

# FOIA Libraries - Ready for Collection Status?

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# Background

## **FOIA Background**

The Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), 5 U.S.C. § 552, is a federal [freedom of information law](#) to allow any person the right to request access to federal agency records maintained by agencies within the executive branch of the Federal Government. Agencies are required to disclose records upon written request except for those records that are protected from disclosure by any of the nine FOIA exemptions or by one of the three special law enforcement record exclusions. This right of access is enforceable in U.S. courts. Since its enactment the FOIA statute has been amended several times.

## **FOIA Improvement Act of 2016 (Public Law 114–185) (E-FOIA)**

Amendments of 1996 require agencies to provide the public with electronic access to any of their "Reading Room" records that have been created by them since November 1, 1996. Each agency shall make available for public inspection and copying final opinions, including concurring and dissenting opinions, as well as orders, made in the adjudication of cases and a general index of the records. In accordance with E-FOIA, please browse through our [Index of Documents](#) for information that is currently available in our E-FOIA Reading Room. The information found on the Index of Documents includes "frequently requested records." Browsing through this site before submitting a FOIA request may be cost-effective.

<https://www.justice.gov/oip/freedom-information-act-5-usc-552>

# FOIA Library Components

## HHS EFOIA Reading Room Material:

### FOIA Logs

- [FOIA Logs](#)

1.

### Final Opinions

- [Departmental Appeals Board Decisions](#)

2.

### Policy Statements

- [HHS Policy for Records Management](#)
- [HHS Policy for Improving Race and Ethnicity Data](#)

3.

### Administrative Staff Manuals/Instructions to Staff

- [Freedom of Information Act Foreseeable Harm Standard - PDF](#)
- [HHS Administrative Manuals](#)
- [Guidance to HHS FOIA Offices About Mailing SSNs - PDF](#)

4.

### Frequently Requested Records

- [SIGNED - ASH to DEA Letter Marijuana - PDF](#)
  - [Ratification of Prior Appointment and Prospective Appointment Appointment A](#)
  - [Sharpless 2017 Ethics Agreements - PDF](#)
-



# FOIA.gov

FOIA.gov is the government's central website for FOIA. This site can help users determine if filing a FOIA request is the best option. It helps users to generate FOIA requests.

## ¿Qué es la FOIA?

La Ley de Libertad de Información [Freedom of Information Act (FOIA)] es una ley que le brinda el derecho a acceder a información del gobierno federal. Se la suele describir como la ley que mantiene a los ciudadanos informados sobre su gobierno

[Explore datos de la FOIA](#)

## FOIA Logs

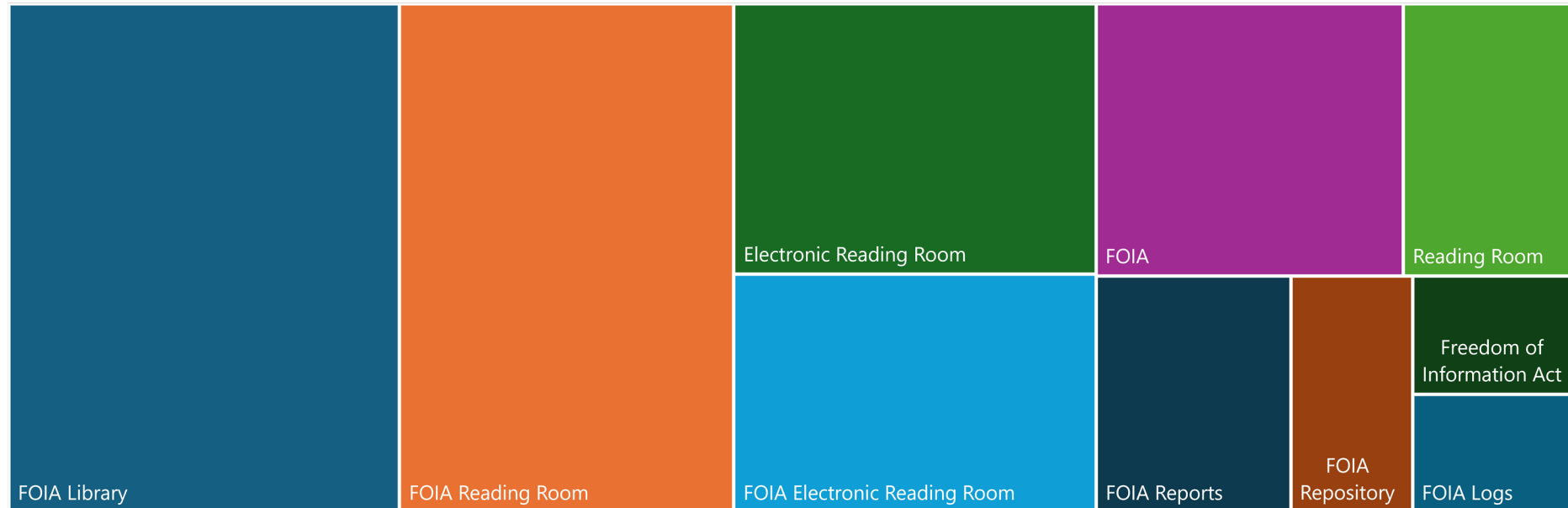
FOIA Logs are an agency's records of FOIA requests filed. They are an excellent resource to see what types of requests have been made to an agency. It is important to check FOIA Logs prior to filing a FOIA request

