

PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT

The Advocacy Institute Is Pleased to Present

Open Public Records Act: 2024 Amendments and Evolving Case Law

September 16, 2024 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Richard J. Hughes Justice Complex Advocacy Institute Conference Center Fourth Floor, West Wing 25 Market Street, Trenton, New Jersey*

* This program will also be simulcast as a webinar.

Program Summary

Responding to public records requests continues to present a myriad of challenges as courts continue to confront and weigh in on novel and complicated issues and as revisions to the Open Public Records Act take effect on September 3, 2024. This program will provide a broad overview of OPRA case law developments and recent amendments to the Act, as well as offer practical suggestions to assess old and new challenges to 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 and county prosecutors' offices and LPS and agency OPRA custodians invited to attend.

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.

DAG Elizabeth Kern is the 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 total CLE credit. Of these, 0.0 qualify as hours of credit for ethics/professionalism.

PA CLE Credit: 1.5 substantive credits (\$3.00 mandatory registration fee required).

Registration

Attorneys and OPRA custodians who are eligible to attend this program should fill out the registration form accessed through the registration email hyperlink.