

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the  
**LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY**  
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library  
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from electronic originals  
(may include minor formatting differences from printed original)

## Introduction

### Maine Freedom of Access Act (FOAA):

#### The Purpose



The public's right to information about government activities lies at the heart of a democratic government.

The Maine Freedom of Access Act ("FOAA") grants the people of this state a broad right of access to public records while protecting legitimate governmental interests and the privacy rights of individual citizens. The act also ensures the accountability of the government to the citizens of the state by requiring public access to the meetings of public bodies. Transparency and open decision-making are fundamental principles of the Maine Freedom of Access Act, and they are essential to ensuring continued trust and confidence in our government.

Open government is good government and the state is committed to ensuring and protecting your "right to know."

To review the Freedom of Access Law, go to [www.maine.gov/foaa](http://www.maine.gov/foaa)

In its continued efforts to serve as a resource of educating about the FOAA, the Right-to-Know Advisory Committee created this Citizen's Guide, with the help of University of Maine School of Law 2011 Legal Extern Diana DeJesus, as an easy-to-use tool that will help you navigate through the FOAA.

This Citizen's Guide was updated in 2012 with the assistance of University of Maine School of Law Legal Extern Katherine Lybrand.

## **Chapter 1: Freedom of Access Act: An In-Depth Overview**

### **What is the Freedom of Access Act (FOAA)?**

It is a Maine state statute that is intended to open the government of Maine by guaranteeing access to the “public records” and “public proceedings” of state and local government bodies & agencies.

FOAA does NOT apply to federal agencies operating in Maine or to federal government records. The Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), a similar but different federal statute, applies to the federal government. This federal statute does not apply to state or local government bodies, agencies, or officials.<sup>1</sup>

### **Elected Officials and the Freedom of Access Laws:**

All elected officials and public access officers are obligated to complete training on the FOAA. The training, which must be completed less than 2 hours, includes instruction in:

- General legal requirements when dealing with public records and public proceedings
- Procedures and requirements regarding complying with a request for a public record
- Penalties and other consequences for failure to comply with the law

The elected officials that are required to take the Freedom of Access training include:

- The Governor
- Attorney General, Secretary of State, Treasurer of State, and State Auditor
- Legislators
- Commissioners, treasurers, district attorneys, sheriffs, registers of deeds, registers of probate, and budget committee members of any county
- Municipal officers, clerks, treasurers, assessors, and budget committee members of municipal governments
- Officials of school administrative units
- Officials of regional or other political subdivisions, including officials of water districts, sanitary districts, hospital districts, transit districts, or regional transportation districts
- Public access officers

Once training is complete, elected officials or public access officers certify the Freedom of Access training by:

---

<sup>1</sup> Text of Freedom of Information Act can be found at 5 U.S.C. § 551 et seq. You can find more general information on the Freedom of Information Act at: <http://www.foia.gov/index.html>

- Submitting a written or electronic record confirming that the training was completed
- Record will be available to the public, must be kept by the elected official or filed with the public entity to which the official was elected.<sup>2</sup>

### **Penalties for Failure to Comply with the FOAA**

If a state government agency or local government entity whose officer or employee commits a willful violation of the FOAA, he or she may be held liable for a civil violation, which could result in a fine of \$500.<sup>3</sup>

No criminal penalties exist for failure to comply with a request for public records. If, however, there is an intentional removal, alteration, or destruction of State documents, such act is a Class D crime.<sup>4</sup>

### **Enforcement of Freedom of Access Laws**

Any aggrieved person may appeal to any Superior Court<sup>5</sup> in the state to seek relief for an alleged violation of Freedom of Access Act.<sup>6</sup>

Relief can be in the form of an injunction issued by the court that directs the government body, agency, or official to comply with the law, such as by making public records available for inspection or copying.

In addition, the Office of the Attorney General or the District Attorneys may bring an enforcement action seeking penalties if the alleged violation is willful.<sup>7</sup>

### **What is the Public Access Ombudsman?**

The legislature created a public access ombudsman position to review complaints about compliance with FOAA and attempt to mediate their resolution, as well as answer calls from the public, media and legislators about the requirements of the law. The ombudsman is also responsible for providing educational materials about the law and preparing advisory opinions. The ombudsman works closely with the Right to Know Advisory Committee in monitoring new developments and considering improvements to the law.

