

THE INDIANA PUBLIC ACCESS COUNSELOR

2016 ANNUAL REPORT
TO THE INDIANA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

CONTENTS

PART I: ANNUAL REPORT NARRATIVE

- Mission
- Vision
- Public Access Counselor and Staff
- Legislation
- Advisory Opinions
- Informal Opinions
- Telephone and Electronic Mail Inquiries
- Education and Presentations
- Handbook and Other Educational Material
- Public Access Counselor Website
- Oversight Committee on Public Records

PART II: KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

- Inquiries
- Formal Opinions

PART III: APPENDICES

- A: Presentations, Training, and Education
- B: Advisory Opinions Issued in Response to Formal Complaints



STATE OF INDIANA

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PART I: ANNUAL REPORT NARRATIVE

MISSION

The Public Access Counselor provides advice and assistance concerning Indiana's public access laws to members of the public and government officials and their employees.

VISION

The Office of the Public Access Counselor is dedicated to carrying out its mission by employing the following philosophy:

“A fundamental philosophy of the American constitutional form of representative government is that government is the servant of the people and not their master. Accordingly, it is the public policy of the state that all persons are entitled to full and complete information regarding the affairs of government and the official acts of those who represent them as public officials and employees. Providing persons with the information is an essential function of a representative government and an integral part of the routine duties of public officials and employees, whose duty it is to provide the information. This chapter shall be liberally construed to implement this policy and place the burden of proof for the nondisclosure of a public record on the public agency that would deny access to the record and not on the person seeking to inspect and copy the record.” -Indiana Code § 5-14-3-1 through 5-14-3-10

“...It is the intent of this chapter that the official action of public agencies be conducted and taken openly, unless otherwise expressly provided by statute, in order that the people may be fully informed...” -Indiana Code 5-14-1.5-1.

PUBLIC ACCESS COUNSELOR AND STAFF

Public Access Counselor Luke H. Britt was appointed by Governor Mike Pence to serve as Indiana's Seventh PAC. Britt previously served as an attorney and operations manager for the Indiana State Department of Health and as an attorney for the Indiana Department of Child Services. The PAC also employs a full-time legal assistant, Mrs. Dale Brewer. The office of the Public Access Counselor also utilizes the assistance of seasonal interns.

LEGISLATION

The 2016 Legislative session produced multiple laws that have the potential to significantly impact the record-keeping abilities of public agencies. Enrolled House Bill 1019 establishes a procedure for the retention and release of law enforcement recordings. Likely most significant, this law requires a state agency to retain all law enforcement recordings for at least two hundred eighty (280) days. *See* Ind. Code § 5-14-3-5.3. This onerous retention schedule will likely impact the adoption and use of police body cameras by local law enforcement agencies due to the sheer expense of storing these files.

ADVISORY OPINIONS

The PAC has received a record number of formal complaints in 2015-2016 with 297 complaints filed. From July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016, the PAC anticipates issuing 258 written advisory opinions in response to formal complaints (28 are pending at the time of the submission of this report and several were withdrawn or rejected). *See* Ind. Code 5-14-5 regarding the complaint process. Pursuant to Ind. Code § 5-14-5-9, an advisory opinion must be issued within thirty calendar days of receipt of a formal complaint. One-hundred percent of opinions met that benchmark and 88% of opinions were issued within thirty business days. The deadline for priority complaints is seven days. *See* Ind. Code § 5-14-5-10; 62 IAC 1. *See* Appendix B for a detailed list.

INFORMAL OPINIONS

In addition to advisory opinions in response to formal complaints, the PAC issues written informal opinions pursuant to Ind. Code § 5-14-4-10(5). The PAC issued thirty-eight (38) informal opinions for the period July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016.

TELEPHONE AND ELECTRONIC MAIL INQUIRIES

Our most important metric is interaction with the public. The PAC Office has experienced a 41% increase in activity over last year and nearly a 200% increase since 2012. From July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016, the two PAC staff members received and responded to 4,956 inquiries via telephone and electronic mail, as compared to 4,245 in FY 2015 and 3003 inquiries received in FY 2014. Approximately 97% of all general inquiries were responded to within 48 hours. The remaining 3% were due to weekends, holidays and out-of-office time.

