

By: Canales

H.B. No. 3633

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to access to personal information about jurors in a criminal trial.

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) 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 representing the defendant at trial or in a subsequent proceeding, or any court personnel except as otherwise provided by this article.

(b) Information described by Subsection (a) may be disclosed to ~~[on application by]~~ a party in the trial or ~~[on application by]~~ a bona fide member of the news media acting in such capacity. The ~~[to the court 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 only after an application for the information is made and good cause for receiving the information is shown ~~[sought]~~.

(c) On a written request, the court shall disclose the

1 information described by Subsection (a), including providing
2 copies of any juror summons, to counsel representing the defendant
3 in a subsequent proceeding. A showing of good cause is not required
4 for a disclosure under this subsection.

5 SECTION 2. The change in law made by this Act applies only
6 to a jury selected on or after the effective date of this Act. A
7 jury selected before the effective date of this Act is governed by
8 the law in effect on the date the jury was selected, and the former
9 law is continued in effect for that purpose.

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