---

<sup>2</sup> See Appendix A for a sample training completion form.

<sup>3</sup> 1 M.R.S. § 410.

<sup>4</sup> 1 M.R.S. § 452.

<sup>5</sup> See Appendix D for Superior Court directory.

<sup>6</sup> 1 M.R.S. § 409(1).

<sup>7</sup> 1 M.R.S. § 410.

**How do I contact the Public Access Ombudsman?**

Call the Office of the Attorney General at (207) 626-8577 or get more information online at:

[Your Right to Know: Maine's Freedom of Access Act](#)

## Chapter 2: Requesting Public Records

### Requesting a Public Record: The Basics:

- What exactly IS a “public record?” A public record is
  - Written, printed, or graphic matter, or electronic data with information;
  - Either directly or after a translation into a visual or auditory format;
  - In possession of a state entity or public official; and
  - Used in connected or relating to a public or governmental business<sup>8</sup>
- Who can request a public record?
  - Per the language of the FOAA, “every person” has the right to inspect and copy public records, whether you are a citizen of Maine or not.<sup>9</sup>

### You Want to Request a Public Record: What Do You Do?

- **Step 1:** Determine which public agency you want to request from<sup>10</sup>
  - Examples include: Dept. of Health and Human Services, Office of the Governor, and Office of Attorney General.
- **Step 2:** Determine in which form you will make your request
  - If in writing – which is NOT mandatory – make sure to:
    - **Be specific-** include the time frame, subject of record, etc.<sup>11</sup>
      - Here is an example: What if you want more information about active landfills around your home that accepts wood wastes. How do you make the request?

	<b>Too broad</b>	<b>Too narrow</b>	<b>Reasonable</b>	<b>Exact</b>
<b>Written Request</b>	<i>“All records on landfills”</i>	<i>“All records identifying landfills within 20 miles of 147 Main Street in Augusta.”</i>	<i>“All landfills in Augusta.”</i>	<i>“All landfills in Augusta that only accept wood waste.”</i>
<b>Possible Issues</b>	-Fees too high -Agency may be unable to locate request -Too vague	-Agency unable to locate records with that specific data	-may have more records, but still a narrower search	-better chance to locate file with exact request language

<sup>8</sup> 1 M.R.S. § 402 (3)

<sup>9</sup> 1 M.R.S. § 408-A

<sup>10</sup> See [www.maine.gov/foaa](http://www.maine.gov/foaa) for a list of FOAA contacts.

<sup>11</sup> See Appendix C for a sample FOAA written request.

## You Requested Public Information: What Happens?

- **Step 1: Fees**
  - No initial fee for submitting the FOAA request and no fee to inspect records.<sup>12</sup>
  - If you would like to *copy* records, no standard rate is set by the FOAA; an agency may charge a “reasonable fee.”<sup>13</sup> Fee amounts include
    - Time spent to
      - Retrieve
      - Search
      - Compile
      - Redact confidential information or
      - Convert records
- **Step 2: Determining fee amount**
  - Public agency **MUST** prepare an estimate, which may include the following charge of \$15 after the 1<sup>st</sup> hour for staff time, *per request*. Further breakdown includes
    - \$30 or more- public agency **MUST** notify you before proceeding
    - \$100 or more – public agency may require costs in advance.<sup>14</sup>
- **Step 3: Determine if unable to pay fee amount**
  - A public agency may – but not required to -- waive part or all of the total fee **IF**
    - Indigent<sup>15</sup>
    - Release of public record is in the public interest because it will likely<sup>16</sup> contribute to public understanding of how government works<sup>17</sup>
    - Not primarily in commercial interest of the requestor<sup>18</sup>

## What Happens After You Made Your Request? Do You . . . ?

- *Receive acknowledgement of your request from the agency?*
  - Yes, within a “reasonable time.”<sup>19</sup>
- *If asked, have to provide clarification for request?*
  - Yes. An agency or official may ask for clarification concerning your request.<sup>20</sup>
- *Have to state why you want a certain record?*

---

<sup>12</sup> 1 M.R.S. § 408-A (8)(D)

<sup>13</sup> 1. M.R.S. § 408-A (8)(A)

<sup>14</sup> 1. M.R.S. § 408-A (8) & (9)

<sup>15</sup> 1. M.R.S. § 408-A (11)

<sup>16</sup> Id.

<sup>17</sup> Id.

