Meeting Minutes

The Subcommittee convened a meeting with the Department of Justice (Office of Information Policy). Subcommittee and Department of Justice members in attendance:

Delores Barber    Andrew Becker
Nate Jones        Brent Evitt
Ginger McCall     Martin Michalosky
Ramona Oliver     Melanie Pustay (DOJ)
Bobby Talebian (DOJ)   Anne Weismann
Mark Zaid

Others in attendance:

Amy Bennett (OGIS)
Christa Lemelin (OGIS), Designated Federal Officer

The Department of Justice (Office of Information Policy) provided a general overview of their responsibilities, which primarily focus on encouraging compliance with the FOIA and the oversight of compliance with the FOIA. The following details were provided:

1. Compliance with the FOIA
   a. Offer various training opportunities to individuals and agencies
   b. Provide reference material
   c. Provide advice
   d. Conduct outreach and engage requesters

2. Oversight of compliance with the FOIA
   a. Annual FOIA report requirement/analysis
   b. Chief FOIA Officer requirement/analysis
   c. Quarterly report requirement

Other matters discussed in relation to the Department of Justice:

1. Compliance inquiries from requesters in relation to an agency’s response to a FOIA request
2. Involvement with FOIA litigation

3. Relationship with the Office of Government Information Services

4. Public Liaison role

Relevant links to material referenced in the meeting by the Department of Justice (Office of Information Policy):

(http://www.justice.gov/oip/blog/foia-update-litigation-review-yields-greater-disclosure)

Department of Justice (OIP) FOIA Public Liaison Training