



KEN PAXTON
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS

June 16, 2016

Mr. Thomas M. Gilliland
Media Relations
Harris County Sheriff's Office
1200 Baker Street
Houston, Texas 77002

OR2016-13689

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# 614571.

The Harris County Sheriff's Office (the "sheriff's office") received a request for information concerning a specified case. 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(d) of the Government Code, 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.

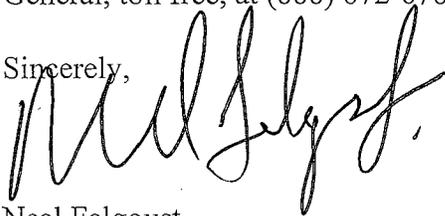
Section 552.130 of the Government Code excepts from disclosure information relating to a motor vehicle operator's or driver's license or permit and a motor vehicle title or registration issued by an agency of this state or another state or country. *Id.* § 552.130(a)(1), (2). You redacted motor vehicle record information that relates to the requestor and a motor vehicle he owns. We note section 552.130 of the Government Code is intended to protect personal privacy, so section 552.023 provides the requestor a right of access to this information. *See id.* § 552.023(b) (governmental body may not deny access to person to whom information relates or person's agent on ground that information is considered confidential by privacy principles); Open Records Decision No. 481 at 4 (1987) (privacy theories not implicated

when individuals request information concerning themselves). Accordingly, the sheriff's office may not withhold from this requestor the information you redacted under section 552.130 of the Government Code. The sheriff's office must release the information to this requestor.

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/eb

Ref: ID# 614571

Enc. Submitted documents

c: Requestor
(w/o enclosures)