<sup>18</sup> Id.

<sup>19</sup> 1. M.R.S. § 408-A (3)

<sup>20</sup> Id.

- No. Even though an agency is not prohibited from asking, you are NOT required to provide a reason and you CANNOT be denied solely for that reason.<sup>21</sup>

### **The Public Agency Has Your Request: What Happens?**

- Agency is to make the record(s) available “within a reasonable time.”
- You can schedule time for your inspection, translation, copying *as long as*
  - It’s within regular business hours
  - It does NOT affect regular daily activities
- An agency must inform you if your request is denied within **five (5)** working days of the request.<sup>22</sup>
- For public records that are a mix of public and private information, the agency may
  - Decide if record(s) has any confidential information that needs to be redacted or blackened out; or
  - Deny public access to the document
- Agency is NOT required to prepare reports, summaries, or contemplations of public records.<sup>23</sup>
- If the public record is electronically stored, the agency or or official must provide the public record either as a printed document or in the medium in which the record is stored.<sup>24</sup>

### **You Have Been Denied Your Request: How Do You Appeal?**

- **Step 1: Was your request a public record?**
  - Under the FOAA, certain documents are NOT public record. Examples<sup>25</sup> include
    - Those designated by statute;
    - Documents under legal privilege (such as an attorney-client privilege);
    - Medical records; and
    - Juvenile records
- **Step 2: File a written Notice of Appeal**
  - If you are unsatisfied with an agency’s decision to withhold a record, you can file, **within five (5) working days**, a written notice of appeal to any Maine Superior Court.<sup>26</sup>

### **Other General Points:**

---

<sup>21</sup> 1 M.R.S. § 408-A (3)

<sup>22</sup> 1 M.R.S. 409-A (4)

<sup>23</sup> 1 M.R.S. § 408-A (6)

<sup>24</sup> 1 M.R.S. § 408-A (7)

<sup>25</sup> To determine if a record is public, use the searchable tool at <http://www.mainelegislature.org/legis/foa/>.

<sup>26</sup> See Appendix D for list of Superior Courts.



- *Can you submit a “standing request?” If so, does the agency have to honor it?*
  - A standing request - certain reports that may be sent to you automatically each month - are NOT honored.
  - Agency is only required to make available the request on the date of the request. A new request for any additional record is required.
- *Can you ask a public official about my record?*
  - You may ask a public official about a record, but he/she are NOT required to explain or answer questions about public records.
  - Under FOAA, officials are ONLY required to make records available for inspection and copying.<sup>27</sup>
- *Can you request to look at a public official’s email?*
  - Any record maintained by an agency or official can be public, whether in electronic form or hand-copy form
  - Email(s) is/are considered a public record IF
    - In possession of
      - Agency or public official;
      - Political subdivision; or
      - Custody of an association
    - Membership is exclusively made up of one or more of any of the abovementioned entities;
    - Has been received or prepared in connection for public or governmental business;
    - Contains information relating to the transaction of governmental business; AND
    - Not confidential or an exemption under the FOAA.<sup>28</sup>

---

<sup>27</sup> 1 M.R.S. § 408-A (7)(B)

<sup>28</sup> 1 M.R.S. § 402 (3)

## Chapter 3: Public Proceedings

### What is a “public proceeding?”

- The “transactions of any functions affecting any or all citizens of the State,” and applies to
  - Maine Legislature and its committees and subcommittees;
  - Any board/commission of state agency or authority, including University of Maine and the Maine Community College System;
  - Any board, commission, agency or authority of any county, municipality, school district or any regional or other political or administrative subdivision;
  - Membership meetings of any association – members comprised of counties, municipalities, school districts, other political/administrative subdivisions, or their boards, commissions, agencies or authorities; and
  - Any advisory organization established, authorized or organized by law, resolved by executive order<sup>29</sup>

### If it is a public proceeding, what happens?

- **Requirements**
  - Need to be open to the public AND
  - Any person must be permitted to attend<sup>30</sup>
- **Minutes**
  - Not required under FOAA for public agency or body to keep running minutes; *BUT* required to
    - Keep written record of every decision that involves conditional approval or denial of application, license, certificate or permit; AND
    - Every decision that involves the dismissal or refusal to renew contract of any public official, employee or appointee<sup>31</sup>
  - \*If “adjudicatory proceeding”- as defined in Maine Administrative Procedure Act-
    - Need to compile what complies with any statutory specifications, including recording in a form that allows for transcription.<sup>32</sup>
  - If minutes provided, must be
    - Made promptly AND
    - Shall be open to public inspection<sup>33</sup>

---

<sup>29</sup> 1 M.R.S. § 402 (2).

