



KEN PAXTON
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS

March 11, 2016

Mr. Thomas Gilliland
Public Information Officer
Harris County Sheriff's Office
1200 Baker Street, 2nd Floor
Houston, Texas 77002

OR2016-05609

Dear Mr. Gilliland:

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# 601242 (HCSO File No. WEBQA1448).

The Harris County Sheriff's Office (the "sheriff's office") received a request for information concerning a specified report. The sheriff's office released information responsive to the request but made redactions as permitted by section 552.130 of the Government Code without requesting a decision from this office. *See* Gov't Code § 552.130(c). Pursuant to section 552.130(e), the requestor has asked this office to review the information and render a decision as to whether it is excepted from disclosure under section 552.130(a) of the Government Code. We have considered the position of the sheriff's office and reviewed the information.

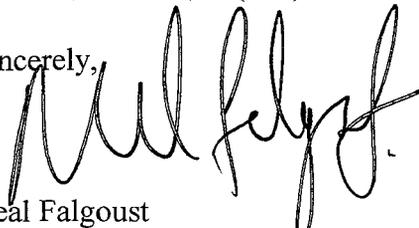
Section 552.130 of the Government Code excepts from disclosure information relating to a motor vehicle operator's or driver's license or permit issued by an agency of this state or another state or country. *Id.* § 552.130(a)(1). However, section 552.130 is intended to protect personal privacy, so an individual has a right of access to her own motor vehicle record information. *See id.* § 552.023(a), (b) (individual has special right of access to information that relates to herself and is protected by laws intended to protect his privacy interests, and governmental body may not deny access on ground that information is considered confidential by privacy principles); Open Records Decision No. 481 at 4 (1987) (privacy theories not implicated when individual requests information concerning herself).

Accordingly, with the exception of the information that relates to the requestor, the sheriff's office must withhold the information you redacted under section 552.130 of the Government Code. The sheriff's office must release the requestor's own information, and the remaining information, to her.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,



Neal Falgoust
Assistant Attorney General
Open Records Division

NF/bhf

Ref: ID# 601242

Enc. Submitted documents

c: Requestor
(w/o enclosures)

¹If the sheriff's office receives another request for this same information from a person other than the requestor, section 552.130 authorizes the sheriff's office to withhold the motor vehicle record information without a ruling from this office. See Gov't Code § 552.130(c)-(e).