## FOIA Libraries

FOIA Libraries are the repositories for many documents released under the FOIA (Freedom of Information Act) FOIA (U.S.C. § 552(a)(2) , i.e., "responsive documents," by federal agencies and their sub agencies. There are over 450 FOIA Libraries. Often documents contained in FOIA Libraries cannot be found in a Google Search.

# Naming Conventions

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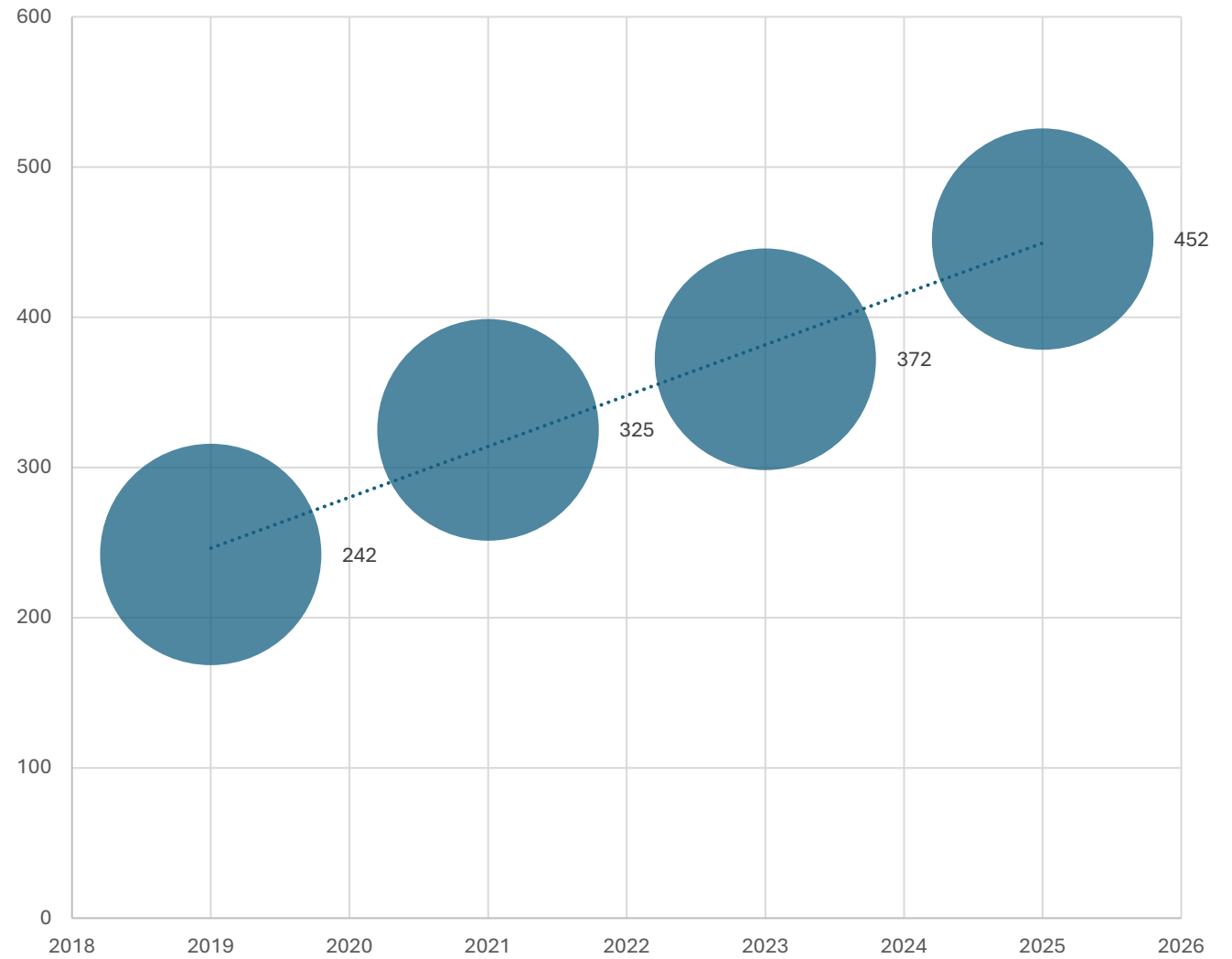


