

According to Speaker Madigan, during floor debates on the 2009 FOIA amendments that introduced civil penalties, the purpose of the provision is to “impose stiff, civil penalties for FOIA violations.” 96th General Assembly, House of Representatives, May 27, 2009 Debate, at 92. According to the Speaker, “the problem with Freedom of Information requests has been with local governments and with elements of the Blagojevich administration,” and “a good way to compel compliance with the statute is to impose stiff civil penalties for noncompliance.” *Id.* at 98. Responding to a FOIA request in a manner that has no good-faith legal support is a willful and intentional violation. *Rock River Times v. Rockford Public School District*, 2012 IL App (2d) 110879