EDUCATION AND PRESENTATIONS

The Public Access Counselor made 32 educational presentations in FY 2016. The focus of this Public Access Counselor has been expanding educational awareness on the Access to Public Records Act and the Open Door Law to the public and government officials. These educational presentations have given the Public Access Counselor the opportunity to travel across the state, speaking to audiences ranging from small town halls to the Indiana General Assembly. Luke Britt has also expanded the use of technology in the Office by participating

in Webinars and through the use of the website. Appendix A contains a list of presentations made.

HANDBOOK AND OTHER EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS

The Public Access Handbook was revised in FY 2013, the first print update of the Handbook since 2008. The Handbook is issued by the PAC and the Office of the Attorney General pursuant to Ind. Code § 5-14-4-10(3). The Hoosier State Press Association assisted significantly with the production of the Handbook. The Handbook is a resource utilized by many public officials and the public at large, and the PAC receives many requests for the print version of the Handbook. The Handbook is posted on the PAC's website, www.IN.gov/pac, and the PAC encourages individuals and agencies to download it from the website at no charge. The PAC anticipates revising this Handbook again to reflect changes in Indiana Code and case law from the 2015 Session of the Indiana General Assembly.

In addition to the Handbook, the Counselor also prepared slides and handouts for participants at the educational seminars to which the Counselor was invited. Because the PAC budget will not allow the PAC to provide copies of slides and handouts to attendees at all events (some of which number in the hundreds), the PAC generally asks the sponsoring organization to provide copies for attendees. The PAC makes copies of all slide presentations available via the PAC website. The PAC Handbook has not been updated as changes to public access statutes has been minimal since 2013.

PUBLIC ACCESS COUNSELOR WEBSITE

The Office of the Public Access Counselor maintains a website at www.in.gov/pac. The website contains formal advisory and informal opinions that have been issued since 1998. In addition to the resources listed in previous paragraphs, the website contains upcoming and past presentations of the PAC, sample letters and meeting notices, frequently asked questions, previous year's Annual Reports, and other resources.

The PAC and his staff has expended a significant amount of resources in updating the materials on the PAC website in 2015 – most of which had not been updated since 2008. These materials are currently up to date as of June 2016.

OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC RECORDS

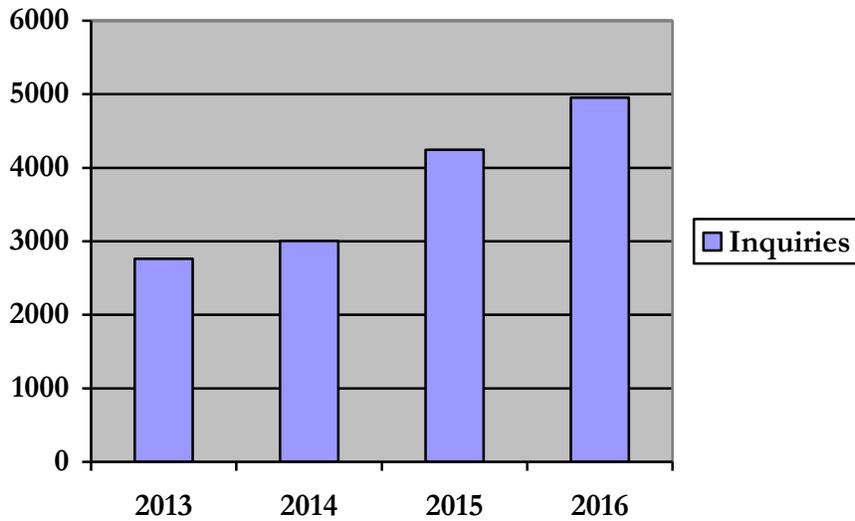
Pursuant to Ind. Code § 5-15-5.1-18, the Public Access Counselor serves on the of the Oversight Committee on Public Records, the governing body for the Indiana Commission on Public Records (“OCPR”). The OCPR is a governor-appointed committee which sets public records retention schedules for Indiana's state and local governments. Luke H. Britt was elected as interim chairman of the committee in October 2015 and confirmed as full-serving chairman in January 2016.

PART II: KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

INQUIRIES

The PAC office receives a large number of inquiries regarding Indiana’s public access laws. From July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016, there were a total of 4,956 inquiries. This figure includes all communications received via telephone and electronic mail from the public, media, and government agencies. Of the 4,956 inquiries received, 100% were responded to and resolved.