<sup>30</sup> 1. M.R.S. § 403.

<sup>31</sup> 1. M.R.S. § 407 (1) & (2).

<sup>32</sup> 5 M.R.S. §§ 8002 (1) & 9059.

- Notice
  - Required for all public proceedings if includes a meeting of a body or agency of three (3) or more persons;
  - Must be given in “ample time” to allow public attendance; and
  - Must be disseminated in a manner reasonably calculated to notify the general public in the area where the public proceeding will be held<sup>34</sup>
- Emergency Meeting
  - Notice requirement is still needed;
  - Must be provided to local representative of media, whenever practicable; and
  - Notice must include
    - Time
    - Location of meeting AND
    - Be provided by same – or faster – means used to notify the members of the public body or agency hosting the public proceeding<sup>35</sup>

**When is a public proceeding considered closed?**

- Executive sessions – or closed public proceeding meetings – are permitted IF
  - Voted on specified subjects
  - After a public recorded vote of 3/5 of the members present and voting<sup>36</sup>
- Executive sessions are **limited** to what can be discussed.
  - Examples include:<sup>37</sup>
    - Discussions regarding suspension or expulsion of a student;
    - Certain employment actions;
    - Acquisition, use or disposition of public property;
    - Consultations between a body and its attorney concerning its legal rights and responsibilities or pending litigation; and
    - Discussion of documents that are confidential by statute
  - Prohibited from giving final approval to<sup>38</sup>
    - Any ordinance
    - Orders
    - Rules
    - Resolutions
    - Regulations
    - Contracts

---

<sup>33</sup> 1 M.R.S. § 403.

<sup>34</sup> 1 M.R.S. § 406.

<sup>35</sup> 1 M.R.S. § 403.

<sup>36</sup> See 1 M.R.S. § 405 (1)-(5).

<sup>37</sup> See 1 M.R.S. § 405 (6) for a full list of permitted deliberations within an executive session.

<sup>38</sup> 1 M.R.S. § 405(2).

- Appointments, or
  - Other official actions
- If improper business has been conducted during an executive session
  - Any person may appeal to any Maine Superior Court.
  - If the court finds the body or agency acted illegally
    - Action taken by the body or agency will be declared **null and void**
    - Officials responsible will be subject to the penalties provided in the FOAA<sup>39</sup>

### **If you decide to attend a public meeting, can you...?**

- *Record the public proceeding?*
  - Yes. The FOAA allows for individuals to make written, taped or filmed records of a public proceeding or to broadcast it live as long as it doesn't interfere with the orderly conduct of the proceedings.<sup>40</sup>
  - Body or agency having the public proceeding can make reasonable rules or regulations to govern the recording activities so long as they do not defeat the purpose of FOAA.<sup>41</sup>
- *Speak at the public meetings?*
  - It depends. The FOAA *does not* require public participation at open meetings.
  - If public participation is permitted, public body or agency may adopt reasonable rules to ensure meetings are conducted in a fair and orderly manner
    - An example of a rule is allocating the same amount of time to each person willing to speak

---

<sup>39</sup> 1 M.R.S. § 409 (2).

<sup>40</sup> 1. M.R.S. § 404.

<sup>41</sup> Id.

## **Chapter 4: Right-to-Know Advisory Committee**

### **What is the Right-to-Know Advisory Committee (RTKAC)?**

The RTKAC<sup>42</sup> is an on-going advisory council

- With oversight authority and responsibility for a broad range of activities associated with the purposes and principles underlying Maine's Right of Access Laws
- Created to serve as resource and advisor about Maine's FOAA

### **What are the duties of the RTKAC?**

- Specific duties include
  - Providing guidance in ensuring access to public records and public proceedings;
  - Serve as central source and coordinator of information about FOAA
  - Support provision of information about public access to records and proceedings via the Internet;
  - Serve as resource of support training and educating about the FOAA; and
  - Report annually to discuss the public's access to proceedings and records to
    - The Governor
    - Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary; and
    - Chief Justice of Supreme Judicial Court

### **Who serves on the RTKAC?**

The RTKAC is comprised of thirteen (13) members, each with different terms. The members include, but are not limited to:<sup>43</sup>

- Senator from Joint Standing Committee
- Representative of municipal interests
- Representative of school interests
- Representative of newspaper publishers
- Representative of county or regional interests
- Representative of law enforcement interests
- Representative of state government interests
- Representative of broadcasting interests
- Representative of a statewide coalition of advocates of freedom of access
- Two representatives of the public
- The Attorney General or designee

---

<sup>42</sup> The Maine Right-to-Know Advisory Committee was created by Public Law 2005, chapter 631.

