

Laws - Forms - Info

After several inquiries from across the state, we have put this page together to try and provide assistance to those that are fed up with the status quo.

We will add things here as we have time, if something you are looking for is not here, please ask any questions you have and we will try to answer them.

Now for the disclaimer: We are not attorneys, and cannot offer legal advice. We will offer our opinions, based on reading, comprehension, and experience dealing with local governments.

Public Records on private or personal electronic devices:

This is an [interesting binding opinion](#) from the Illinois Attorney General dealing with what constitutes public information on private devices (personal cell phone, personal smart phones, personal email accounts, personal computers, etc.) – and that those public records, on a private device or not, cannot be deleted without approval from the Illinois [Local Records Commission](#) pursuant to the [Local Records Act](#).

The Illinois Association of School Boards wrote an excellent article on this subject, and [you can read it here](#).

Interesting Open Meetings Act Stuff

1. In regards to the “pending litigation” item to close a meeting:

In reference to “pending litigation” and attorney-client privilege for closed meetings...includes general legal advice. See Op. Att’y Gen. (Ill.) Nos. 83-004, 83-026. Finally, one point

must be emphasized – the root of the privilege is confidentiality, and thus any private meeting must be solely between the attorney and the school district authorities. The presence of other parties destroys the privilege. See *In re Busse's Estate*, 332 Ill.App. 258, 75 N.E.2d 36 (2d Dist. 1947).

2. Rules for public comment during meetings cannot be changed “on-the-fly”.

[State of Illinois Telephone Directory](#)

[Enabling Statutes for Special Districts in Illinois](#)

[Illinois Statutes that void contracts](#)

[Illinois Open Meetings Act](#)

[Guide to the Open Meetings Act](#)

[IL Atty Gen Open Meetings Act FAQ](#)

[CITIZEN ADVOCACY CENTER's: --> Journalist's Guide to the Illinois Open Meetings Act and Free Speech](#)

Sample Open Meetings Act Request For Review – Used when a public body violates the Open Meetings Act

[Illinois Freedom Of Information Act](#)

[AG Pre-Authorization Denial of FOIA Info](#)

[Guide to the Illinois FOIA](#)

Sample Freedom Of Information Act Request For Review – Used when a public body violates the Freedom Of Information Act

To View a Complaint For Declaratory Judgment and Injunctive Relief and other Motions and Memorandums ([Read this article](#)) – Used for a lawsuit when a public body allegedly violates the Freedom Of Information Act. This method should be used when a

belief exists that the public body has taken measures to either “punish” a FOIA requestor by making it cost money, or a belief that they willfully and intentionally try withholding public documents.

COOK COUNTY Legal Forms ([here](#))

SLAPP – Strategic Lawsuit Against Public Participation – This is what it is called when public officials attempt to file lawsuits claiming defamation/libel or anything else to keep you from exercising your rights to participate in government.

[Citizen Participation Act](#) – or the Illinois Anti-SLAPP law. [he Citizen Media Law Project](#) has written an [article on this subject](#).

Supreme Court and Appellate Court [Opinions \(Searchable\)](#)

Links to other Laws and Statutes in Illinois

[1970 Illinois Constitution](#) and Article VII, VIII, and XIII have been the most useful so far

[Illinois Compiled Statutes](#) and the [ILCS Alphabetical Listings](#)

[Counties Code](#)

[Illinois Townships Code](#)

[Illinois Municipal Code](#)

[Illinois Public Water District Act](#)

[Illinois Local Mass Transit District Act](#)

Comprehensive listing of Illinois Attorney General Binding [Opinions 1971-2011](#)

Illinois Attorney General [2012 Binding Opinions](#)

[Illinois Schools Code](#)

Illinois Emergency Telephone System (ETSB) (911 Office)

[Illinois Election Code](#) and [Campaign Finance Search](#)

Hatch Act – <http://www.osc.gov/hatchact.htm>

Illinois Property Tax Code – [PTAX 1004](#)

Attorney Registration and Disciplinary Commission – [Complaint Form](#)

[Professional Engineering Practice Act of 1989](#)

[Pinal County Arizona Property Search](#)

Good Info [from the ISBA](#)

Champaign County Court Records :
<https://secure.jtsmith.com/clerk/yytt331s.asp>

Macon County Court Records :
<http://search.co.macon.il.us/Templates/SearchCaseInfo.htm>