Inquiries Received	
Public	1,885
Media	475
Government	2,596
Total	4,956



FORMAL COMPLAINTS

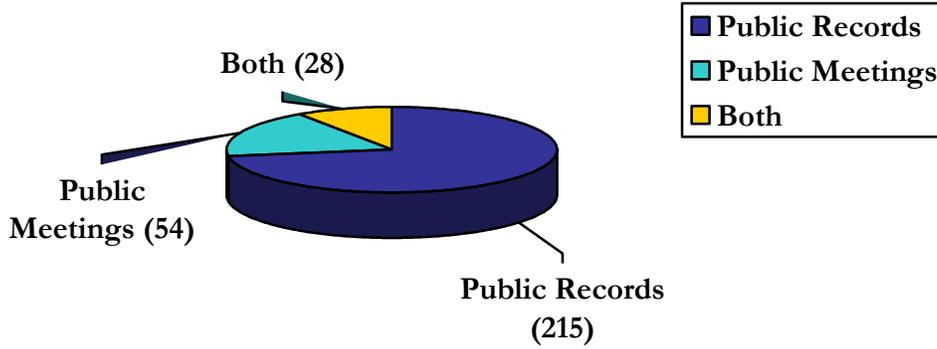
One of the primary roles of the Public Access Counselor is to interpret the public access laws and issue advisory opinions when a formal request is received from a person or public agency. A formal complaint may be filed against any public agency for denial of access to a public record or denial of the right to attend a public meeting or a public agency. The total number of formal complaints received from July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016 was 392.

Formal Complaints Filed	
Public	333
Public At Large	(220)
Offenders	(113)
Media	47
Government	12
Total	392

While the PAC office received nearly 400 formal complaints during the 2016 fiscal year, a number were withdrawn or rejected. Additionally, two formal complaints were submitted and then a lawsuit was filed. The counselor may not issue an advisory opinion concerning a matter if a lawsuit has been filed under the Open Door Law or the Access to Public Records Act. The PAC issued a total of 283 formal advisory opinions with an additional 34 opinions pending.

Status of Formal Complaints Filed	
Withdrawn	15
Rejected	21
Lawsuit Filed	3
Advisory Opinion - Issued	230
- Pending	28

A formal complaint may be filed against any public agency for denial of access to a public record or denial of the right to attend a public meeting of a public agency in violation of the Access to Public Records Act, the Open Door Law or another statute that governs access to public records or public meetings. The majority of complaints received by the Public Access Counselor during the 2016 fiscal year were related to public records requests.



The PAC office receives formal complaints concerning a wide variety of public agencies across Indiana. The three most categories of agencies against which the most complaints are filed are state, county, and city agencies.

Formal Complaints Received Regarding:	
State Agencies	55
County Agencies	97
City Agencies	48
Town Agencies	44
Township Agencies	8
School Corporations	13
Other Local Agencies	24
Universities	4
Other	4

PART III: APPENDICES

APPENDIX A

PRESENTATIONS, TRAINING AND EDUCATION

July 1, 2015- June 30, 2016

2015

August 5 – Association of Indiana Wastewater Management Districts, Bloomington, IN
August 18 – Indiana Continuing Legal Education Forum, Digital Access, Indianapolis, IN
August 26 – Indiana General Assembly Summer Study Committee, Indianapolis, IN
September 11 – WTIU Television, Bloomington, IN
September 14 – League of Women’s Voters, Greencastle, IN
September 16 – Vincennes Police Department, Vincennes, IN
September 22 – Marion County Judiciary Continuing Legal Education, Indianapolis, IN
September 23 – Civic Engagement Seminar, Fort Wayne, IN
September 25 – Church, Church, Hittle and Atrim Training Presentation, Noblesville, IN
October 8 – Porter County Library In-Service Training, Valparaiso, IN
October 9 – Indiana Chapter of the American Planning Association, South Bend, IN
October 29 – Northwest Indiana Library Association, Valparaiso, IN
December 1 - Indiana Networking for Documents and Information of Government Organizations, Indianapolis, IN
December 2 – Indiana Association of County Boards of Commissioners, Indianapolis, IN
December 3 - Indiana Association of Administrative Law Judges, Indianapolis, IN
December 5 – Hoosier State Press Association Newsroom Seminar, Indianapolis, IN
December 8 – Indiana Rural Water Association, Columbus, IN
December 17 – Indiana Ethics and Legal Conference, Indianapolis, IN

2016

January 20 – Indiana Association of Cities and Towns, Indianapolis, IN
January 26 – Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis
January 27 – White River Valley School Corporation, Switz City, IN