<sup>43</sup> 1 M.R.S. § 411; *See also* Appendix E for a list of current members.



**Appendix A: Sample Training Completion Form**

CERTIFICATION OF COMPLETION OF  
FREEDOM OF ACCESS TRAINING REQUIRED BY 1 M.R.S.A. § 412

I, \_\_\_\_\_, hereby certify that I have met the training  
*(Name of elected official)*  
requirements set forth in 1 M.R.S.A. § 412 on \_\_\_\_\_ by  
*(date of training)*  
completing the following training:

- A thorough review of all of the information made available on the Frequently Asked Questions portion of the State website, [www.maine.gov/foaa/faq](http://www.maine.gov/foaa/faq).
- Another training course that includes this information, identified as follows:

\_\_\_\_\_  
*(Title of Course)*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*(Name of Course Provider)*

Dated this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Signature*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Printed Name*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Elected Office*

**Note:** Training must be completed within 120 days after an elected official takes the oath of office.

## Appendix B: Maine Freedom of Access of Act Contacts



Department Contact	Address	FOAA Contact
<b>Administrative and Financial Services</b>		
• Office of the Commissioner	Cross Building Augusta, ME 04333	David Emery 624- 7800
• Bureau of Alcoholic Beverages and Lottery Operations	10 Water Street Hallowell, ME 04347	Tim Poulin 287-6750
• Bureau of General Services	Cross Building 14 State House Station Augusta, ME 04333	624-7344
• Bureau of Human Resources	4 State House Station Augusta, ME 04333	Joyce Oreskovich 287-4447
• Office of Employee Relations	45 Memorial Circle Augusta, ME 04333	
• Office of Information Technology	26 Edison Drive 145 State House Station Augusta, ME 04333	Greg McNeal 624-7568
• Service Centers	111 Sewall Street 78 State House Station Augusta, ME 04333	Sandra Harper 624-7344
• State Controller	Cross Building 14 State House Station Augusta, ME 04333	Terry Bran 626-8423
• State Budget Officer	Cross Building 3 <sup>rd</sup> Floor Augusta, ME 04333	Dawna Lopatosky 624- 7810
• Maine Revenue Services	26 Edison Drive Augusta, ME 04333	Jon Sagaser 624-9536
Agriculture	28 State House Station Deering Building Augusta, ME 04333	Melanie Littlefield 287-3419
Attorney General's Office	6 State House Station Augusta, ME 04333	Phyllis Gardiner 626-8800
Audit	66 State House Station Hallowell, ME 04333	Michael Poulin 624-6266
Conservation	22 State House Station Augusta, ME 04333	Eliza Townsend 287-4900
		Gale Ross



		287-4900
Corrections	Tyson Building AMHI Augusta, ME 04333	Judy Plummer 287-4386
<b>Defense, Veterans, and Emergency Management</b>		
• Army and Air National Guard	38 State House Station Camp Keys Augusta, ME 04333	Kevin McDougall 430-5012
• Bureau of Veteran Affairs	33 State House Station Camp Keys Augusta, ME 04333	Don Lagace 626-4271
• Maine Emergency Management Agency	45 Commerce Drive Augusta, ME 04333	Lynette Miller 624-4420
Economic and Community Development	Cross Building Augusta, ME 04333	Brian Hodges 624-9804
Education	Cross Building 23 State House Station Augusta, ME 04333	Gregg Scott 624-6620
Environmental Protection	17 State House Station Hospital Street Augusta, ME 04333	Pete Carney 287-4305
Finance Authority of Maine	5 Community Drive P.O. Box 949 Augusta, ME 04333	Beth Bordowitz 623-3263
Health and Human Services	221 State Street 11 State House Station Augusta, ME 04333	Marina Thibeau 287-4252
Inland Fisheries and Wildlife	284 State Street Augusta, ME 04333	Andrea Erskine 287-5201
Labor	54 State House Station Augusta, ME 04333	Adam Fisher 621-5095
Maine Housing Authority	353 Water Street Augusta, ME 04333	Linda Uhl 626-4600
Maine Commission on Governmental Ethics	135 State House Station Augusta, Me 04333	Paul Lavin 287-3024
Maine Commission of Indigent Legal Services	154 State House Station Augusta, ME 04333	John Pelletier 287-3254
<b>Maine Arts Commission</b>		
• Programs	25 State House Station 193 State Street Augusta, ME 04333	Donna McNeil 287- 2714
• Business Administration	Maine State Library State Office Complex Augusta, ME 04333	Gail Waddell 287-5633
Maine International Trade Center	511 Congress Street Suite 100 Portland, ME 04101	Janine Bisalilloni-Cary 541-7400

