



**KEN PAXTON**  
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS

December 16, 2015

Ms. Shannon C. Francis  
Assistant County Attorney  
County of Williamson Attorney's Office  
405 Martin Luther King Street, Box 7  
Georgetown, Texas 78626

OR2015-26410

Dear Ms. Francis:

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# 590792.

The Williamson County Attorney's Office (the "county attorney's office") received a request for information pertaining to a specified incident. We understand the county attorney's office will release some information. You claim the submitted information is excepted from disclosure under section 552.101 of the Government Code.<sup>1</sup> 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. Section 552.101 encompasses information other statutes make confidential, such as section 773.091 of the Health and Safety Code, which provides in relevant part:

(b) Records of the identity, evaluation, or treatment of a patient by emergency medical services personnel or by a physician providing medical supervision that are created by the emergency medical services personnel or physician or

---

<sup>1</sup>Although you also raise section 552.108 of the Government Code, you have provided no arguments explaining how this exception is applicable to the submitted information. Therefore, we assume you no longer assert this exception. See Gov't Code §§ 552.301(e)(1)(A), .302.

maintained by an emergency medical services provider are confidential and privileged and may not be disclosed except as provided by this chapter.

...

(g) The privilege of confidentiality under this section does not extend to information regarding the presence, nature of injury or illness, age, sex, occupation, and city of residence of a patient who is receiving emergency medical services.

Health & Safety Code § 773.091(b), (g). Except for the information specified in section 773.091(g), emergency medical services ("EMS") records are deemed confidential under section 773.091. Upon review, we find none of the submitted information consists of EMS records and, therefore, none of the submitted information may be withheld on this basis. As no further exceptions to disclosure have been raised, the county attorney's office must release the submitted 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](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,



Britni Ramirez  
Assistant Attorney General  
Open Records Division

BR/bhf

Ref: ID# 590792

Enc. Submitted documents

c: Requestor  
(w/o enclosures)