Chief FOIA Officer Council Technology Committee Update for FOIA Advisory Committee

Co-Chairs:

Eric F. Stein, U.S. Department of State Michael Sarich, Veterans Health Administration

September 10, 2020

Created by the FOIA Advisory Committee

Membership:

• We have over 40 members from at least 25 departments/agencies

About Us

2020 Accomplishments:

- Report of the Technology Committee of the Chief FOIA Officers (CFO) Council – Best Practices and Recommendations
- OIP Best Practices Workshop: FOIA and Technology
- Technology Committee added about 25 new members
- Established Eight FOIA Technology Working Groups
- Developing Working Group Charters

The eight Technology Committee Working Groups:

FOIA Searches

FOIAXpress

FOIA Online

Artificial Intelligence

508 Compliance FOIA and Classified Information

Collaborative Tools

Video Redactions



Each working group is developing a charter with the scope of its responsibilities and target milestones for its work.

Video Redaction Working Group: Five Early Findings



Video record retention schedules can vary.



Tools vary in complexity- Match the tool to the job.



Litigation can drive video redaction schedules and agency resource allocation.



Earmarking funds for FOIA contractors with specialized skills can be efficient.



As you build your FOIA programs out- consider adding video redaction skills to PD's and performance plans.

Working Groups Next Steps

Finalize

Implement

Hold

Complete

Solicit

Finalize Working Group Charters

Implement Plans in Charters

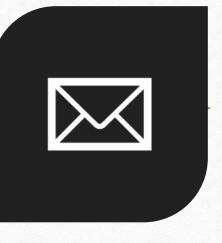
Hold Workshops on FOIA Technology Issues for the FOIA Community

• Upcoming one for FOIA professionals in Fall

Complete work on recommendations in February 2020 Report

Solicit Feedback from FOIA Advisory Committee, Chief FOIA Officer Council, federal agencies, and the public on topics of interest or shared best practices. Questions and Contact Information





ERIC F. STEIN,

STEINEF@STATE.GOV

MICHAEL SARICH, MICHAEL.SARICH@VA.GOV