

Daniel J. Metcalfe

Dan Metcalfe is a 1976 graduate of the National Law Center at George Washington University, where he was a law review editor and attended on a full academic scholarship. After a judicial clerkship, he served as a trial attorney in the Department of Justice's Civil Division for four years, specializing in Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and Privacy Act litigation.

In 1981, he was appointed as a founding director of the Justice Department's Office of Information and Privacy (OIP), which discharges the Attorney General's administrative and governmentwide policy responsibilities under the FOIA, and he served as the government's principal FOIA expert until his retirement from federal service in January 2007. In that capacity, he advised all federal agencies on all aspects of FOIA administration, directly supervised the defense of over 500 FOIA lawsuits in district and appellate courts, testified before Congress on prospective FOIA amendment legislation for successive presidential administrations, and over the course of more than twenty-five years met with representatives of nearly 100 nations and international governing bodies as they considered the development and implementation of their own freedom of information laws.

During recent years, he also served as a principal advisor to the Department of Homeland Security on matters of post-9/11 information policy and likewise advised the Office of the Director of National Intelligence and senior staff of the National Security Council. Most recently, he held primary responsibility within the executive branch for guiding the governmentwide implementation of Executive Order 13,392, the first executive order ever issued on the FOIA. He became a career member of the Senior Executive Service in 1984, the youngest Department of Justice attorney then and since to hold such a position.

Upon the announcement of his retirement from the Justice Department, he was named an Honorary Senior Research Fellow at University College London, and in 2007 he joined the faculty at American University's Washington College of Law as a Faculty Fellow in Law and Government as well as Executive Director of its newly established Collaboration on Government Secrecy (CGS). As an adjunct professor at WCL, he teaches a course on Government Information Law and Policy, a seminar entitled Secrecy Controversies, and (together with WCL professor Stephen I. Vladeck) a seminar on national security secrecy law connected to a textbook on secrecy law that they are writing for Carolina Academic Press. He also is the author of several publications, most recently *The Nature of Government Secrecy*, 26 Gov't Info. Q. 305 (2009), and *Sunshine Not So Bright: FOIA Implementation Lags Behind*, 34 Admin. & Reg. L. News 5 (Summer 2009).