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# How many FOIA Libraries exist?

2019-2025

Growth of FOIA Libraries (2019-2025)



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# Using FOIA Library content in Higher Ed: Course Assignments

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Public Health Assignment: Overdose Prevention

Immigration Employment: Unemployment Insurance

# Public Health Assignment: Overdose Prevention



National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) (.gov)

<https://nida.nih.gov> > freedom-information-act-foia

## Freedom of Information Act (FOIA)

The **Freedom of Information Act (FOIA)**, 5 USC 552, provides individuals with a right to request access to records in the possession of the Federal government.

Missing: ~~overdose~~ | Show results with: [overdose](#)



DEA.gov

<https://www.dea.gov> > foia

## Freedom of Information Act

The **Drug** Enforcement Administration (DEA) enforces the controlled substances laws and regulations of the United States by bringing to the criminal and civil ...

Missing: ~~overdose~~ | Show results with: [overdose](#)



SAMHSA - Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (.gov)

<https://www.samhsa.gov> > website-policies-notice > fre...

## The Freedom of Information Act (FOIA)

Feb 7, 2024 — The **FOIA** gives US citizens the right to access federal agency records so they can understand their government's operations and activities.



Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) (.gov)

<https://www.foia.gov> > ...

## Freedom of Information Act: Drug Enforcement Administration

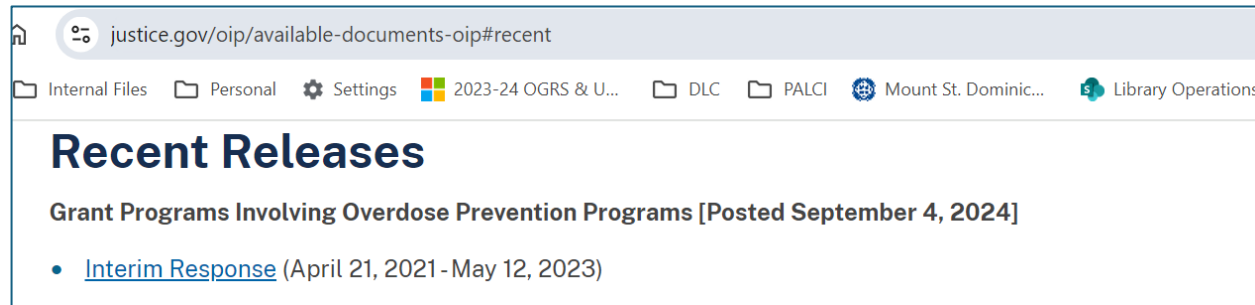
DEA maintains investigative and intelligence files of criminal activities related to illicit **drug** traffic and **drug abuse**, rosters and investigations.

