

By: Seliger

S.B. No. 270

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to a limited exception to the prohibition on releasing personal information about a juror collected during the jury selection process in certain cases.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Article 35.29, Code of Criminal Procedure, is amended to read as follows:

Art. 35.29. PERSONAL INFORMATION ABOUT JURORS. (a) Except as provided by Subsections (b) and (c), information ~~[Information]~~ collected by the court or by a prosecuting attorney during the jury selection process about a person who serves as a juror, including the juror's home address, home telephone number, social security number, driver's license number, and other personal information, is confidential and may not be disclosed by the court, the prosecuting attorney, the defense counsel, or any court personnel.

(b) On ~~[except on]~~ application by a party in the trial, or on application by a bona fide member of the news media acting in such capacity, to the court for the disclosure of information described by Subsection (a), the court shall, on ~~[in which the person is serving or did serve as a juror. On]~~ a showing of good cause, ~~[the court shall]~~ permit disclosure of the information sought.

(c) The defense counsel may disclose information described by Subsection (a) to successor counsel representing the same defendant in a proceeding under Article 11.071 without application

1 to the court or a showing of good cause.

2           SECTION 2. The change in law made by this Act applies to an  
3 application for a writ of habeas corpus under Article 11.071, Code  
4 of Criminal Procedure, that is pending on the effective date of this  
5 Act or filed on or after that date.

6           SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2013.