

FOIA Advisory Committee
Oversight and Accountability Subcommittee
10/8/15

Meeting Minutes

Subcommittee members in attendance (via teleconference):

Delores Barber	Brent Evitt
Jim Hogan	Nate Jones
David Pritzker	Martin Michalosky

Designated Federal Officer (DFO) Christa Lemelin also attended.

Subcommittee members discussed the below items:

1. Assessment of the FOIA Public Liaison role and determine opportunities for improvement.
 - a. Mr. Michalosky stated that the data from the FOIA Public Liaison poll is posted on the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) website.
 - b. Ms. Barber agreed to review the results of the FOIA Public Liaison poll and take the lead on drafting a one-page synopsis of the results to share with the public. Mr. Michalosky agreed to assist Ms. Barber with this draft.
2. Identify current authorities for oversight and actions (program reviews, audits, reports, inspections, etc) that have been completed over the past 10 years.
 - a. Mr. Jones, Mr. Evitt, and Mr. Becker have started reviewing the numerous reports on federal agency FOIA programs that are posted to the OGIS website.
 - b. Mr. Jones and Mr. Evitt agreed to continue reviewing the reports with a focus on drafting a document that identifies trends, conclusions, or ideas for future consideration resulting from these reports.
3. Evaluate past litigation review efforts and determine opportunities for action.
 - a. No update was available for this item.
 - b. Mr. Michalosky stated that previous discussions around this item focused on the efforts of a project sponsored by the Transactional Records Access Clearinghouse (TRAC).
 - c. Several subcommittee members discussed the mediation role of OGIS, the appeal process prior to litigation, and the reasons for FOIA litigation.

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- d. Mr. Pritzker asked the subcommittee to consider the information in the “Reducing FOIA Litigation Through Targeted ADR Strategies” report in relation to this item (<https://www.acus.gov/research-projects/reducing-foia-litigation-through-targeted-adr-strategies>).
4. Additional oversight and accountability opportunities.
- a. Several subcommittee members discussed the opportunity for the FOIA Advisory Committee and subcommittees to provide input on FOIA to the new administration in the future.