

Update from the Attorney General's Office

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Opinion Types

- o Formal opinions providing written interpretation of existing law
- o Formal Open Records Decisions (ORD)
- o Informal Open Records Memorandum Rulings (Ruling Letters)

Authorized Officials

- ◊ Governor;
- ◊ Head of a department of state government;
- ◊ Head or board of a penal institution;
- ◊ Head or board of an eleemosynary institution;
- ◊ Head of a state board;
- ◊ Regent or trustee of a state educational institution;
- ◊ Committee of a house of the legislature;
- ◊ County auditor authorized by law; or
- ◊ Chairman of the governing board of a river authority

Timelines

- ◊ An acknowledgment of receipt is required by the Office of the Attorney General (OAG) by not later than the 15th day after the date that the request is received.
- ◊ Opinions are required to be issued by no later than the 180th day after the date that the request is received, unless prior to the deadline, the OAG notifies the requesting party in writing that the opinion will be delayed or not rendered

Open Records Decision No. 688

- o Questions concerning the applicability of section 552.1085 of the Government Code to information subject to certain rules of the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services
- o Six questions were presented by the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services.

- o Decision determined by answering first question
 - o In the event the Department engaged in a joint investigation with a law enforcement agency and copies of photographs taken at a crime scene during that joint investigation are stored in the Department's records, do the Department's rules ... concerning access to photographs that are part of a child abuse or neglect case file control, or is access to the photographs requested from the Department subject to the requirements of [s]ection 552.1085 [of the] Government Code?

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30th Annual School Law Conference session
"Update from the Attorney General's Office"