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## Freedom of Information Act Program

**March 16, 2023: The U.S. Department of Commerce is in the process of moving to new FOIA case management system. March 31, 2023, at 5:00 p.m. Eastern, will be the final day and time to file FOIA requests through the FOIAonline portal for the U.S. Department of Commerce and its components. To submit a FOIA request electronically after March 31, 2023, at 5:00 p.m. Eastern, please do so through [www.FOIA.gov](http://www.FOIA.gov).**

The responsibility for the development and maintenance of Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) policies, procedures, and guidance is handled through the Office of Privacy and Open Government, FOIA Program. The FOIA Program Office is also responsible for oversight of the Department of Commerce's FOIA program.

The Department's FOIA operations are decentralized between 14 bureaus and operating units (BOUs). From this page, you can link to those BOUs and their electronic (on-line) FOIA libraries, learn about how the FOIA program is structured, and/or review our guidance and resources related to FOIA. You can also file and track the status of a request. The Department and its BOUs post a great deal of information on-line. If you are interested in making a request you may find the information you seek has already been posted. A good place to begin is in the [electronic FOIA Libraries](#).



## DEPARTMENT FOIA OFFICE

Department of Commerce  
Deputy Chief FOIA Officer and  
responsibilities, FOIA Mission  
Statement, and FOIA Council's  
authority and responsibilities.



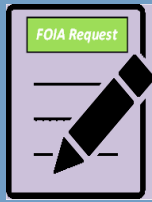
## BOU FOIA PROGRAMS

The responsibility for the  
development and maintenance of  
FOIA policies, procedures, and  
guidance is handled through the  
Office of Privacy and Open  
Government, FOIA Program  
Office.



## The FOIA

The FOIA generally provides that  
any person has the right to  
request access to federal agency  
records or information except to  
the extent the records are  
protected from disclosure by any  
of nine exemptions contained in  
the law or by one of three special  
law enforcement record  
exclusions.

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## FOIA REQUESTS

A FOIA request is a request submitted to a federal agency asking for access to agency records on any topic. A FOIA request can generally be made by any person, to any federal agency, and only requires that requesters reasonably describe the records they are seeking and comply with agency regulations for making such requests.



## ELECTRONIC FOIA LIBRARY

The electronic FOIA Library contains materials such as certain agency manuals, specific agency policy statements, and opinions developed in the adjudication of cases. The information you are requesting may be located in our FOIA Library. Please check the Library before submitting a FOIA request.



## FOIA REPORTS

All agencies are required by law to report to the Department of Justice on their FOIA compliance through submission of Annual FOIA Reports and Chief FOIA Officer Reports. All agencies are also required to provide quarterly reporting of four key FOIA statistics to the Department of Justice that will be posted on FOIA.gov.

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## RESOURCES

List of FOIA-related resources.



## TRAINING

List of FOIA-related training opportunities.



## Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

Frequently asked questions and factual information about the website.

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## Questions and Comments

Send Questions or Comments on the Commerce Open Government program to [eFOIA@doc.gov](mailto:eFOIA@doc.gov).

Office of Privacy and Open Government  
Office of the Chief Financial Officer and Assistant Secretary for Administration  
U.S. Department of Commerce

March 16, 2023