

Free Sunshine Media Training Seminar

**A FREE SEMINAR FOR ALL MEMBERS OF THE MEDIA ON
THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION & OPEN MEETINGS ACT**

Friday, June 13, Noon – 1:30 p.m.

Lincoln Park Public Library (1150 W Fullerton Ave., Chicago)

Knowing how to use and enforce the Freedom of Information Act and the Open Meetings Act are essential skills for reporters to have in order to effectively monitor and report on government activity.

Reporters who have a solid foundation for knowing how to obtain public information, what public information is exempt, what meetings are required to be open, and whether or not adequate public notice has been provided to the public is a core component to reporting on government activity.

Issues to be covered include:

- Public notice and agenda concerns;
- When a meeting has to be open to the public, including advisory boards and citizen committees;
- When and how public bodies can go into closed session;
- What information can be obtained under the Freedom of Information Act;
- How to write a Freedom of Information Act request and appeal letter; and
- Any questions related to the Open Meetings Act and the Freedom of Information Act.

The Sunshine Media Training Seminar is will be facilitated by the Citizen Advocacy Center. The Citizen Advocacy Center is a national and regional award winning, non-profit, non-partisan, community based legal organization. For almost fifteen years, Center Community Lawyers have educated and trained the members of the public, the media, and government officials in open government laws and how to systemically increase democratic participation at the local level.

The Sunshine Media Training Seminar is made possible by funding through a grant from the McCormick Foundation.

To register, or for more information on the Citizen Advocacy Center, call Community Lawyer, Ms. Natalie Brouwer at 630.833.4080 or email nbrouwer@citizenadvocacycenter.org.



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