



PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT

The Advocacy Institute Is Pleased to Present

The Open Public Records Act - 2023 Update

**July 11, 2023
1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.**

WEBINAR

***Note: This webinar will be simulcast from a live program.**

Program Summary

Responding to public records requests continues to present a myriad of challenges to OPRA custodians throughout the State, especially in the last year as our courts continue to confront and weigh in on novel and complicated issues. This program will provide a broad overview of OPRA case law developments and offer practical suggestions to assess old and new challenges and better assist with counselling client agencies. The presenters will offer a common sense approach to striking an appropriate balance between transparency and the legitimate need for confidentiality, to foster efficient government operation and protect citizens' security and privacy interests.

Eligibility

This program is open to attorneys in the Department of Law and Public Safety, county prosecutors' offices and LPS and agency OPRA custodians invited to attend. Registrants will receive the course materials prior to the program date.

Faculty

AAG Raymond R. Chance III is the AAG in Charge of the Division of Law's Public Records Advice and Disputes Practice Group. He has overall responsibility for the supervision of DASG throughout the Division who provide advice to various State agencies. AAG Chance has directly handled many significant OPRA cases in the Supreme Court, Appellate Division, and trial courts. He was previously the Section Chief of the Banking and Insurance Section. Prior to joining LPS, AAG Chance worked at the former Horn Goldberg Gorny Daniels Paarz Plackter &

Weiss (now Fox Rothschild) law firm in Atlantic City, where he handled complex asbestos litigation and other insurance defense cases. AAG Chance is a graduate of the Dickinson School of Law and the University of Colorado at Boulder.

AAG Demery Roberts is an Assistant Attorney General in the Division of Law's Public Records Advice and Disputes Practice Group, where she supervises DAsG who provide advice to State agencies. She was previously the Legal Director for the New Jersey Election Law Enforcement Commission. Prior to her tenure at ELEC, she served as a senior staff attorney for the Office of the State Comptroller and the Office of the Inspector General. Before commencing State service, she was an associate at Szaferman, Lakind, Blumstein & Blader and Picco Mack Herbert. AAG Roberts served as a law clerk to the Hon. John J. Hughes, U.S.M.J. (Ret) of the United States District Court for the District of New Jersey. She holds an undergraduate degree from the University of Delaware and a J.D. from the Rutgers School of Law-Camden.

DAG Elizabeth Kern is the Assistant Section Chief in the Division of Law's Public Records Advice and Disputes Practice Group. She supervises DAsG throughout the Division who provide advice to various State agencies. She was previously a DAG in the Treasury-Finance and Benefits Section, where she provided counsel on various matters, including OPRA, to State authorities. Prior to joining LPS, DAG Kern clerked for Lisa Thornton, A.J.S.C. in Superior Court of New Jersey, Monmouth County. DAG Kern holds an undergraduate degree from Moravian College and a J.D. from Drexel University's Thomas R. Kline School of Law.

CLE Credit

NJ CLE Credit: This program has been approved by the Board on Continuing Legal Education of the Supreme Court of New Jersey for 2.0 hours of Alternative Verifiable Learning Format (AVF) total CLE credit. Of these, 0.0 qualify as hours of credit for ethics/professionalism.

Registration

Those who are eligible to apply should use the Zoom Webinar registration link in the Program Announcement email. Students who are registered will receive a confirmation email with a link to access the program.

Students must download Zoom before the webinar in order for the AGAI to record polling responses that are required for attendance verification and CLE credit.

The AGAI will be unable to verify attendance or grant CLE credit to students who have not downloaded Zoom before the webinar.