



Ana Vieira Ayala  
Assistant General Counsel & Public Information Coordinator

October 25, 2016

Justin Gordon  
Division Chief  
Open Records Division  
Price Daniel Building  
209 W. 14th Street, 6th Floor  
Austin, Texas 78701

**Re: Public Information Request from Justin Gallagher and Paul Fisher to The University of Texas at Austin -- OGC# 172371**

Dear Mr. Gordon:

On October 11, 2016, The University of Texas at Austin ("University") received a request for information from Justin Gallagher and Paul Fisher ("Requestors") (**TAB 2**). The University subsequently sent the request to The University of Texas System ("UT System") for handling with your office.

In accordance with Section 552.301 of the Texas Government Code, we now send this request for decision within ten business days from the date the request was received. UT System has copied the Requestors on this letter brief in accordance with Section 552.301(d).

The Requestors seek access to the following information:

*[W]e are requesting to obtain copies of public records that correspond with a statewide database of traffic accidents for the years 2008-9. We request the same data on these accidents as are contained in the Public Extract from the CRIS database for accidents post 2010 (<http://www.txdot.gov/government/enforcement/data---access.html>).*

*To be more specific, we are requesting that for each reported traffic crash in both 2008 and 2009 fields relevant to the system-generated Crash\_ID, latitude and longitude of each accident, the block number and street name where the accident occurred, the zip code of the owner of each vehicle involved in the crash, the city and county of the accident, contributing factors related to the accident, if the accident occurred in an intersection, time and date of the crash, the first harmful event in the crash, the severity of the crash, the dollar value of damage caused in the accident, the number and severity of the injuries/deaths caused in the accident, the form of traffic*

*control at the site of the accident, and the weather conditions at the time of the accident.*

*The data we have requested has been made public in the past by the TxDOT. Attorney General Abbott ruled that the data can be released with personal information including Driver names, license numbers and other personally identifying information removed (see OR2008-04185). In addition, SB 375 codified the release of accident data under Texas state law. We only seek such data that is available under the rules of SB 375 and do not wish to access the information listed as confidential according to that bill.*

*The data we are requesting was originally owned and produced by the TxDOT and was shared with the Center for Transportation Research (CTR) at the University of Texas at Austin. The TxDOT has stated that they deleted internal copies of the data under their records retention policy. We believe that the CTR has copies of these data as part of research projects conducted by researchers at the institute published over the past few. We have attached an appendix with examples of these projects.*

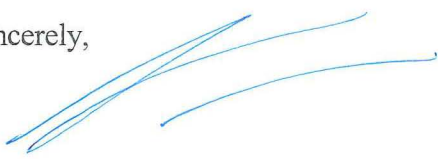
We anticipate that the responsive documents have applicable exceptions to disclosure. Accordingly, we reserve **all** the listed exceptions in the Public Information Act and those captured by "other law" in Section 552.101 of the Texas Government Code.

This 10-day brief should be interpreted to include **all** the exceptions contained in Chapter 552 of the Texas Government Code, beginning with Section 552.101 through and including Section 552.154 of the Texas Government Code. The University does not waive any exception we may determine applicable after further review of the documents at issue.

Our detailed brief and responsive documents will be submitted to your office by the statutory deadline. With this request for decision, we are notifying the Office of the Attorney General that The University of Texas at Austin will seek to withhold responsive documents pending review by your office.

All interested parties are listed below. If you need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me at (512) 499-4563.

Sincerely,



Ana Vieira Ayala

cc: Requestor: (w/o Enclosures)

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