February 2 – Alcohol and Tobacco Commission In-Service Training, Indianapolis, IN

February 3 – AISWMD Annual Conference, Plainfield, IN

February 29 – University of Indianapolis Sunshine Week, Indianapolis, IN

March 9 – NE Indiana Emergency Medical Services Organization, Fort Wayne, IN

March 15 – Butler University, Indianapolis, IN

April 21 – Indiana Environmental Health Association, Whitley County, IN

April 26 – Indiana Recorder's Association, Indianapolis, IN

May 18 - Indiana Continuing Legal Education Forum, Indianapolis, IN

June 16 – State Agency Public Information Officers Address, Indianapolis, IN

June 18 – Association of Indiana County Councils, Shelbyville, IN

June 20 – Association of Indiana Charter Schools, Indianapolis, IN

APPENDIX B

ADVISORY OPINIONS ISSUED IN RESPONSE TO FORMAL COMPLAINTS

July 1, 2015-June 30, 2016

2015

- [15-FC-168: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Ports of Indiana;](#)
- [15-FC-169: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by Pendleton Correctional Facility](#)
- [15-FC-170: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Marion County Clerk's Office;](#)
- [15-FC-171: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Legislative Services Agency](#)
- [15-FC-173: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Indiana Ombudsman Bureau;](#)
- [15-FC-176: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Indianapolis Department of Code Enforcement;](#)
- [15-FC-177: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by Pendleton Correctional Facility;](#)
- [15-FC-178: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act and the Open Door Law by the Anderson Corporation for Economic Development;](#)
- [15-FC-179: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Spencer County Prosecutor's Office;](#)
- [15-FC-180: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the City of Lawrence Controller;](#)
- [15-FC-181, 182 and 183 \(Consolidated\); Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Brown County Prosecutor's Office; Brown County Sheriff's Office; and Brown County Board of Health](#)
- [15-FC-184: Alleged Violation of the Open Door Law by Monroe Township Trustee;](#)
- [15-FC-185: Alleged Violation of the Open Door Law by the Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department;](#)
- [15-FC-186: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the City of New Albany and the New Albany Police Department;](#)

- [15-FC-187 \(Priority\): Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Marion County Circuit Court;](#)
- [15-FC-188: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the City of South Bend;](#)
- [15-FC-190: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Lake Station Police Department;](#)
- [15-FC-191: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the City of New Albany](#)
- [15-FC-192: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act and the Open Door Law by the Putnam County Convention and Visitor's Bureau;](#)
- [15-FC-194: Alleged Open Records Violation of The Marion County Auditor's Office](#)
- [15-FC-195: Alleged Violation of the Open Door Law and the Access to Public Records Act by the Town of Kingsford Heights;](#)
- [15-FC-196: Alleged Violation of the Open Door Law by the Hartford City Library;](#)
- [15-FC-197: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act and the Open Door Law by the Town of Long Beach Building Commission](#)
- [15-FC-198: Alleged Violation of Access to Public Records Act by the City of Evansville](#)
- [15-FC-199: Alleged Violation of Access to Public Records Act by the Indiana Department of Correction](#)
- [15-FC-201: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Indiana University; Office of the Vice President and General Counsel;](#)
- [15-FC-200 & 218 \(Consolidated\): Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Metropolitan School District of Washington Township;](#)
- [15-FC-202: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Northwestern Wayne School Corporation;](#)
- [15-FC-205: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the State of Indiana Election Division;](#)
- [15-FC-207: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the City of Indianapolis Information Services Agency;](#)
- [15-FC-208: Alleged Violation of the Open Door Law by the Peru Parks Board;](#)
- [15-FC-209: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Indiana Finance Authority;](#)

- [15-FC-210: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Putnam County Prosecutor's Office;](#)
- [15-FC-211: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Putnam County Convention and Visitor Bureau;](#)
- [15-FC-212: Alleged Violation of the Open Door Law by the Columbus City Council;](#)
- [15-FC-213: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the City of Indianapolis;](#)
- [15-FC-214: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Indiana Department of Correction, Wabash Valley Correctional Facility;](#)
- [15-FC-215: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Town of Dune Acres, Town of Dune Acres Plan Commission;](#)
- [15-FC-216: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Indiana Department of Education;](#)
- [15-FC-217: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Bartholomew Superior Court No. 2;](#)
- [15-FC-219: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Floyd County Prosecutor's Office;](#)
- [15-FC-220: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Office of Corporation Counsel for the City of Indianapolis and the Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department;](#)
- [15-FC-221: Alleged Violation of the Open Door Law by the Dyer Planning Commission \(Amended\);](#)
- [15-FC-222: Alleged Violation of the Open Door Law by Ball State University;](#)
- [15-FC-223: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Putnam County Circuit Court \(Amended\);](#)
- [15-FC-225: Alleged Violation of the Open Door Law by the Town of Mentone;](#)
- [15-FC-226: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Town Council of Dune Acres;](#)
- [15-FC-227: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Indiana Department of Child Services;](#)
- [15-FC-228: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Linton Police Department;](#)
- [15-FC-229: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Indiana State Police;](#)

