

Chief FOIA Officer Council (CFOC) Technology Committee

- Co-Chairs:
 - Eric F. Stein, U.S. Department of State
 - Michael Sarich, Veterans Health Administration
- July 21, 2022

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About the Technology Committee

- In response to a recommendation of the 2016-2018 term of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Advisory Committee, the Archivist of the United States proposed that the Chief FOIA Officers (CFO) Council seek to establish a technology subcommittee, in partnership with the Chief Information Officer (CIO) Council, to study the utilization and deployment of technology in FOIA programs across agencies, and identify best practices and recommendations that can be implemented across agencies.
- Membership:
 - We have 40+ members from at least 20 departments/agencies
- Public Website:
 - <https://www.archives.gov/ogis/about-ogis/chief-foia-officers-council/technology-committee>

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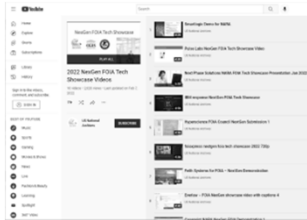
Recent Highlights: NexGen FOIA Showcase

- NexGen FOIA Showcase Event in February 2022 - <https://www.justice.gov/oiip/nexgen-foia-tech-showcase>
 - Objective: Identify FOIA capabilities from the private sector for federal FOIA programs using technology – online platforms for the event, videos about products, chat and discussion at the event. Multi-month initiative.
- Request for Information (RFI) Soliciting Papers for the NexGen FOIA Showcase – November 2021
 - <https://foia.blog.archives.gov/2021/11/12/foia-technology-showcase-request-for-information-published-on-sam.gov/>
 - Responses to RFI found at <https://www.archives.gov/ogis/about-ogis/chief-foia-officers-council/nexgen-foia-showcase>

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NexGen FOIA Showcase

- Held in February 2022 - <https://www.justice.gov/oip/nexgen-foia-tech-showcase>
- 18 Vendors Created Five Minute Videos for the Event: https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLuJwVCizrk5WwDq-NEFrxQPIAXQ_in9t
- Over two days, the 18 vendors each had 30 minutes to show their five minute video and take questions for the next 25 minutes
- The event had at least 400 government employees signed up, and each session had about 150-250 participants.
- OIP had a follow up event in March with a panel of FOIA professionals - <https://www.justice.gov/oip/biba/foia-tech-showcase-follow-workshop-agencies>



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Current Efforts

FOIA Advisory Committee – Technology Subcommittee Coverage

Seven Previous Working Groups:

- 508 Compliance and Collaborative Tools | **Charter**
- Artificial Intelligence | **Charter**
- FOIA and Classified Information | **Charter**
- FOIA Searches | **Charter**
- FOIAonline | **Charter**
- FOIAXpress | **Charter**
- Video Review and Redactions | **Charter**

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Next Steps: Enhanced Working Groups

Create New Working Group Charters

- Search/AI
- FOIA IT Platforms
- Data Working Group
- IT Integration
- 508 Compliance
- FOIA and Classified Working Group
- Technology Best Practices (for Teams, Tools (i.e., Excel), etc.)
- FOIA Reference Model Working Group

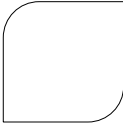
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Next Steps

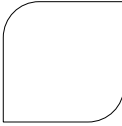
- Plan Future Tech Committee Events
 - Interested in topics/sessions helpful to agency FOIA programs
- Update the Public Website with the New Charters
- Solicit Feedback from FOIA Advisory Committee, Chief FOIA Officer Council, federal agencies, and the public on topics of interest or shared best practices.
 - Recommendations sent to OIP and OGIS are forwarded to the Technology Committee for review and possible discussion
- Add new members to the Technology Committee

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Questions and Contact Information



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