



First Amendment FOUNDATION

SB 400 SIGNED INTO LAW

After several attempts, the anti-declaratory action bill finally passed both chambers and was signed into law by Governor Ron DeSantis last week. This is a monumental victory for the public. Declaratory actions delay requests and force individuals to defend their constitutional right of access to public information. The public and press cannot be hauled into court for exercising their right to know.

The First Amendment Foundation celebrates this legislative victory and freedom of information for **every person** – not just requestors with the time and resources to defend declaratory actions.

SAVE THE DATE

FAF + POYNTER

We are excited to announce an Evening with Marty Baron, who will be FAF's honored guest and keynote speaker at the Poynter Institute
Thursday, Sept. 30.



STAY CONNECTED



HELPLINE HIGHLIGHT

Halfway through the year, we have responded to more than 120 inquiries to our Freedom of Information Helpline. Most recently, after initially claiming surveillance footage was exempt, a city department changed course and released the videos after the requestor cited court cases identified by FAF.

Need help? You can reach us at 850-222-3518.

IN OTHER NEWS

Orlando Sentinel: Evidence in Miami 'ghost' candidate case to be released.

South Florida Sun Sentinel: Public records show South Florida police used facial recognition software to identify peaceful protestors.

News Service of Florida: Judge blocks Florida social media law.

Miami Herald: DeSantis signs into law bill overhauling NICA following the Harald and ProPublica's reporting on the state program.

Board member spotlight

FAF would like to recognize our board member **Carol LoCicero** who advocated for a change to the rule governing access to court records. The Florida Supreme Court's ruling on Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.420 will make accessing court records faster and more efficient.

Congrats Carol!



EQUIPPING THE NEXT GENERATION OF OPEN GOVERNMENT ADVOCATES

FAF is excited to participate in USA TODAY NETWORK'S A Community Thrives grant-making and fundraising program. We hope to use the grant to expand our internship program and partner with high schools to educate students on their constitutional right of access.

We need your help to make this a success. Starting July 19, we will launch our fundraising campaign. Learn more by visiting our Community Thrives page.