



Senior Agency Official for Records Management 2020 Annual Report

The National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) requires Senior Agency Officials for Records Management (SAORM) to provide an annual report demonstrating how agencies are handling important records management initiatives as identified by NARA.

NARA uses the reports to determine the overall progress of the Federal Government in managing its records and the transition away from paper to digital formats, and to identify best practices and model solutions within Federal agencies.

On June 28, 2019, the Office of Management and Budget and the National Archives issued a memorandum: *Transition to Electronic Records* (M-19-21) to ensure that all Federal records are created, retained, and managed in electronic formats by December 31, 2022. This year's SAORM report provides an opportunity for agencies to report on plans and progress towards the milestones and target goals in this memorandum, as well as other important records management initiatives.

The reporting period begins on January 19, 2021, and reports are due back to NARA no later than March 19, 2021.

NARA plans to post your 2020 SAORM report on the NARA website upon receipt. Please ensure that your agency's report is a publicly releasable version. This action is in the interest of transparency in Government and to promote collaboration and communication among agencies. NARA intends to list any non-responding agencies in a summary report and on the website.

Instructions for Reporting:

- This template covers both records management program developments towards the transition to electronic recordkeeping outlined in M-19-21 through December 31, 2022, and other aspects of agency records management programs.
- Please be brief and precise in your answers. Limit answers to each question to no more than 500 words.
- Please complete the questions/items below and send the report to rmsselfassessment@nara.gov. Include the words "SAORM 2020 Annual Report - [Agency Name]" in the subject line of the email.
- If you are responsible for records management in multiple agencies, components, or bureaus, please determine how you will submit reports to NARA. While NARA prefers a comprehensive report, you may submit separate reports for each component.

Provide the following information (required):

- Name of SAORM: N/A This report was prepared by Howard Sun
- Position title: Attorney Advisor
- Address: 730 Jackson PI NW, Washington DC 20503

1. What agencies, bureaus, components, or offices are covered by this report and your position as SAORM and which will be reporting separately?

Please provide a list, and also indicate any that are new or have been changed due to reorganization or other circumstances. Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ), Executive Office of the President (EOP).

2. Has the COVID-19 pandemic changed any policies or practices related to records management at your agency?

- Yes
 No
 Do not know

Please explain your response (include details of specific challenges, if applicable): Aside from an increase in teleworking, the COVID-19 pandemic did not significantly impact records management. Employees followed existing policies on teleworking and records created during teleworking. Access to physical records required coming into the office, which employees were free to do.

3. Does your agency have an established information governance framework that connects records management, data management, and other agency information lines of business? (A relationship between CIO, CDO, SAORM, DRO/ARO, RM Staff)

- Yes
 No
 Do not know

Please provide details on what support is needed: Due to CEQ's small size, there is no formal governance framework as described.

4. Has your agency made progress towards managing all permanent records in an electronic format with appropriate metadata by December 31, 2022? (M-19-21, 1.2)

- Yes

- No
- Do not know

Please explain your response (include specific goals and example metrics): The Executive Office of the President (EOP) is comprised of multiple components; Office of Administration (OA) provides enterprise-wide services, including information technology, for all EOP components. OA has acquired an object-based storage solution for long-term electronic records management. This storage solution includes the ability to manage metadata.

5. Has your agency made progress towards managing all temporary records in an electronic format by December 31, 2022? (M-19-21, 1.3)

- Yes
- No
- Do not know

Please explain your response (include specific goals and example metrics): The EOP is comprised of multiple components; OA provides enterprise-wide services, including information technology, for all EOP components. OA has acquired an object-based storage solution for long-term electronic records management. To the extent that temporary records are created in electronic format, these records are electronically managed.

6. Is your agency investing resources in IT to support the transition to electronic recordkeeping?

- Yes
- No
- Do not know

Please explain your response. If Yes: Please include specific examples of resources and how this will support records management processes. If No or Do not know: Please explain. CEQ does not have an IT team. However, CEQ's ARO is also the unofficial tech person in the agency.

7. To meet the requirements of M-19-21, 1.3, related to records storage facilities, does your agency have plans to use commercial storage to replace agency-operated records centers and NARA Federal Records Centers by December 31, 2022? (M-19-21, 1.3)

- Yes
- No
- Do not know

Please explain your response (include specific goals and example metrics): CEQ does not anticipate a need to use commercial storage after December 31, 2022.

- 8. Does your agency have policies and procedures that include documentation to ensure records of newly appointed and outgoing senior officials* are properly captured and/or processed and not improperly removed, altered, or deleted including electronic records and email?**

*Senior officials are the heads of departments and independent agencies; their deputies and assistants; the heads of program offices and staff offices including assistant secretaries, administrators, and commissioners; directors of offices, bureaus, or equivalent; principal regional officials; staff assistants to those aforementioned officials, such as special assistants, confidential assistants, and administrative assistants; and career Federal employees, political appointees, and officers of the Armed Forces serving in equivalent or comparable positions.

- Yes
 No
 Do not know

Please explain your response (include specific details of policies and procedures):

- 9. Do you, as the SAORM, see challenges within your agency in meeting the goal of fully-electronic recordkeeping?**

- Yes
 No
 Do not know

Please explain your response (include details of specific challenges, if applicable):

- 10. Do you have suggestions for NARA to improve its engagement with you as the SAORM?**

- Yes
 No
 Do not know

Please explain your response (include any comments on previous NARA SAORM engagements, topics for future engagements, or other suggestions):