Maine Historic Preservation Commission	55 Capitol Street 65 State House Station Augusta, ME 04333	Earle Shettleworth 287-2132
Maine Health Data Organization	151 Capitol Street 102 State House Station Augusta, ME 04333	Alan Prysunka 287-6723
Maine Technology Institute	405 Water Street Suite 300 Gardiner, ME 04345	Betsy Biemann 582-4790
Maine Turnpike Authority	2360 Congress Street Portland, ME 04102	Jon Arey 871-7771
Marine Resources	Winthrop Street Hallowell, ME 04247	Donna Hall 624-6553
<b>Professional and Financial Regulation</b>		
• Bureau of Financial Institution	122 Northern Avenue Gardiner, ME 04333	John Barr 624-8561
• Bureau of Consumer Credit Protection		Will Lund 624-8527
• Office of the Commissioner		Anne Head 624-6553
• Office of Licensing and Registration		Anne Head 624-6553
• Bureau of Insurance	124 Northern Avenue 34 State House Station Gardiner, ME 04345	Tom Record 624-8424
• Office of Securities	76 Northern Avenue Gardiner, ME 04345	Judy Shaw 624-8551
Public Advocate	103 Water Street 3 <sup>rd</sup> Floor Hallowell, ME 04347	Patty Moody-DAngelo 287-2447
Public Safety	45 Commerce Drive Suite 1 Augusta, ME 04333	Christopher Parr 624- 7205
Public Utilities Commission	242 State Street Augusta, ME 04333	Joanne Steneck 287-1390
Secretary of State	148 State House Station Augusta, ME 04333	Chales E. Summers, Jr. 626-8400
<b>State Planning Office</b>		
• Office of the Director	38 State House Station 184 State Street Augusta, ME 04333	Tony Van Den Bossche 287-1474
• Office of Energy Independence and Security		John Kerry 287-3292
Transportation	Child Street 2 <sup>nd</sup> Level Augusta, ME 04333	Toni Kemmerle 624-3024
Worker's Compensation Board	AMHI Deering Building Augusta, ME 04333	John Rohde 287-7091

## Appendix C: Sample FOAA Written Request

Date  
Name  
Company Name (if applicable)  
Address

Dear (FOAA Officer):

Pursuant to the Maine Freedom of Access Act, (1 M. R. S. A. § 401 *et seq.*) I respectfully request access to [insert a specific, detail description of the material you would like to request]. I believe these records are in the custody of [try to identify the specific office/department/ bureau where record(s) is/are located].

I am willing to pay all lawful and reasonable costs associated with this request. Please notify me in advance what the costs will be.

If you intend to deny this public interest in whole or in part, I request that you advise me, in writing, of the particular statutory exemption upon which you are relying, and an explanation for doing so, as required by Chapter 13 of the Maine Statutes. Also, if the exemption you are claiming applies to only a portion of a record please delete the exemption section and release the remainder of the records as required by law.

In light of the nature and importance of the records requested, please make them available within a reasonable time. If you have any questions about this request, please call me at [phone number].

Thank you in advance for processing my request.

