

PUBLIC ACCESS OPTION FORM

Texas Government Code Section 552.024



The Public Information Act allows employees, public officials and former employees and officials to elect whether to keep certain information about them confidential. Unless you choose to keep it confidential, the following information about you may be subject to public release if requested under the Texas Public Information Act. Therefore, please indicate whether you wish allow public release of the following information.

Do you Give Permission for Public Access to: (Please indicate by placing an "X" in appropriate box)	NO	YES
Home Address		
Home Telephone Number		
Cellular Phone Number		
Social Security Number		
Information that reveals whether you have family members or a domestic partner		
Emergency Contact Information		

Print Name

Date

Signature

Employee Identification Number

(Note: This form should be completed and signed by employee/public official no later than the 14th day after the employee begins employment, the public official is elected or appointed or a former employee or official ends employment or service.)

PUBLIC ACCESS OPTION FORM

Texas Government Code Section 552.137



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Do you Give Permission for Public Access to your email address(es): (Please indicate by placing an "X" in appropriate box)	NO	YES
Email Address:		
Email Address:		
Email Address:		

Print Name

Date

Signature

Employee Identification Number

(Note: This form should be completed and signed by employee/public official no later than the 14th day after the employee begins employment, the public official is elected or appointed or a former employee or official ends employment or service.)

Sec. 552.024. ELECTING TO DISCLOSE ADDRESS AND TELEPHONE NUMBER.

(a) Except as provided by Subsection (a-1), each employee or official of a governmental body and each former employee or official of a governmental body shall choose whether to allow public access to the information in the custody of the governmental body that relates to the person's home address, home telephone number, emergency contact information, or social security number, or that reveals whether the person has family members.

(a-1) A school district may not require an employee or former employee of the district to choose whether to allow public access to the employee's or former employee's social security number.

(b) Each employee and official and each former employee and official shall state that person's choice under Subsection (a) to the main personnel officer of the governmental body in a signed writing not later than the 14th day after the date on which:

- (1) the employee begins employment with the governmental body;
- (2) the official is elected or appointed; or
- (3) the former employee or official ends service with the governmental body.

(c) If the employee or official or former employee or official chooses not to allow public access to the information:

- (1) the information is protected under Subchapter C; and
- (2) the governmental body may redact the information from any information the governmental body discloses under Section 552.021 without the necessity of requesting a decision from the attorney general under Subchapter G.

(c-1) If, under Subsection (c)(2), a governmental body redacts or withholds information without requesting a decision from the attorney general about whether the information may be redacted or withheld, the requestor is entitled to seek a decision from the attorney general about the matter. The attorney general by rule shall establish procedures and deadlines for receiving information necessary to decide the matter and briefs from the requestor, the governmental body, and any other interested person. The attorney general shall promptly render a decision requested under this subsection, determining whether the redacted or withheld information was excepted from required disclosure to the requestor, not later than the 45th business day after the date the attorney general received the request for a decision under this subsection. The attorney

general shall issue a written decision on the matter and provide a copy of the decision to the requestor, the governmental body, and any interested person who submitted necessary information or a brief to the attorney general about the matter. The requestor or the governmental body may appeal a decision of the attorney general under this subsection to a Travis County district court.

(c-2) A governmental body that redacts or withholds information under Subsection (c) (2) shall provide the following information to the requestor on a form prescribed by the attorney general:

(1) a description of the redacted or withheld information;

(2) a citation to this section; and

(3) instructions regarding how the requestor may seek a decision from the attorney general regarding whether the redacted or withheld information is excepted from required disclosure.

(d) If an employee or official or a former employee or official fails to state the person's choice within the period established by this section, the information is subject to public access.

(e) An employee or official or former employee or official of a governmental body who wishes to close or open public access to the information may request in writing that the main personnel officer of the governmental body close or open access.

(f) This section does not apply to a person to whom Section 552.1175 applies.

Added by Acts 1993, 73rd Leg., ch. 268, Sec. 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1993.

Amended by Acts 1995, 74th Leg., ch. 1035, Sec. 5, eff. Sept. 1, 1995;

Acts 2001, 77th Leg., ch. 119, Sec. 1, eff. Sept. 1, 2001.

Amended by:

Acts 2009, 81st Leg., R.S., Ch. 283 (S.B. [1068](#)), Sec. 1, eff. June 4, 2009.

Acts 2011, 82nd Leg., R.S., Ch. 927 (S.B. [1638](#)), Sec. 1, eff. June 17, 2011.

Acts 2013, 83rd Leg., R.S., Ch. 183 (H.B. [2961](#)), Sec. 1, eff. September 1, 2013.

Sec. 552.137. CONFIDENTIALITY OF CERTAIN E-MAIL ADDRESSES.

(a) Except as otherwise provided by this section, an e-mail address of a member of the public that is provided for the purpose of communicating electronically with a governmental body is confidential and not subject to disclosure under this chapter.

(b) Confidential information described by this section that relates to a member of the public may be disclosed if the member of the public affirmatively consents to its release.

(c) Subsection (a) does not apply to an e-mail address:

(1) provided to a governmental body by a person who has a contractual relationship with the governmental body or by the contractor's agent;

(2) provided to a governmental body by a vendor who seeks to contract with the governmental body or by the vendor's agent;

(3) contained in a response to a request for bids or proposals, contained in a response to similar invitations soliciting offers or information relating to a potential contract, or provided to a governmental body in the course of negotiating the terms of a contract or potential contract;

(4) provided to a governmental body on a letterhead, coversheet, printed document, or other document made available to the public; or

(5) provided to a governmental body for the purpose of providing public comment on or receiving notices related to an application for a license as defined by Section 2001.003(2) of this code, or receiving orders or decisions from a governmental body.

(d) Subsection (a) does not prevent a governmental body from disclosing an e-mail address for any reason to another governmental body or to a federal agency.

Added by Acts 2001, 77th Leg., ch. 356, Sec. 1, eff. May 26, 2001.

Amended by Acts 2003, 78th Leg., ch. 1089, Sec. 1, eff. Sept. 1, 2003.

Amended by:

Acts 2009, 81st Leg., R.S., Ch. 962 (H.B. 3544), Sec. 7, eff. September 1, 2009.