



KEN PAXTON
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS

March 29, 2016

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

OR2016-06903

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# 603212.

The Williamson County District Clerk's Office (the "district clerk's office") received a request for all records of support sent to the Office of the Attorney General (the "OAG") by Williamson County (the "county"). 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 552.101 of the Government Code excepts from disclosure information that is made confidential by law, including information made confidential by statute. Gov't Code § 552.101. Chapter 231 of the Family Code pertains to the administration of Title IV-D child support programs and provides the OAG is designated as the state's Title IV-D agency. *See* Fam. Code § 231.001.

Section 231.108(a) of the Family Code provides:

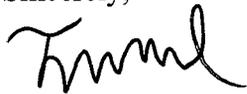
- (a) . . . all files and records of services provided by the Title IV-D agency under this title, including information concerning a custodial parent, a noncustodial parent, a child, or an alleged or presumed father, are confidential.

Id. § 231.108(a). In this instance, you state the submitted information was shared between the district clerk's office and the OAG. You indicate that the county uses this information for the administration and enforcement of a child support program. *See id.* § 231.108(c) (allowing the OAG to release information subject to chapter 231 of the Family Code for purposes directly connected with the administration of child support programs). Based on your arguments and our review of the information at issue, we conclude that the district clerk's office must withhold the submitted information from disclosure pursuant to section 552.101 of the Government Code in conjunction with section 231.108 of the Family 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,



Tim Neal
Assistant Attorney General
Open Records Division

TN/bhf

Ref: ID# 603212

Enc. Submitted documents

c: Requestor
(w/o enclosures)

¹As our ruling is dispositive, we do not address your remaining argument against disclosure.