Sincerely,

Concerned Citizen



## Appendix D: List of Maine Superior Courts



Town	Address	Phone #	TTY-only #
Alfred	45 Kennebunk Road, P.O. Box 160 Alfred 04002	207-324-5122	207-459-7860
Auburn	2 Turner Street P.O. Box 3660 Auburn, 04212	207-330-7500	207-835-458
Augusta	95 State Street Augusta 04330	207-624-5800	207-623-0477
Bangor	78 Exchange Street Bangor 04401	207-561-2300	207-941-3000
Bath	<b>Mailing:</b> 101 New Meadows Road West Bath, 04530  <b>Physical:</b> 752 High Street Bath 04530	207-443-9733	207-443-2465
Belfast	<b>Mailing</b> 103 Church Street  <b>Physical</b> 137 Church Street Belfast 04915	207-338-1940	207-338-6468
Caribou	144 Sweden Street Suite 101 Caribou 04736	207-498-8125	207-498-2127
Dover-Foxcroft	159 East Maine Street Dover-Foxcroft 04426	207-564-8419	207-564-0767
Ellsworth	50 State Street Ellsworth 04605	207-667-7176	207-667-6187
Farmington	<b>Mailing:</b> 129 Main Street  <b>Physical</b> 140 Main Street Farmington 04938	207-778-3346	207-778-8273



Houlton	<b>Mailing:</b> 144 Sweden Street Suite 101 Caribou 04736	207-532-6563	207-532-7218
	<b>Physical</b> 26 School Street Houlton 04730		
Machias	47 Court Street P.O. Box 526 Machias 04654	207-255-3326	207-255-0501
Portland	205 Newbury Street P.O. Box 412 Portland, 04112	207-822-4200	207-822-4212
Portland – UCD	142 Federal Street PO Box 287 Portland UCD 04112	207-822-4204	207-822-4212
Rockland	62 Union Street Rockland 04841	207-594-2576	207-596-2254
Skowhegan	41 Court Street P.O. Box 725 Skowhegan 04976	207-474-5161	207-474-5344
South Paris	26 Western Avenue P.O. Box 179 South Paris 04281	207-743-8936	207-743-1688
Wiscasset	32 High Street PO Box 249 Wiscasset 04578	207-882-7517	207-882-9231

**Appendix E: RTKAC Members<sup>44</sup>**

**Right to Know Advisory Committee P.L. 2005, Chapter 631**

**Appointment(s) by the Governor**

**Michael Cianchette**

33 Winn Road  
Cumberland, ME 04021  
207 287-3543

*Representing State Government Interest*

**Richard P. Flewelling**

Maine Municipal Assoc  
60 Community Drive  
Augusta, ME 04330

*Representing Municipal Interests*

**Harry Pringle**

Drummond Woodsum & MacMahon  
245 Commercial St PO Box 9781  
Portland, ME 04104

*Representing School Interests*

**Appointment(s) by the President**

**Luke Rossingnol**

1019 State Road  
Mapleton, ME 04757

*Representing the Public*

---

<sup>44</sup> As of July 17, 2012

**Percy L. Brown Jr.**

County Commissioner, Hancock County

97 Sunset Road

Deer Isle, ME 04627

*Representing County or Regional Interests*

**Perry B. Antone Sr.**

Chief, Brewer Police Department

151 Parkway South

Brewer, ME 04412

*Representing Law Enforcement Interests*

**A. Jay Higgins**

18 West Street

Manchester, ME 04351

*Representing Broadcasting Interests*

**Frederick Hastings**

**2413 Cutler Road**

**Cutler, Maine 04626**

*Representing the Press*

*Senate Member of the Judiciary Committee*

**Mal Leary**

Capitol News Service

17 Pike Street

Augusta, ME 04330

207 621-2384

*Representing a Statewide Coalition of Advocates of Freedom of Access*

**Judy Meyer**

Lewiston Sun Journal

104 Park Street

Lewiston, ME 04243

207 689-2902

*Representing Newspaper Publishers*

*Representing Broadcasting Interests*

**Rep. Kim Monaghan-Derrig**

6 Russet Lane

Cape Elizabeth, Maine 04107

*House Member of the Judiciary Committee*

**Attorney General**

**Linda Pistner**

Chief Deputy Attorney General

6 State House Station

Augusta, ME 04333

207 626-8800

*Designee*

**Chief Justice**

**James T. Glessner**

State Court Administrator PO Box 4820

Portland, ME 04112

207 822-0792

*Member of the Judicial Branch*



**Staff:**

Peggy Reinsch, Office of Policy and Legislation Analysis, 287-1670

Colleen McCarthy-Reid, Office of Policy and Legislation Analysis, 287-1670