

From: **Sterling Rives** <[sterlingrives3@gmail.com](mailto:sterlingrives3@gmail.com)>  
Date: Mon, Nov 30, 2020 at 11:41 AM  
Subject: Disclosure regarding recommendations of Phishing Subcommittee  
To: FOIA Council <[foiacouncil@dls.virginia.gov](mailto:foiacouncil@dls.virginia.gov)>  
Cc: Megan Rhyne <[mrhyne@opengovva.org](mailto:mrhyne@opengovva.org)>, Aimee Perron Seibert <[aimee@commonwealthstrategy.net](mailto:aimee@commonwealthstrategy.net)>, <[mark@commonwealthstrategy.net](mailto:mark@commonwealthstrategy.net)>

Dear Mr Gernhardt and Ms Binns,

In lieu of my making this disclosure during the meeting of the Council on Wednesday and in the interest of saving time, I would appreciate your forwarding the following statement regarding the recommendations of the Phishing Subcommittee to members of the Council and retaining a copy in the records of the Council. Please feel free to further disseminate this statement or post on the Council's website, as you deem appropriate.

Madame Chair and Members of FOIA Advisory Council,  
As some members of the Council are aware, I am honored to be associated with the law firm Hefty, Wiley & Gore which represents a number of local and regional public bodies across the Commonwealth. One of the clients of the firm is Loudoun County, on behalf of which Roger Wiley provided written comments to the Phishing Subcommittee in support of establishing an exclusion from mandatory disclosure for personal contact information provided by members of the public to individual members of public bodies for the purpose of receiving electronic communications.  
I do not think Mr. Wiley's statement of Loudoun's position on this matter creates a conflict precluding my participation in discussing and voting on this issue. This proposed amendment to FOIA would affect all of Virginia's many counties, cities and towns similarly. Moreover, I was appointed to this Council by the Senate Rules Committee specifically as the local government representative. Finally, I am confident that I can participate in the consideration of this issue fairly, objectively and in the public interest. Please let me know if you have any questions or comments regarding this matters.

Regards,  
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