[15-FC-230: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Grant County Public Defender Office;](#)

[15-FC-231: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the City of Charlestown;](#)

[15-FC-232: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Indiana Department of Correction;](#)

[15-FC-233: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the East Chicago Police Department;](#)

[15-FC-234: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Washington Township Avon Fire Department;](#)

[15-FC-235: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Hendricks County Clerk's Office;](#)

[15-FC-237: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Harrison County Clerk's Office;](#)

[15-FC-238: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Hendricks County Probation Department;](#)

[15-FC-239: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the City of Indianapolis and the Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department;](#)

[15-FC-241: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Vanderburgh County Department of Health;](#)

[15-FC-242 \(Priority\): Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Marion County Clerk Office;:](#)

[15-FC-243: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Marion County Prosecutor's Office;](#)

[15-FC-244: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Lake Station Police Department;](#)

[15-FC-245: Alleged Violation of the Open Door Law by the Clarksville Redevelopment Steering Committee;](#)

[15-FC-246: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the State Board of Accounts;](#)

[15-FC-247: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the City of Indianapolis and the Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department;](#)

[15-FC-248: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the City of New Albany; Honorable Jeff Gahan, Mayor and Ms. Linda Moeller, Controller;](#)

- [15-FC-250: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Marion Superior Court 6;](#)
- [15-FC-251: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Miami Correctional Facility;](#)
- [15-FC-252: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Indiana State Police Laboratory;](#)
- [15-FC-253: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the City of Indianapolis, Office of the Corporation Counsel;](#)
- [15-FC-254: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Marion Superior Court;](#)
- [15-FC-255: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Indiana State Police;](#)
- [15-FC-256: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Indiana State Police Records Division and Indiana State Police Division 33;](#)
- [15-FC-257: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the State of Indiana, Secretary of State Election Division;](#)
- [15-FC-258: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the City of Lake Station Police Department;](#)
- [15-FC-259: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Indiana State Public Defender Office;](#)
- [15-FC-260: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Vanderburgh County Superior Court;](#)
- [15-FC-261 \(Priority\): Alleged Violation of the Open Door Law by the Town of St. John Metropolitan Board Police Commissioners;](#)
- [15-FC-262: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Metropolitan Evansville Transit System;](#)
- [15-FC-263: \(Priority\); Alleged Violation of the Open Door Law by the Town of Brownsburg; Grant Kleinheinz, Town Manager;](#)
- [15-FC-265: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Lake County Superior Court, Criminal Division Room 1;](#)
- [15-FC-266: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the City of Gary Law Department;](#)
- [15-FC-267: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Clerk of the Elkhart Circuit Court;](#)

- [15-FC-268: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Town of Schererville, Office of the Clerk-Treasurer;](#)
- [15-FC-269: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Brown County Sheriff's Office;](#)
- [15-FC-270: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the City of South Bend Law Department;](#)
- [15-FC-271: Alleged Violation of Public Access Laws by the Jasper County Planning and Development Department \(Amended\);](#)
- [15-FC-273: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the St. Joseph County Commissioners;](#)
- [15-FC-274: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Pendleton Correctional Facility;](#)
- [15-FC-275: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Indiana Department of Correction;](#)
- [15-FC-276: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the St. Joseph Superior Court;](#)
- [15-FC-277: Alleged Violation of the Open Door Law by the Town of Mentone Town Board;](#)
- [15-FC-278: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the LaGrange County Regional Utility District;](#)
- [15-FC-279 & 15-FC-280: \(Consolidated\); Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act and the Open Door Law by the Town of New Whiteland Police Department and the Town Council;](#)
- [15-FC-281: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Indiana Parole Board;](#)
- [15-FC-282: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Office of the Governor](#)
- [15-FC-283: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the City of Gary Law Department;](#)
- [15-FC-284: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department;](#)
- [15-FC-285: Alleged Violation of the Open Door Law by the Kennard Town Council;](#)
- [15-FC-287: \(Priority\); Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act and the Open Door Law by the City of Indianapolis;](#)

