

FOIA Workshops - 2013

In fulfilling its statutory mission to conduct educational programs about FOIA, the FOIA Council conducts a series of day-long workshops around the state. From 2000 through 2005 the workshops were held every year in multiple locations in an effort to maximize the availability of training throughout the Commonwealth. From 2005 through 2012, the workshops were held every other year instead due to declining attendance as many interested persons had already attended a conference just the year before. However, we still receive requests for the roadshow program every year. Beginning in 2013, in an effort to satisfy the demand for annual programs without over-saturating any particular area, we are going to resume presenting the workshops annually, but at only a few locations per year (note that other individualized free training presentations will remain available by request, as always). We intend to present the workshops in the City of Richmond every year due to its central location and large concentration of interested participants. This year, the workshops will be held as follows:

Richmond, VA -- Tuesday, September 10, 2013
Lebanon, VA -- Monday, September 16, 2013
Lynchburg, VA -- Tuesday, September 17, 2013
Harrisonburg, VA -- Wednesday, September 18, 2013

For 2014, we expect to present workshops in Richmond, Northern Virginia, and Tidewater (exact locations to be determined).

Generally, these workshops begin at 9 AM and finish at 2:30 PM, and include segments on public records, public meetings, law-enforcement records, and other topics relevant to access law in the Commonwealth. Continuing legal education credits are available to attorneys through the Virginia State Bar, in-service credit is available for law-enforcement personnel through the Department of Criminal Justice Services, and academy points for school board officials by the Virginia School Board Association.

The workshops are open to anyone interested in FOIA, and are attended by citizens, members of the media, law-enforcement and state and local government employees and officers. Pre-registration is required. A minimal fee, generally around \$45.00, covers administrative costs, handouts, continental breakfast and a box lunch.

Further details about the program and registration information will be made available on the FOIA Council website. If you have any questions or need further information at this time, please do not hesitate to contact us by telephone toll-free at (866)-448-4100 or in the Richmond area at (804) 225-3056, or by email: foiacouncil@dls.virginia.gov.