

Response to: National Archives and Records Administration/Department of Justice
RFI Response: NextGen FOIA Tech Showcase Day 1 Topic 1/2/3

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Introduction

The Chief FOIA Officers Council's Technology Committee, in conjunction with The Office of Information Services (OGIS) at the National Archives and Records Administration and the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) Office of Information Policy (OIP), is seeking advanced technologies to assist with and improve future FOIA case processing needs. In this response, we will be focusing on the first three topics of Day One: eDiscovery search, case processing and redaction.

The Problem

According to www.justice.gov the US government received an estimated 800,000 FOIA requests in FY 2020. This is an increase of 33% over FY 2010. This increase in requests comes in the context of exponential growth in digital data, seismic political and cultural shifts, and an increasing emphasis on data privacy, governance, risk, and compliance. Given the massive challenges these realities present, and the highly manual processes currently required, the need for intelligent and trusted automation to speed up the process of request processing and fulfillment has never been higher.

Nuix Overview

Nuix provides a comprehensive solution to handle the scale, precision, and workflow management needed to handle FOIA requests of any size. The Nuix Engine can scale up to scan, index and search 100s of TBs of data stored in a myriad of file formats across repositories both on premise and in the cloud. It can also scale down to accommodate the needs of organizations with less of a FOIA burden. Nuix NLP delivers a layer of AI to classify, categorize and extract targeted information from the data collection for increased precision. Nuix Discover delivers the workflows you need to manage the process from review to redaction and disclosure with industry-leading eDiscovery capabilities. Nuix gives you the flexibility to operate where it makes the most sense – all behind your firewall, all in the cloud, OR a hybrid of the two.

Nuix For FOIA

Nuix is used by government agencies and commercial sector organizations for many use cases. It powers digital investigations, drives legal eDiscovery, and enables incident responders to react quickly and efficiently to data breaches. But what mix of Nuix technology works best for your FOIA responses?

- Nuix Workstation performs the ‘heavy lifting’ of churning through data, no matter what format it’s in, at a scale and speed that’s unmatched in the industry. Workstation can be right fitted for any size needs from a few gigabytes to terabytes or even petabytes of data.
- Nuix Discover is renowned for its powerful review, analytics, and production capabilities. It can take in search terms, auto-redact sensitive information and employ powerful analytics to ensure you’re producing all the right information for the request at hand. Discover also operates as a repository for previously disclosed documents to eliminate duplication of effort across similar disclosure sets.

Key Benefits

- Reduce backlogs and increase efficiencies with intelligence and automation Backlogs are the bane of many departments that need to deal with large volumes of data-related requests.
- Scan, index and search TBs to PBs of data to find responsive documents.
- Create a reusable index for frequently targeted data sets with powerful search and workflow
- Leverage the latest in AI/ML to accelerate the identification, classification, categorization, and extraction of information.
- Build your own categorization/classification/extraction routines leveraging AI in our no-code model builder.
- Create custom templates for your organization’s unique workflow.
- Maintain projects in a central location with all changes tracked.
- Review, tag, and code information.
- Redact items at the text, page and document levels using page coordinates.
- Redact using keywords, phrases or our advanced search builder – complete with a pick list of matches for easy selection.
- Apply bulk redactions across the entire document collection.
- Create and track exemption verification and approval workflows.
- QA work product and preserve all versions of produced documents.
- Batch review assignments and collaborate with other parties to fulfill the request.
- Create automated disclosure and exemption summaries.
- Standardize the production process. Produce in PDF, image, or electronic file formats.
- Provide online access to disclosure sets.
- Maintain a repository of disclosed/redacted information for future use.
- Manage the request lifecycle.
- Generate an annual performance report for DOJ.

Conclusion

Nuix has been providing investigation and eDiscovery solutions to organizations in the public and private sectors around the globe for over two decades. Nuix scales up or down to handle jobs of massive size or high volumes of requests containing small data volumes with the precision of your most onerous workflows. Nuix NLP adds a layer of intelligence that helps analysts quickly

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focus on what matters most. The combination of Nuix' proven track record, flexibility of deployment and core capabilities delivers an accessible path to meeting your organization's mandate for FOIA, without the need to add more human resources to eliminate backlog.