



**STATE OF TENNESSEE
COMPTROLLER OF THE TREASURY
OFFICE OF OPEN RECORDS COUNSEL**

INFORMAL ADVISORY OPINIONS

PURPOSE:

Tenn. Code Ann. § 8-4-601(b) provides that “the office of open records counsel shall answer questions and issue informal advisory opinions as expeditiously as possible to any person, including local government officials, members of the public and the media. Any opinion issued by the office of open records counsel shall be posted on the office's web site.” The following policy sets forth guidelines for issuing such informal advisory opinions.

POLICY:

The Office of Open Records Counsel (“OORC”) will issue informal advisory opinions on matters related to the Tennessee Public Records Act, Tenn. Code Ann. § 10-7-501 et seq., and the Tennessee Open Meetings Act, Tenn. Code Ann. § 8-44-101 et seq., when the OORC determines the matter under advisement is broad enough in scope that issuing an informal advisory opinion would provide useful guidance and direction with respect to future inquiries regarding Tennessee’s public records or open meetings laws. The determination of whether to issue an informal advisory opinion will be made on a case-by-case basis at the discretion of Open Records Counsel.

In accordance with Tenn. Code Ann. § 8-4-601(b), informal advisory opinions issued by the OORC will be posted on the office’s website.

*Submitted to ACOG: November 8, 2016.
Effective: January 20, 2017*