FOIA Advisory Committee Oversight and Accountability Subcommittee 12/10/14

Meeting Minutes

Subcommittee members in attendance:

Nate Jones Brent Evitt

Jim Hogan Martin Michalosky

Ginger McCall Mark Zaid

Anne Weismann

Other in attendance:

Christa Lemelin, Designated Federal Officer

Subcommittee members provided updates and discussed the following items:

- 1. Identify current authorities for oversight and actions (program reviews, audits, reports, inspections, etc) that have been completed over the past 10 years.
 - a. Mr. Jones has identified and collected 53 government reports related to FOIA programs since 1976. This collection does not include reports from Congress or non-government entities.
 - b. Future plans include posting the collected government reports to a public website and conducting a review/analysis of the information.
- 2. Determine opportunities for additional oversight.
 - a. Pending completion of item #1.
- Assessment of the FOIA Public Liaison role and determine opportunities for improvement.
 - a. Mr. Michalosky discussed the development of a survey to evaluate the FOIA Public Liaison role. The survey focus would be assessing the personnel in this role, their training, and other information.
 - b. Future plans include coordinating a meeting for FOIA Public Liaisons with the Department of Justice (Office of Information Policy). The purpose of this meeting will be to discuss the liaison role and preview the survey.
- 4. Evaluate past litigation review efforts and determine opportunities for action.
 - a. Mr. Zaid discussed an analysis of FOIA litigation and the implementation of a litigation review process.

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 Additionally, Mr. Zaid discussed the authority and function(s) of the Department of Justice (Office of Information Policy). He suggested a meeting with the Office of Information Policy in January 2015.

The Subcommittee agreed to reconvene on February 25, 2015.