

FIFTH ANNUAL FREEDOM OF INFORMATION DAY CELEBRATION

Presented by WCL's Collaboration on Government Secrecy

March 16, 2012

9:30 a.m. -- 6:00 p.m.

(Reception at 5:00 p.m.)

**American University Washington College of Law
4801 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Room 603, Washington, DC**

In the United States, Freedom of Information Day is celebrated on or near the March 16 birthday of James Madison, considered the "Founding Father of Freedom of Information," as part of what during recent years has become known as "Sunshine Week." This program is the fifth annual celebration of Freedom of Information Day held by the Washington College of Law's Collaboration on Government Secrecy, and this year it celebrates Sunshine Week (March 11-17) principally among related activities by media and public interest groups. Professor Susan B. Long, Co-Director of the Transactional Records Access Clearinghouse (TRAC) at Syracuse University, will give this program's keynote address and will be presented with the 2012 "Robert Vaughn FOIA Legend Award," in recognition of her career as a uniquely successful FOIA requester and FOIA litigant over the course of more than four decades. As last year's FOIA Legend Award recipient, Alan B. Morrison, Founding Director of Public Citizen Litigation Group, will present this year's award.

8:45 a.m. Registration and Continental Breakfast

9:30 a.m. Welcome and Opening Remarks -- Daniel J. Metcalfe, Executive Director, Collaboration on Government Secrecy, Washington College of Law

9:40 a.m. Award Presentation -- Alan B. Morrison, Lerner Family Associate Dean for Public Interest and Public Service, George Washington University Law School, and Founding Director, Public Citizen Litigation Group

Keynote Address -- Susan B. Long, Co-Director, Transactional Records Access Clearinghouse (TRAC), Syracuse University

10:30 a.m. Panel One: OGIS and the FOIA's Future -- an inside look at the immediate successes and future plans of the Office of Government Information Services

Gavin Baker, Federal Information Policy Analyst, OMB Watch; *Kirsten Mitchell*, Management and Program Analyst, Office of Government Information Services, National Archives and Records Administration; *Marianne J. Manheim*, FOIA Program Manager and Public Liaison, Office of Information Programs and Services, Department of State; and *Miriam M. Nisbet*, Founding Director, Office of Government Information Services, NARA (moderator)

11:45 a.m. Panel Two: *Current FOIA Litigation -- a survey of current high-visibility FOIA litigation cases and what can be learned from them*

Ahilan Arulanantham, Director, Immigrants' Rights and National Security, American Civil Liberties Union; *David Burnham*, Co-Director, Transactional Records Access Clearinghouse, Syracuse University, and former Investigative Reporter, *New York Times*; *Jeffrey Light*, National Lawyers Guild; *Charles D. ("Chuck") Tobin*, Chair, National Media Practice Team, Holland & Knight; and *Mike German*, National Security Policy Counsel, ACLU (moderator)

1:00 p.m. Luncheon Address: "FOIA Over the Decades, From Ford to Obama"

Richard L. Huff, FOIA Instructor and Co-Founder, Office of Information and Privacy (OIP), Department of Justice (1976-2005)

2:15 p.m. Panel Three: *Legislative Outlook -- a comprehensive view of FOIA activity in the 112th Congress from all four corners of Capitol Hill*

Krista Boyd, Minority Counsel, House Government Reform and Oversight Committee; *Lydia Kay Griggsby*, Counsel to Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman Patrick Leahy; *Matthew L. Johnson*, Counsel to Senator John Cornyn for Senate Judiciary Committee; *Tegan N. Millspaw*, Research Analyst, House Government Reform and Oversight Committee; and *Thomas M. Susman*, Director of Governmental Affairs, American Bar Association (moderator)

3:45 p.m. Panel Four: *Is Exemption 3 Out of Control? -- a critical review of existing agency use of twice as many Exemption 3 statutes as actually qualify*

Asheesh S. Bhalla, Senior Research Assistant and Webmaster, Collaboration on Government Secrecy; *Rick Blum*, Coordinator, Sunshine in Government Initiative; *Jennifer LaFleur*, Director of Computer-Assisted Reporting, ProPublica; *Ginger P. McCall*, Director, Open Government Project, Electronic Privacy Information Center; and *Adina H. Rosenbaum*, Director, Freedom of Information Clearinghouse, Public Citizen Litigation Group

5:00 p.m. Reception

General Registration, no charge. CLE Registration (5 credits will be applied for), \$275. To register, please go to www.wcl.american.edu/secle/registration. For further information, please contact Office of Special Events & Continuing Legal Education, 202.274.4075 or secle@wcl.american.edu. Major support for this CGS program has been provided by the Open Society Institute's Transparency and Integrity Fund and its National Security and Human Rights Campaign.