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 13, 2020, with reports due back to NARA no later than March 13, 2020.

NARA plans to post your 2019 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 records management program developments towards the transition to electronic recordkeeping outlined in M-19-21 through December 31, 2019.
● 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 rmselfassessment@nara.gov. Include the words “SAORM 2019 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):

- Edward Anthony
- CIO
- 800 North Capital St., NW Washington 20573

1. What agencies, bureaus, components, or offices are covered by this report and your position as SAORM and which will be reporting separately? Please also indicate any that are new or have been changed due to reorganization or other circumstances.

Federal Maritime Commission

2. Is your agency managing all permanent electronic records in electronic format as of December 31, 2019? (M-19-21, 1.1)

X Yes
☐ No

The agency’s permanent electronic records are managed in electronic format via its FMC’s cloud-based information technology platform.

3. 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)

X Yes
☐ No

The Commission has implemented its initiative to manage its permanent records in compliance with the requirements M-19-21 and is on target to meet the deadline.

4. Has your agency made progress towards managing all temporary records in electronic format? (M-19-21, 1.3)

X Yes
☐ No

The Commission has implemented a multi-year digitization contract to manage its temporary records in compliance with the requirements M-19-21 and is on target to meet the December 31, 2022 mandate. The FMC will convert and maintain records in
an electronic format and fully automate electronic records management through SharePoint software as a file repository.

5. Have you, as the SAORM, taken steps to ensure that your records management program complies with the Federal Records Act and its regulations through strategic plans including performance goals, objectives and measures? (M-19-21, 1.4)

   X Yes
   ☐ No

   Please explain your response (include specific goals and example metrics):

   Yes, the FMC’s records management program complies with the Federal Records Act and is on schedule to meet all requirements in M-19-21. Records management goals are included in the FMC’s IT Strategic Plan for FY2018-FY2022.

6. If applicable, have you identified all agency-operated records centers and made plans to either close them before 2022, or have you submitted a request to NARA for an exception? (M-19-21, 1.3)

   ☐ Yes
   ☐ No

   N/A

7. Does your agency have procedures that include documentation to ensure records of 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.

   X Yes
   ☐ No

   The FMC conducted Records Management Refresher Training for all employees, contractors and senior officials in November 2019, and will do so annually. The Records Officer works with outgoing senior officials to ensure records are properly identified and transferred to the records officer for proper disposition.
8. Do you, as the SAORM, see challenges within your agency in meeting the goal of fully-electronic recordkeeping?

☐ Yes
X No

The Commission’s electronic-recordkeeping initiative is on schedule for completion by the mandated target due date.

9. Do you need support from NARA to ensure a successful transition to fully-electronic recordkeeping?

☐ Yes
X No

*Please provide details on what support is needed:*