



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FAF adds another tool to increase open government in Florida

The First Amendment Foundation has added another service to advance open government in the state of Florida. We have a new online Open Government Training program. The course provides an overview of Florida's public meetings and public records requirements and is helpful for anyone who uses public records, as well as for agency employees who are required to stay current on the law.

Additionally, the program also meets Section 112.3142 of the Florida Statutes open government annual training requirement of all constitutional officers and elected municipal officers. The term "constitutional officers" includes the Governor, the Lieutenant Governor, the Attorney General, the Chief Financial Officer, the Commissioner of Agriculture, state attorneys, public defenders, sheriffs, tax collectors, property appraisers, supervisors of elections, clerks of the circuit court, county commissioners, district school board members, and superintendents of schools.

You have three options: you can take the entire course that covers public records and the sunshine law for \$60 or you can take just the public records section or the sunshine law section for \$35. Members pay just \$50 for the entire program or \$30 for each section. To register, go to <http://floridafaf.org/programs-and-services/training-tools-and-videos-2/> and pick which course you'd like to take.

Continuing education credits for IIMC, FACC, and FBCI are available for this training for an additional fee. CLE credits from the Florida Bar are pending, and once approved, will be available for an additional fee.

The training program was developed in cooperation with the National Freedom of Information's (NFOIC) education and training prototype project created through a grant from the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation. FAF's president, Barbara Petersen, is also member of NFOIC board of directors.

FAF will continue to offer its annual Sunshine Seminars in the fall. The 2015 schedule will be available soon, so check our website, floridafaf.org.