



## Open Government FCAT

- 1) In what year was Florida's Sunshine Law (requiring open meetings and reasonable notice of government boards and commissions) passed by the Legislature?
  - A. 1986
  - B. 1905
  - C. 1972
  - D. 1967
  
- 2) In what year was Florida's Sunshine Amendment, requiring financial disclosure by all public officials, approved by the voters?
  - A. 1986
  - B. 1905
  - C. 1972
  - D. 1967
  
- 3) A recent Department of Justice survey studied the levels of government corruption in all 50 states. How did this study rank Florida in terms of government corruption?
  - A. Average
  - B. Squeaky Clean
  - C. Back of the pack
  - D. Top of the heap: worse than NJ!
  
- 4) Which of these is NOT a procedural requirement for all boards and commissions subject to Florida's Sunshine Law? [check all that apply]
  - A. Meetings of two or more members of boards or commissions must be open to the public.
  - B. Reasonable notice of such meetings must be given.
  - C. Minutes of meetings must be taken.
  - D. Meeting venues must be accessible.
  - E. Parking for the public must be free.
  
- 5) According to another national survey, the *State Integrity Investigation*, how did

Florida rate with regard to openness and transparency?

- A. A-
  - B. D+
  - C. C
  - D. B-
- 6) Of the following examples, which are NOT meetings generally subject to Sunshine? [check all that apply]
- A. Cocktail receptions and social events.
  - B. Any sporting event, whether professional or amateur.
  - C. Fact Finding Meetings where no votes are taken, or public business is not transacted or discussed.
  - D. Meetings held outside the state of Florida, or beyond the 15-mile coastal boundary.
  - E. Meetings with specific statutory exemptions.
  - F. Meetings held in airport transit facilities or hotels on airport property.
- 7) True or False: Florida's constitution requires that legislative meetings be open to the public but the Legislature is held to a lesser standard of openness than school boards, county commissions, and town councils.
- 8) True or False: Florida's constitution guarantees a right of access to the records of all three branches of state government – the executive, the legislative, and the judicial.
- 9) True or False: In Florida, each custodial agency can decide what public records are subject to disclosure based on a balancing of interests.
- 10) What is the general fee agencies can charge for paper copies of requested records under Florida's public records law?
- A. 15 cents/page
  - B. \$1/page
  - C. A flat fee: \$100 up to 1,000 pages
  - D. 50 cents/page
- 11) Florida law allows an agency to charge an "extensive" use fee if a request to inspect or copy the agency's public records requires an extensive use of its resources. "Extensive" is defined as:
- A. 30 minutes or more
  - B. 2 hours or more
  - C. "One Mississippi"
  - D. None of the above – the word "extensive" is not defined in law

and each agency determines what is an extensive use of its resources.

12) True or False: If a public record contains both exempt and non-exempt information, the custodial agency must delete that which is exempt, and provide the requestor with a written statement including the statutory citation authorizing the deletion and an explanation why the exemption applies.

13) In Broward County, a reporter made a public record request for all email correspondence sent or received by agency employees over a period of three months that contained six specific words or phrases. How much was the reporter asked to pay in order to obtain copies of the requested records?

- A. \$200
- B. \$0 – The reporter is providing a public service.
- C. \$399,000
- D. \$1,500

14) True or False: All text messages relating to public business sent or received by county commissioners using their personal communication devices are public records subject to disclosure.

15) Governor Rick Scott and the Cabinet were sued for a potential sunshine violation relating to the ouster of FDLE chief Gerald Bailey. The lawsuit was settled. How much did Florida taxpayers pay in legal fees to defend the Governor and Cabinet for a violation of Florida's constitution?

- A. \$0 – The Governor personally picked up the tab.
- B. Right around \$1.3m.
- C. Less than \$50,000.
- D. More than \$2,000 but less than \$25,000.

**BONUS QUESTION:** What are the five freedoms guaranteed by the First Amendment?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.