- [15-FC-288: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Saint Joseph County Assessor's Office;](#)
- [15-FC-289: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Elkhart County Sheriff's Department;](#)
- [15-FC-290: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Elkhart Superior Court;](#)
- [15-FC-291: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the City of Fort Wayne](#)
- [15-FC-293: Alleged Violation of the Open Door Law by the LaGrange County Board of Commissioners;](#)
- [15-FC-294: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Greater Clark County Schools;](#)
- [15-FC-297: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Clerk of the Madison County Circuit Court;](#)
- [15-FC-299: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Town of St. John;](#)
- [15-FC-300: \(Priority\); Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Dearborn County Health Department;](#)
- [15-FC-301: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Bartholomew County Clerk \(amended\)1;](#)
- [15-FC-302: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the State of Indiana, Indiana Finance Authority;](#)
- [15-FC-303: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Town of St. John Clerk-Treasurer's Office;](#)
- [15-FC-304: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the LaGrange County Regional Utility District;](#)
- [15-FC-305: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the City of Richmond Department of Law;](#)
- [15-FC-307: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Putnam County Convention and Visitor Bureau;](#)
- [15-FC-308: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Town of Long Beach Board of Zoning Appeals;](#)
- [15-FC-309: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Michigan City Area Schools;](#)

- [15-FC-310: Alleged Violation of the Open Door Law by the City of Sullivan Clerk-Treasurer;](#)
- [15-FC-311: Alleged Violation of the Access to Open Door Law by the Vanderburgh County Election Board;](#)
- [15-FC-312: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the State of Indiana, Indiana Department of Transportation;](#)
- [15-FC-313: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Hendricks County Commissioner's Office;](#)
- [15-FC-314: Alleged Violation of the Open Door Law by the East Allen County Schools Board; Board President Chris Baker;](#)
- [15-FC-315: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the State of Indiana, Family and Social Services Administration;](#)
- [15-FC-316: Alleged Violation of the Open Door Law by the Tri Creek School Corporation;](#)
- [15-FC-317: Alleged Violation of the Open Door Law by the Franklin County Commissioners](#)
- [15-FC-318: Alleged Violation of the Open Door Law by the Town of St. John, Town Council](#)
- [15-FC-319: Alleged Violation of the Open Door Law by the Miami County Board of Commissioners](#)
- [15-FC-320: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Marion County Prosecuting Attorney](#)
- [15-FC-322: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Marion Superior Court Criminal Division 1](#)
- [15-FC-323: Alleged Violation of the Open Door Law by the Town of Hymera](#)
- [15-FC-324: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the South Central Community School Corporation;](#)
- [15-FC-325: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Marion Superior Court 6](#)
- [15-FC-326: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Porter County Prosecutor's Office;](#)
- [15-FC-327: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Marion Police Department;](#)

[15-FC-328: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Dearborn County Circuit Court;](#)

[15-FC-330: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Spencer County Sheriff's Department](#)

[15-FC-331: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Clerk of the Lake Circuit/Superior Court](#)

[15-FC-332: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Office of the Governor](#)

[15-FC-333: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Office of the Lake County Prosecuting Attorney](#)

[15-FC-334: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the State of Indiana Department of Correction](#)

[15-FC-335: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the City of Indianapolis, Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department](#)

2016

[16-FC-01: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the State of Indiana Department of Transportation](#)

[16-FC-02: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the City of Greenwood;](#)

[16-FC-05: Alleged Violation of the Open Door Law by the Gary/Chicago International Airport Authority; Daniel Vicari, Interim Director](#)

[16-FC-06: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Lawrenceburg Municipal Utilities](#)

[16-FC-07: Alleged Violation of the Open Door Law by the Town of Orland Town Council](#)

[16-FC-08: Alleged Violation of the Open Door Law by the Town of New Richmond Town Council;](#)

[16-FC-09: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the North Putnam High School](#)

[16-FC-10: Alleged Violation of the Open Door Law by the Town of Danville Police Commission and the Town of Danville Town Council \(Consolidated\)](#)

[16-FC-11: Alleged Violation of the Open Door Law by the Delaware County Board of Commissioners;](#)

