



OFFICE *of* GOVERNMENT
INFORMATION SERVICES

Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Advisory Committee

September 8, 2022

<https://www.archives.gov/ogis/foia-advisory-committee/2022-2024-term>



Welcome

Trouble with your computer audio on Webex?

Call 888-251-2949
Access code 7345 830#

We are also streaming at
<https://www.youtube.com/usnationalarchives>



National Archives Identifier 6600730



Welcome

Chat Tip

Chat “All Panelists” otherwise the Committee members and/or OGIS staff will not see your comments.



National Archives Identifier 208383217



Acting Archivist Welcome

Debra Steidel Wall

Acting Archivist of the United States





Welcome and Introduction of Committee

Alina M. Semo

Director, Office of Government
Information Services
and Chair, FOIA Advisory Committee





FOIA Advisory Committee: Responsibilities, Bylaws & Procedures



Kirsten B. Mitchell

Designated Federal Officer

FOIA Advisory Committee: Responsibilities, Bylaws & Procedures



National Archives Identifier 6010252

Authority

- Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 USC, App.
- FOIA, 5 USC § 552

Duties

- Study FOIA landscape
- Advise on improvements to FOIA



FOIA Advisory Committee: Responsibilities, Bylaws & Procedures

Designated Federal Officer

- Attend all Committee & Subcommittee meetings
- Prepare & approve meeting agendas
- Maintain records
- Chair meeting when so directed by AOTUS



National Archives Identifier 75854993



FOIA Advisory Committee: Responsibilities, Bylaws & Procedures

Committee members

- Attend Committee & Subcommittee meetings
- Submit items for agendas
- Deliberate & advise AOTUS
- Federal members only: annual financial disclosure for ethics review



FOIA Advisory Committee: Responsibilities, Bylaws & Procedures

Committee Structure

- Subcommittees report directly to Committee
- Subcommittees can include working groups
- Subcommittees present recommendations to the full Committee for deliberation



FOIA Advisory Committee: Responsibilities, Bylaws & Procedures

Subcommittees

- Each will have two chairs
 - One government member
 - One non-government member
- Report their work & findings & present recommendations to full Committee



National Archives Identifier 541774



FOIA Advisory Committee: Responsibilities, Bylaws & Procedures

Subcommittee Co-chairs

- Work with DFO to schedule meetings
- Set subcommittee meeting agendas
- Lead the subcommittee in its work
- Copy DFO on subcommittee correspondence



FOIA Advisory Committee: Responsibilities, Bylaws & Procedures

Bylaws

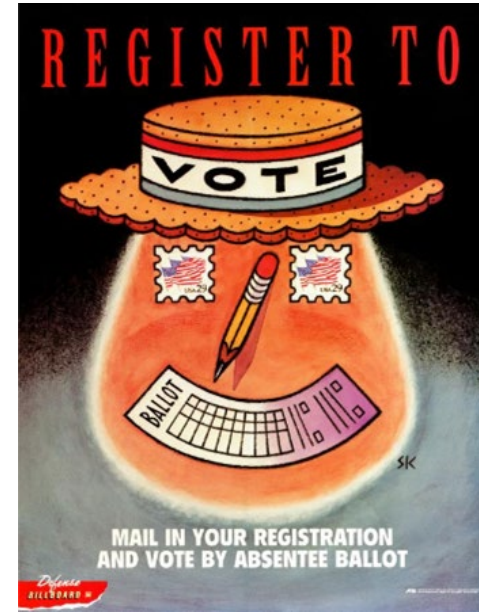
- Minutes in accordance with FACA
- Open meetings
- Public comments at determination of the chair
- Committee members must copy DFO on all Committee & Subcommittee correspondence
foia-advisory-committee@nara.gov



FOIA Advisory Committee: Responsibilities, Bylaws & Procedures

Deliberations & Voting

- Any Committee member, including the Chairperson, may move that the Committee vote
- No second required
- Only the Chairperson and members may vote



National Archives Identifier 6507475



FOIA Advisory Committee: Responsibilities, Bylaws & Procedures

Voting Procedures (Article 5)

- Two types of votes the FOIA Advisory Committee can take:
 - Voice Vote
 - Show of Hands
- Three types of decisions:
 - Unanimous: every member (except those absent)
 - General Consensus: at least 2/3 of total votes cast
 - General Majority: majority of the total votes cast



FOIA Advisory Committee: Responsibilities, Bylaws & Procedures

Contacts

foia-advisory-committee@nara.gov

Chairperson Alina M. Semo
alina.semo@nara.gov

Designated Federal Officer Kirsten B. Mitchell
kirsten.mitchell@nara.gov



Getting the Most out of Your Time on the Committee

Tom Susman

FOIA Advisory Committee
Member (2016 - present)





Passing the Baton: Ideas from the 2020-2022 Term to the 2022-2024 Term



David Cuillier & Patricia Weth

2020-2022 Committee Members



FOIA Advisory Committee

Public Comments

<https://www.archives.gov/ogis/foia-advisory-committee/public-comments>



National Archives Identifier 205581775



FOIA Advisory Committee

Mark your calendars!

The second meeting of the 2022-
2024 term is
Wednesday, September 14, 2022



National Archives Identifier 44267671