

THE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS

July 31, 2023

Mr. James Kelly Open Records Attorney Texas Department of Insurance P.O. Box 12030 Austin, Texas 78711

OR2023-25427

Dear Mr. Kelly:

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# 073269 (TDI# R018770).

The Texas Department of Insurance (the "department") received a request for certain agreements with federal agencies.¹ Although you take no position as to whether the submitted information is excepted under the Act, you state you notified the Federal Bureau of Investigation (the "FBI") of the request for information and of its right to submit arguments to this office as to why the submitted information should not be released. *See* Gov't Code § 552.304 (interested party may submit comments stating why information should not be released).

As of the date of this letter, we have not received comments from the FBI explaining why any portion of the submitted information should not be released to the requestor. Thus, the department may not withhold the submitted information based on any interests the FBI may have in the information at issue. As no exceptions to disclosure have been raised, the department must release the submitted 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.

¹ You state the department sought and received clarification of the information requested. *See* Gov't Code § 552.222 (providing if request for information is unclear, governmental body may ask requestor to clarify request); *see also City of Dallas v. Abbott*, 304 S.W.3d 380, 387 (Tex. 2010) (holding that when a governmental entity, acting in good faith, requests clarification or narrowing of an unclear or overbroad request for information, the ten-day period to request an attorney general ruling is measured from the date the request is clarified or narrowed).

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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 <u>https://www.texasattorneygeneral.gov/open-government/members-public/what-expect-after-ruling-issued</u> or call the OAG's Open Government Hotline, toll free, at (877) 673-6839. Questions concerning the allowable charges for providing public information under the Public Information Act may be directed to the Cost Rules Administrator of the OAG, toll free, at (888) 672-6787.

Sincerely,

Joseph Hoggatt Assistant Attorney General Open Records Division

JWH/jxd

Ref: ID# 073269

- Enc. Submitted documents
- c: Requestor (w/o enclosures)

Third Party (w/o enclosures)