16-FC-12: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Westfield Police Department;

16-FC-13: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Allen County Superior Court;

16-FC-14: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act and the Open Door Law by the Town of Sunman;

16-FC-15: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Indiana Economic Development Corporation;

16-FC-16: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the State of Indiana, Indiana Department of Correction;

16-FC-17: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Porter Superior Court #1;

16-FC-18: Alleged Violation of the Open Door Law by the White River Valley School District;

16-FC-20: Alleged Violation of the Open Door Law by the Town of Georgetown Town Council

16-FC-21: Alleged Violation of the Open Door Law by the East Allen County Schools Board

16-FC-22: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis, Graduate and Professional Student Government;

16-FC-23: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by Ball State University;

16-FC-24: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Clerk of Putnam Circuit Court

16-FC-25: Alleged Violation of the Open Door Law by the Town of Dugger, Town Council;

16-FC-26: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by Center Township Trustee Office;

16-FC-27: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Bartholomew County Auditor;

16-FC-28: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Saint Joseph County Police Department;

16-FC-29: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the State of Indiana, Indiana Department of Education;

[16-FC-32: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act and the Open Door Law by Trine University;](#)

[16-FC-34: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by State of Indiana, Indiana Department of Education;](#)

[16-FC-36: Alleged Violation of the Open Door Law by the Ripley County Commissioners](#)

[16-FC-37: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by Town of Kempton Clerk-Treasurer;](#)

[16-FC-38: \(Priority\); Alleged Violation of the Open Door Law by the Porter County Prosecutor's Office;](#)

[16-FC-40: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by Marion Superior Court 13;](#)

[16-FC-41: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by Twin Lakes Regional Sewer District;](#)

[16-FC-42: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by Town of Milton Clerk's Office;](#)

[16-FC-43: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Town of Worthington;](#)

[16-FC-44: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Clay County Recorder;](#)

[16-FC-45: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Madison County Board of Commissioners;](#)

[16-FC-47: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Dearborn County Sheriff Department;](#)

[16-FC-48: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Dearborn County Superior Court 2;](#)

[16-FC-49: Alleged Violation of the Open Door Law by the Jackson Township Board of Trustees, Hamilton County;](#)

[16-FC-50: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the New Castle Correctional Facility;](#)

[16-FC-51: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Logansport Municipal Utilities;](#)

[16-FC-52: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Indiana State Police;](#)

- [16-FC-53: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Brownsburg Police Department;](#)
- [16-FC-54: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Tippecanoe County Clerk of the Courts;](#)
- [16-FC-55: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Office of the Governor;](#)
- [16-FC-56: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Fayette County Clerk of the Courts;](#)
- [16-FC-57: Alleged Violation of the Open Door Law by the Town of Long Beach Advisory Plan Commission;](#)
- [16-FC-58: Alleged Violation of the Open Door Law and the Access to Public Records Act by the Town of Kingsford Heights Town Council;](#)
- [16-FC-59: Alleged Violation of the Open Door Law by the Bloomington Township Board](#)
- [16-FC-60: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Michigan City Area Schools \(Consolidated\)](#)
- [16-FC-61: Alleged Violation of the Open Door Law by the Town of Elnora Town Council \(Consolidated\)](#)
- [16-FC-63: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Wayne County Sheriff's Office](#)
- [16-FC-64: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Mishawaka Police Department](#)
- [16-FC-65: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Michigan City Police Department](#)
- [16-FC-66: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the North Judson - San Pierre School Board](#)
- [16-FC-67: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Health & Hospital Corporation of Marion County; Ms. Tavonna Harris Askew](#)
- [16-FC-68: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the City of East Chicago](#)
- [16-FC-69: Alleged Violation of the Open Door Law by the City of Garrett;](#)
- [16-FC-71: Alleged Violation of the Open Door Law by the Town of Kingsford Heights Town Council](#)

