ECOS DIGITAL BUSINESS WORKGROUP

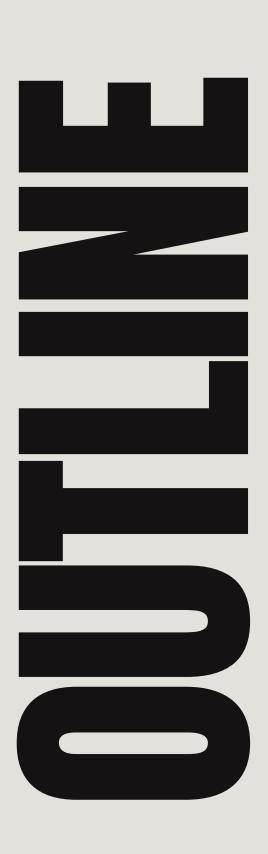
ECOS SPRING MEETING 2025

PUBLIC RECORDS REQUESTS

THE ENIGMA OF PUBLIC CENTERED SERVICES

Miriam Patrocinio ECOS Digital Business Work Group Vice Chair Victoria Phillips ECOS Digital Business Work Group Chair





FOIA_ What is it?

Pain Points

Financials

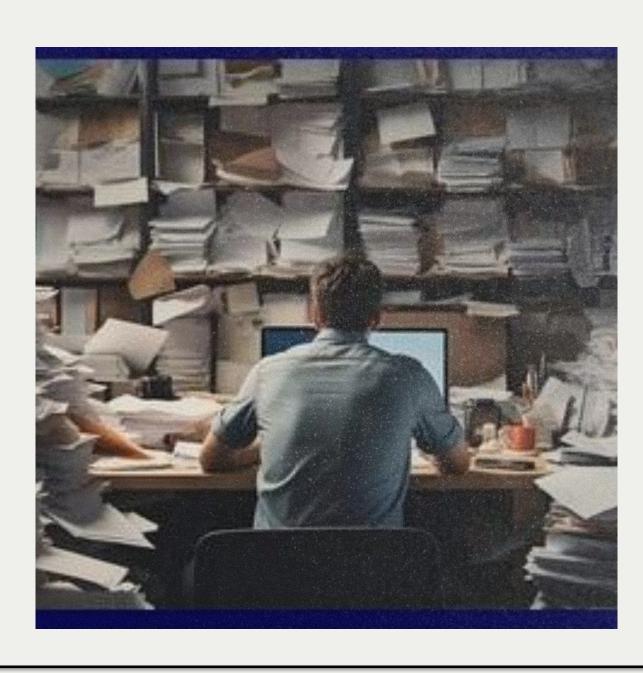
Innovating or Surviving?

Government Ingenuity



CONFUSION AMONG AGENCIES ECOS SPRING MEETING 2025

FOIA: WHAT IS IT?



The Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), enacted in 1967, ensures that the public can access records from any federal agency, promoting transparency and accountability.

How does it work for the States?

- Access to Public Records (APRA)_RI
- Data Practices Act_ MN
- FOIA_ AR, CT, DE, IL, MI, SC, VA, WV, District of Columbia (DC).
- Freedom of Access Act_ ME
- GRAMA_UT
- IPRA_ NM
- Open Records Act_ CO, GA, IA, KS, KY, NV, ND, OH, OK, TN, WI
- OPRA_ NJ
- PIA_ MD, TX
- Public Records_ AK, AL, AZ, CA, ID, LA, MA, MS, MT, NC, NE, OR, VT, WA
- Right to know_NH, PA
- Sunshine Law_FL, MO, SD, WY
- Uniform Information Practices Act_ HI

RESOURCE: NFOIC

PAIN PAIN S

VOLUME & COMPLEXITY

RESOURCE LIMITATIONS

PUBLIC RECORDS REQUEST

TRANSPARENCY vs PRIVACY

LEGAL HURDLES

YOY Direct Costs •

Avg cost for 5,000 PRR = \$1,000,000

Legal and Litigation Risks •

In house consel

Digitization of Paper Files •

Hardware and Personnel

Hidden Costs •

Storage and Disposal

Expenditures Forecasting •

Budget Planning

Analysis and Reporting •

Data can show areas of improvements

FINANGIALS

SURVINGP

How is your agency tackling this issue?



GOVERNMEN' INGENUTY

Improving Staffing and Training: Adequate resources and training for handling requests.

- Hiring a public records or records manager
- Developing a unit to address public records
- Review and train staff on records retention policies

Streamlining Processes: Use of standardized forms, digital platforms, and automated tools.

- Understand what is being requested and who should be involved (data owner)
- Offer solution with options: Can you make that data available online for self service?

Clear Communication: Transparency in the process and clear timelines.

• Clarity in requests streamlines responses.

Investing in Technology: Implementing modern records management systems.

- Digital forms
- Will Al be able to help in the future?
- Workflow automations
- Reporting to understand sentiment

OPERATION ROOM TO GROW

LESS ROOM FOR PAPER = MORE ROOM FOR PEOPLE

HOW RECORDS MANAGEMENT CAN HELP

- Automating processes, improving staff and customer experience
- Improving efficiency, saving time and money, making it easier to find records
- Increasing transparency, reducing risk of litigation



THANK YOU

ECOS DIGITAL BUSINESS WORKGROUP

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