



**KEN PAXTON**  
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS

April 15, 2016

Ms. Amy L. Sims  
Deputy City Attorney  
Office of the City Attorney  
City of Lubbock  
P.O. Box 2000  
Lubbock, Texas 79457

OR2016-08560

Dear Ms. Sims:

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# 612725 (ORR# 1290).

The Lubbock Municipal Court (the "court") received a request for information related to fines owed to the City of Lubbock during a specified time period. You claim the submitted information is not subject to the Act. We have considered the submitted argument and reviewed the submitted information.

The Act is applicable to information "written, produced, collected, assembled, or maintained under a law or ordinance or in connection with the transaction of official business by a governmental body." Gov't Code § 552.002(a)(1). However, the Act's definition of "governmental body" does not include the judiciary. *Id.* § 552.003(1)(B). Information "written, produced, collected, assembled, or maintained by or for the judiciary" is not subject to the Act but, instead, is "governed by rules adopted by the Supreme Court of Texas or by other applicable laws and rules." *Id.* § 552.0035(a); *cf.* Open Records Decision No. 131 (1976) (applying statutory predecessor to judiciary exclusion under Government Code section 552.003(1)(B) prior to enactment of Government Code section 552.0035). Therefore, the Act neither authorizes information held by the judiciary to be withheld, nor does it require such information be disclosed. *See* Open Records Decision No. 25 (1974). The instant request was addressed to the court. Thus, the instant request is for information

maintained by the court. Accordingly, we conclude the requested information is not subject to the Act and the court is not required to release it in response to this request for 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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Claire Morris Sloan", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Claire V. Morris Sloan  
Assistant Attorney General  
Open Records Division

CVMS/som

Ref: ID# 612725

Enc. Submitted documents

c: Requestor  
(w/o enclosures)