Missing: ~~overdose~~ | Show results with: [overdose](#)



# Public Health Assignment: Overdose Prevention

Location #1 – Office of Information Policy (OIP) FOIA Library (Justice)



The screenshot shows a web browser window with the address bar containing "justice.gov/oip/available-documents-oip#recent". The browser's tab bar shows several tabs, including "Internal Files", "Personal", "Settings", "2023-24 OGRS & U...", "DLC", "PALCI", "Mount St. Dominic...", and "Library Operations". The main content area is titled "Recent Releases" and features a sub-heading "Grant Programs Involving Overdose Prevention Programs [Posted September 4, 2024]". Below this, there is a single bullet point: "• [Interim Response](#) (April 21, 2021-May 12, 2023)".

Hi Austin,

You had expressed interest in receiving a readout from the meeting the USA-EDPA had with the elected officials in Philadelphia regarding safe injection sites.

Attached is the

**The elected officials raised the below topics:**

- The drug problem in Kensington is hard on families and businesses. Kids can't play outside because of the needles and prostitution.
- A visit to safe injection site in New York was concerning because it is across the street from a preschool. There was no zoning, no permitting necessary, and the site closes at 8:00 PM, which seems early to close for drug users. The New York site also gave out pipes. The lines at safe injection site in New York were long, people shooting up in line, and it appeared to be open-air drug market. There was a New York Post story that detailed how there was a person in a van selling drugs at the site openly. There are also almost 200 homeless addicts near the site. See <https://nypost.com/2023/04/15/dealers-sell-drugs-from-van-to-nearby-injection-site-clients/>.

# Public Health Assignment: Overdose Prevention

## Location #2 – Drug Enforcement Agency FOIA Library (Justice)

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL `dea.gov/foia/foia-library`. The browser's address bar and tabs are visible. The page content is organized into several sections:

- Drug Intelligence Bulletins**: A section with a minus sign icon. Below the heading, it states: "This section includes various publications issued by DEA's Intelligence Division. Included are National Drug Threat Assessments, Domestic Monitor Reports, Overdose Reports, and Drug Situation Reports." Below this text are two links: "Drug Intelligence Bulletins" and "Drug Intelligence Bulletin Publications List 1997-2015".
- National Drug Threat Assessment Summaries 2013 to present**: A section with a minus sign icon. Below the heading are two links: "2020 National Drug Assessment" and "2019 National Drug Assessment".
- DOCUMENT**: A section containing the following information:
  - Standard Operating Procedure for the Analysis of Suspected Natural and Synthetic Opioids** (Main title)
  - August 30, 2024 (Date)
  - PUBLICATION** (Label in a grey box)
  - Text: "This document is an internal Drug Enforcement Administration quality system document. The document is updated periodically and is current as of May 20, 2024 and is provided for informational purposes only. Any sensitive, privileged or otherwise protected information has been redacted, to include the redaction of some document in their..."

Document Type



Drug Name



- Publication (159)
- Testimony (89)
- Microgram (49)
- DEA Administrator Remarks (23)
- Speech (20)

- Narcotics (Opioids) (27)
- Methamphetamine (10)
- Drugs of Concern (9)
- Fentanyl (9)
- Heroin (8)

SHOW MORE

Publication Type



- Intelligence (65)
- Drug Prevention (58)
- Forensics: Quality Management System Documents (32)
- DEA Administrator (28)
- Forensics (3)

# Public Health Assignment: Overdose Prevention

## Location #3 – Drug Enforcement Agency FOIA Library (Justice)

Pharmacy Burglary and Armed Robbery Theft Reports of Controlled Substances for 2014-2018



[Pharmacy Burglary and Armed Robbery Theft Reports of Controlled Substances for 2014-2018](#)

