



KEN PAXTON
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS

June 27, 2016

Ms. Elizabeth Conry Davidson
Counsel for the Bexar Appraisal District
Attorney at Law
926 Chulie Drive
San Antonio, Texas 78216

OR2016-14592

Dear Ms. Davidson:

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# 618339.

The Bexar Appraisal District (the "district"), which you represent, received a request for information that identifies the owner of a specified property. The district claims the requested information is excepted from disclosure under section 552.101 of the Government Code. We have considered the claimed exception and reviewed the submitted information.

Initially, we note only the submitted information that reveals of the owner of the property at issue is responsive to the request. Thus, the remaining submitted information is not responsive to the request. This ruling does not address the public availability of any of the submitted information that is not responsive to the request, and the district is not required to release this information in response to this request.

Section 552.101 of the Government Code excepts from disclosure "information considered to be confidential by law, either constitutional, statutory, or by judicial decision." Gov't Code § 552.101. This section encompasses section 25.025 of the Tax Code, which reads, in part, as follows:

(a) This section applies only to:

(1) a current or former peace officer as defined by Article 2.12, Code of Criminal Procedure[.]

...

(b) Information in appraisal records under Section 25.02 is confidential and is available only for the official use of the appraisal district, this state, the comptroller, and taxing units and political subdivisions of this state if:

(1) the information identifies the home address of a named individual to whom this section applies; and

(2) the individual chooses to restrict public access to the information on the form prescribed for that purpose by the comptroller under Section 5.07.

(c) A choice made under Subsection (b) remains valid until rescinded in writing by the individual.

(d) This section does not prohibit the public disclosure of information in appraisal records that identifies property according to an address if the information does not identify an individual who has made an election under Subsection (b) in connection with the individual's address.

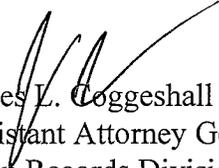
Tax Code § 25.025(a)(1), (b)-(d). Section 25.02 of the Tax Code prescribes the information that must be contained within appraisal records. *See id.* § 25.02. This information includes the name of the owner of the property. *See id.* § 25.02(a)(1). The district represents, and we agree, the submitted document consists of an appraisal record for purposes of section 25.025(b) of the Tax Code. The submitted document reveals the owner of the property at issue is an individual subject to section 25.025(a)(1) who filed a request for confidentiality pursuant to section 25.025 of the Tax Code. The district states the owner has not rescinded the request for confidentiality. Accordingly, we conclude the submitted responsive information is confidential under section 25.025(b) of the Tax Code, and the district must withhold it under section 552.101 on that basis. *See id.* § 25.02(b).

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,



James L. Coggeshall
Assistant Attorney General
Open Records Division

JLC/eb

Ref: ID# 618339

Enc. Submitted documents

c: Requestor
(w/o enclosures)