- [16-FC-72: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Working Men's Institute;](#)
- [16-FC-73: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Lafayette Police Department](#)
- [16-FC-74: Alleged Violation of the Open Door Law by the Indian Creek Township Trustee;](#)
- [16-FC-75: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Indiana Economic Development Corporation;](#)
- [16-FC-76: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Madison County Prosecutor's Office;](#)
- [16-FC-77: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Putnam County Convention and Visitors Bureau;](#)
- [16-FC-78: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Allen County Superior Court;](#)
- [16-FC-79: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act and the Open Door Law by the Town of New Whiteland Town Council;](#)
- [16-FC-82 and 95 \(Consolidated\): Alleged Violation of the Open Door Law by the City of Columbus Redevelopment Commission;](#)
- [16-FC-83: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the City of Terre Haute, Office of the Controller;](#)
- [16-FC-85: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Johnson County Prosecutor's Office;](#)
- [16-FC-87: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the City of Muncie;](#)
- [16-FC-89: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Metropolitan Evansville Transit System;](#)
- [16-FC-90: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Allen County Office of the Prosecuting Attorney;](#)
- [16-FC-92: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Clark County Planning and Zoning Office;](#)
- [16-FC-93: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Putnamville Correctional Facility Education Department;](#)
- [16-FC-96: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Morgan County Board of Commissioners;](#)

- [16-FC-98: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Miami Correctional Facility;](#)
- [16-FC-100: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Boone County Sheriff's Office; Sheriff Michael Nielsen;](#)
- [16-FC-101: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Madison County Clerk's Office;](#)
- [16-FC-103: Alleged Violation of the Open Door Law by the Town of Elnora Town Council;](#)
- [16-FC-105: Alleged Violation of the Open Door Law by the Madison County Board of Commissioners;](#)
- [16-FC-106: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Freelandville Regional Sewer District;](#)
- [16-FC-107: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by Indiana University;](#)
- [16-FC-108: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Lake County Board of Elections and Voter Registration;](#)
- [16-FC-109 & 110 \(Consolidated\); Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Johnson County Sheriff's Department and Johnson County Attorney and the Franklin City Court, Respectively;](#)
- [16-FC-111: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Vigo County Auditor;](#)
- [16-FC-112: Alleged Violation of the Open Door Law by the Crawford County Community School Corporation Board of Trustees \(Consolidated\)](#)
- [16-FC-113: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Lake County Treasurer](#)
- [16-FC-116: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Bartholomew County Sheriff's Office](#)
- [16-FC-117: \(Priority\); Alleged Violation of the Open Door Law by the Tipton County Board of Commissioners;](#)
- [16-FC-120: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the State of Indiana, Indiana Parole Board](#)
- [16-FC-125: Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the LaPorte County Board of Commissioners](#)
- [16-FC-134 \(Priority\); Alleged Violation of the Open Door Law and the Access to Public Records Act by Indiana University-Purdue University Fort Wayne](#)

INFORMAL OPINIONS ISSUED IN RESPONSE TO INFORMAL
COMPLAINTS

July 1, 2015-June 30, 2016

2015

[15-INF-14: Dept. of Education State Advisory Council on the Education for Children with Disabilities;](#)

[15-INF-15: Confidentiality of Building Plans, Town of Long Beach;](#)

[15-INF-18: Final action in executive session;](#)

[15-INF-19: Administrative Meetings;](#)

[15-INF-20: Voice Mails;](#)

[15-INF-22: Timeliness;](#)

[15-INF-23: Requests for Public Records vs. Requests for Information;](#)

[15-INF-24: Disclosure of Constituent Communications by the Governor's Office](#)

[15-INF-26: Reasonable Particularity of Email Requests](#)

[15-INF-27: Confidentiality of Identification Cards;](#)

[15-INF-28: Physical Records;](#)

[15-INF-29: Motor Vehicle Records;](#)

[15-INF-31: Cemetery Records;](#)

[15-INF-32: Taxpayer Information and Trade Secrets;](#)

2016

[16-INF-01: Personal Information within INDOT Records;](#)

[16-INF-02: Clerk Treasurers and Executive Sessions;](#)

[16-INF-03: Secret Ballots;](#)

[16-INF-04: Non-Profit Corporations;](#)

[16-INF-05: Copy Fees for Bulk Records;](#)

[16-INF-07: Indiana High School Athletic Association;](#)

[16-INF-08: Attorney Invoices;](#)

[16-INF-09: Police Logs;](#)

[16-INF-10: Deputy Clerk-Treasurers and Executive Sessions;](#)

[16-INF-12: Copy fees for court records](#)

[16-INF-13: City of South Bend Common Council;](#)

[16-INF-14: Complaint against Johnson County Superior Court;](#)

[16-INF-15: Agency use of Confidential Information;](#)

[16-INF-16: Complaint against the Switzerland County Board of Commissioners](#)

[16-INF-17: River Ridge Development Authority](#)