### Burglary Reports for January 2020 – July 2024

2024



2023



# What about data.gov?

The screenshot shows the data.gov search interface. At the top, a search bar contains the text "overdose prevention" and a magnifying glass icon. To the right, there is an "Order by:" dropdown menu set to "Popular". Below the search bar, there is a filter for "Organization Types" with a selected tag "Federal Government x". A "Filter by location" section includes a "Clear" button, an "Enter location..." input field, and a map of the United States with a zoom-in (+) and zoom-out (-) button. The main content area displays "12 datasets found for 'overdose prevention'". The first dataset is titled "Drug overdose death rates, by drug type, sex, age, race, and Hispanic origin: United States" with 396 recent views. It is published by the "U.S. Department of Health & Human Services" and includes download options for CSV, RDF, JSON, and XML. A "Federal" label is visible on the right side of the dataset card. The second dataset is titled "Drug Use Data from Selected Hospitals" with 138 recent views, also published by the "U.S. Department of Health & Human Services" and including the same download options. A "Federal" label is also visible on the right side of this dataset card. On the left side of the search results, there are sections for "Topics" (stating "There are no Topics that match this search") and "Topic Categories".

This block summarizes the filters applied in the search. It shows "Organization Types:" with a selected tag "Federal Government x". Under "Organizations:", there is a selected tag "U.S. Department of Health & Human Services x". Under "Publishers:", there is a selected tag "Centers for Disease Control and Prevention x".

Source:

[https://catalog.data.gov/dataset?q=overdose+prevention&sort=views\\_recent+desc&ext\\_location=&ext\\_bbox=&ext\\_prev\\_extent=](https://catalog.data.gov/dataset?q=overdose+prevention&sort=views_recent+desc&ext_location=&ext_bbox=&ext_prev_extent=)

# Immigration Employment: Unemployment Insurance



USCIS (.gov)

<https://www.uscis.gov> > records > electronic-reading-room

## Electronic Reading Room

The USCIS Electronic **Reading Room** provides **access to information identified** under the Freedom of Information Act (**FOIA**).



Department of Justice (.gov)

<https://www.justice.gov> > eoir > foia-library-0

## Executive Office for Immigration Review | FOIA Library

Most of EOIR's **FOIA** information is in PDF format. In order to view the documents, please download the free version of Adobe Acrobat Reader.



Homeland Security (.gov)

<https://www.dhs.gov> > foia-library

## FOIA Library

Search the DHS **FOIA Library**, Component **FOIA Libraries**, and Major Information Systems to learn what records have already been released.



United States Department of Justice (.gov)

<https://www.justice.gov> > eoir > freedom-of-informatio...

## Freedom of Information Act Library

Jun 21, 2017 — Documents in this category consist of policy statements, staff manuals and instructions, final opinions and orders, which are always available without making a ...



Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (.gov)

<https://www.eeoc.gov> > foia > foia-e-library

## FOIA E-Library

Many EEOC documents can be found in electronic form below. Before submitting a **FOIA** request, please check whether the record is available here or on EEOC's ...

Missing: [immigration](#) | Show results with: [immigration](#)



ICE | U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (.gov)

<https://www.ice.gov> > foia > library

## FOIA ICE Library

Jul 9, 2024 — The Freedom of Information Act (**FOIA**) requires agencies to make various types of records available for public inspection in electronic form.



U.S. Department of Labor (.gov)

<https://www.dol.gov> > oalj > topics > libraries > LIBFOIA

## Making a Freedom of Information Act Request to the Office ...

The information below is specific to **FOIA** requests filed with the US Department of **Labor**, Office of Administrative Law Judges (OALJ).



National Labor Relations Board (.gov)

<https://www.nlrb.gov> > freedom-of-information-act-foia

## FOIA E-Library | National Labor Relations Board

The **FOIA E-Library** is a collection of National **Labor** Relations Board (NLRB) materials that are frequently requested or are of broad general interest to the ...

- Department of Justice
- Equal Employment Opportunity Commission
- Executive Office for Immigration Review
- Homeland Security
- National Labor Relations Board (Immigrant Worker Rights)
- U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement

# 6 datasets found for "immigration employment"

## E-Verify 16 recent views

*Social Security Administration* — Through an automated confirmation system, an employer matches information provided by a new employee (Form I-9) against existing information contained in Social...

