



KEN PAXTON
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS

October 27, 2015

Ms. Evelyn W. Kimeu
Staff Attorney
Houston Police Department
1200 Travis
Houston, Texas 77002-6000

OR2015-22507

Dear Ms. Kimeu:

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# 584683 (ORU No.15-5207).

The Houston Police Department (the "department") received a request for a specified police report. You claim 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 552.142 of the Government Code is applicable to records subject to certain deferred adjudications. Section 552.142 provides as follows:

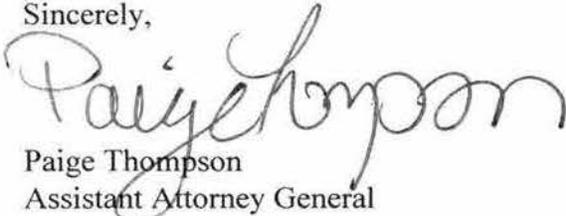
- (a) Information is excepted from [required public disclosure] if an order of nondisclosure of criminal history record information with respect to the information has been issued under Subchapter E-1, Chapter 411 [of the Government Code].
- (b) A person who is the subject of information that is excepted from [required public disclosure] under this section may deny the occurrence of the criminal proceeding to which the information relates and the exception of the information under this section, unless the information is being used against the person in a subsequent criminal proceeding.

Act of May 27, 2015, 84th Leg., R.S., ch. 1279, §§ 26-27, 2015 Tex. Sess. Law Serv. 4327, 4338 (Vernon) (to be codified as an amendment to Gov't Code § 552.142). Section 411.0725 of the Government Code authorizes a person placed on deferred adjudication community supervision for certain offenses to petition the court "for an order of nondisclosure," which prohibits criminal justice agencies from disclosing to the public criminal history record information related to the offense giving rise to the deferred adjudication community supervision. *See* Act of May 27, 2015, 84th Leg., R.S., ch. 1279, § 4, 2015, Tex. Sess. Law Serv. 4327, 4328-4329 (Vernon) (to be codified at Gov't Code § 411.0725). A criminal justice agency may only disclose criminal history record information that is the subject of the order to other criminal justice agencies, for criminal justice or regulatory purposes; non-criminal justice agencies listed in section 411.0765(b); or the person who is the subject of the order. *See* Act of May 27, 2015, 84th Leg., R.S., ch. 1279, § 11, 2015, Tex. Sess. Law Serv. 4327, 4332-4334 (Vernon) (to be codified at Gov't Code § 411.0765). You have provided documentation reflecting an order of nondisclosure was issued pursuant to subchapter E-1, chapter 411 of the Government Code prohibiting the release of the submitted information. Thus, we find this information is subject to the court order and must be withheld under section 552.142 of the Government Code.¹

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,



Paige Thompson
Assistant Attorney General
Open Records Division

PT/dls

¹As our ruling is dispositive, we need not address your argument against disclosure of this information.

Ref: ID# 584683

Enc. Submitted documents

c: Requestor
(w/o enclosures)