
Subject: Submission for the record to the Non-Legislative Subcommittee of the Public Records Advisory Council 14 January 2022

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, January 13, 2022 5:06 PM
To: PRC PublicRecordsAdvocate * PRC <PublicRecordsAdvocate.PRC@oregon.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Submission for the record to the Non-Legislative Subcommittee of the Public Records Advisory Council 14 January 2022

Here is the same email with a few corrections. Please post this one, if you can. Thanks.

Mr. Albert,

I have a suggestion related to agenda item III which states, "Council members to suggest ways to develop guidance on best practices and policies for **public records requesters and custodians.**"

My suggestion is that all persons acting as a "public official" (paid or unpaid), or in any other capacity serving a "public body" by appointment, volunteer, selected or elected be required to be issued an email address for the purpose using it for any communications related to that public service. This purposely avoids the use of "private email," which is exempt from disclosure under current Oregon Public Records Law, ORS 192.

The common current practice of hundreds of state-wide city, county, special district, etc. advisory committees or other similar bodies whose members use private email accounts to conduct public business, where the email themselves are subject to disclosure under ORS 192. The emails are not on public servers. Any emails disclosed upon a public records request are voluntary and enforceable only by a rare court order.

Public body issued email addresses can be archived and used for public records requests to more fully comply with ORS 192, while not disclosing private email addresses.

Thanks,
Scott Forrester