



**KEN PAXTON**  
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS

May 4, 2016

Mr. Daniel R. Malone  
Office of General Counsel  
Dallas Baptist University  
3000 Mountain Creek Parkway  
Dallas, Texas 75211-9299

OR2016-10060

Dear Mr. Malone:

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# 608476.

The Dallas Baptist University Police Department (the "department") received a request for information pertaining to specified offenses during a specified period of time. You claim some of the submitted information is not subject to the Act. Additionally, you claim some of the submitted information is excepted from disclosure under section 552.108 of the Government Code. We have considered the submitted arguments and reviewed the submitted information.

The 84th Legislature added section 51.212(f) of the Education Code, which reads as follows:

(f) A campus police department of a private institution of higher education is a law enforcement agency and a governmental body for purposes of [the Act], only with respect to information relating solely to law enforcement activities.

Educ. Code § 51.212(f). You inform us the department is a campus police department of a private institution of higher education. *See id.* §§ 51.212(e), 61.003. Thus, you acknowledge the department is a governmental body for purposes of the Act, and information maintained by the department is subject to disclosure under the Act, to the extent such information

relates solely to law enforcement activities. You indicate the submitted information is maintained by the department and claim some of the submitted information does not relate “solely to law enforcement activities”. The submitted information consists of a police report involving the investigation of possible criminal violations. *See* Health & Safety Code §§ 481.121 (possession of marihuana), .125 (possession of drug paraphernalia). Therefore, we find the submitted information relates “solely to law enforcement activities” for purposes of section 51.212(f) of the Education Code, and thus, is subject to the Act. Accordingly, this information must be released, unless it falls within an exception to public disclosure under the Act. *See* Gov’t Code §§ 552.006, .021, .301, .302. Consequently, we will address the department’s argument against its disclosure under the Act.

Section 552.108(a)(1) of the Government Code excepts from disclosure “[i]nformation held by a law enforcement agency or prosecutor that deals with the detection, investigation, or prosecution of crime . . . if . . . release of the information would interfere with the detection, investigation, or prosecution of crime[.]” Gov’t Code § 552.108(a)(1). A governmental body claiming section 552.108(a)(1) must reasonably explain how and why the release of the requested information would interfere with law enforcement. *See id.* §§ 552.108(a)(1), .301(e)(1)(A); *see also Ex parte Pruitt*, 551 S.W.2d 706 (Tex. 1977). You state the information you have marked pertains to an ongoing criminal prosecution. Based on this representation, we conclude the release of the information at issue would interfere with the detection, investigation, or prosecution of crime. *See Houston Chronicle Publ’g Co. v. City of Houston*, 531 S.W.2d 177 (Tex. Civ. App.—Houston [14th Dist.] 1975) (court delineates law enforcement interests present in active cases), *writ ref’d n.r.e. per curiam*, 536 S.W.2d 559 (Tex. 1976). Thus, the department may withhold the information you have marked under section 552.108(a)(1) of the Government Code.

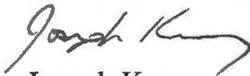
Section 552.130 of the Government Code provides information relating to a motor vehicle operator’s license, driver’s license, motor vehicle title or registration, or personal identification document issued by an agency of this state or another state or country is excepted from public release. *See* Gov’t Code § 552.130(a). The department must withhold the motor vehicle record information you have marked, and the additional information we have marked, under section 552.130 of the Government Code.

In summary, the department may withhold the information you have marked under section 552.108(a)(1) of the Government Code. The department must withhold the motor vehicle record information you have marked, and the additional information we have marked, under section 552.130 of the Government Code. The department must release the remaining 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,



Joseph Keeney  
Assistant Attorney General  
Open Records Division

JDK/dls

Ref: ID# 608476

Enc. Submitted documents

c: Requestor  
(w/o enclosures)