Federal

## The Office of Special Counsel for Immigration-Related Unfair Employment Practices Memoranda of Understanding

*Department of Justice* — This collection of documents consists of federal, state and local agency memoranda of understanding.

Federal

HTML

## The Office of Special Counsel for Immigration-Related Unfair Employment Practices Technical Assistance Letters

*Department of Justice* — This collection of documents includes written responses to technical assistance received by the Office of Special Counsel

Federal

HTML

## Historical Series of Unemployment Insurance Alien Claims Activities (ETA-9016)

*Department of Labor* — Historical series of Alien Claims Activities reports (ETA-9016) in which states provide quarterly information on claimants' legal status, corresponding state...

Federal

# FOIA Collections



**FOIA.gov**

Pathway Logic

Agency and Component Matching

Machine Learning - FOIA logs and frequently requested documents posted in agencies' FOIA libraries



**300,299 DATASETS AVAILABLE**

## FOIA Libraries

- >450 unique URLs
- >500,00 assets – documents, datasets, images, maps

# National Collection of U.S. Public Information

Geographically dispersed collection of the corpus of Federal Government public information, accessible to the public at no cost.

In scope for the National Collection is all public information products of the U.S. Government, regardless of format or medium, produced by Federal employees or paid for with Federal funds. Declassified materials and materials whose privacy considerations have expired are also included.

The tangible National Collection is dispersed and made available through [libraries](#) that participate in the [Federal Depository Library Program](#) (FDLP). [National Collection Service Areas](#) (NCSA) group Federal depository libraries into four regions as a means of ensuring geographically-dispersed permanent public access.

The digital National Collection includes [GovInfo](#), content harvested by GPO, and content hosted on Federal agency websites. [GPO partners](#) also help build the digital collection by contributing digitized content for ingest into GovInfo or hosting content in their own repositories.

GPO's [Cataloging & Indexing Program](#) endeavors to develop a comprehensive national bibliography of U.S. Government public information, accessible through the [Catalog of U.S. Government Publications \(CGP\)](#), to provide the public with a discovery tool for the National Collection.



# GPO Partnerships

- Collaborations play a crucial role in supporting GPO's vision America Informed. Working together with Federal depository libraries, Federal agencies, academic institutions, library associations, and other engaged FDLP stakeholders, GPO builds collaborative relationships that:
  - Foster cooperation to grow and preserve the [National Collection of U.S. Government Public Information](#).
  - Develop services and resources to improve access to information produced by the U.S. Government.
  - Enable an exchange of ideas and information.

# Future

- End of Term Presidential Web Archive 2024
- FOIA Libraries as a collection
- FOIA Libraries in multiple languages
- Use FOIA Libraries outreach in conjunction with data.gov, FOIA.gov
- Email lists for site updates
- More public outreach



## Biblioteca de la FOIA

Compartir >

Compartir > Facebook  
X  
English  
LinkedIn  
Email

Muchos documentos se divulgan para el público sin necesidad de realizar una solicitud de la Ley de Libertad de Información. Estos documentos se denominan "divulgaciones proactivas" porque todos los componentes del Departamento de Justicia publican automáticamente en línea. A continuación, encontrará los enlaces a todos los componentes del Departamento de Justicia para acceder a sus documentos que están disponibles en línea.

### Documentos procesados según la FOIA

Los documentos de esta categoría se han divulgado, en su totalidad o con redacciones, de conformidad con solicitudes anteriores de la FOIA. Si bien todos los componentes publican "registros solicitados con frecuencia" o aquellos que se han publicado tres o más veces a los solicitantes de la FOIA, también pueden publicar otros documentos procesados según la FOIA que probablemente sean de interés para el público.

### Documentos operativos

Los documentos de esta categoría incluyen declaraciones de políticas, manuales e instrucciones para el personal, opiniones finales y órdenes que siempre están disponibles sin necesidad de realizar una solicitud de FOIA. La divulgación proactiva de estos registros le permite acceder instantáneamente a la información relacionada con las operaciones diarias del Departamento.

Thank you.  
Questions?

[lisa.deluca@shu.edu](mailto:lisa.deluca@shu.edu)

<https://library.shu.edu/FOIA-Libraries>

