdk

Ref: ID# 573702

Enc. Submitted documents

c: Requestor  
(w/o enclosures)