



**THE FREEDOM
OF INFORMATION
FOUNDATION
OF TEXAS**

**February 11, 2008
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Workshop on Public Information, Open Meetings to be in Longview

The Freedom of Information Foundation of Texas and the Office of the Attorney General of Texas will hold a 2008 Open Government seminar from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Friday, May 16, in the Blake Engineering Center's Barry Auditorium at LeTourneau University, 2400 S. Mobberly Ave., in Longview.

Open Government 2008: A Symposium on Access to Public Information and Open Meetings in Texas is a traveling workshop designed to develop and enhance understanding of the changing landscape of open government. Sessions will address hot topics in public information and open meetings acts and will include a legislative update on changes made during the legislative session. The program is directed toward the general public, government employees, elected officials and representatives of the media. Each seminar will feature experienced attorneys and others knowledgeable in this important area of law.

Participants will receive materials from the Office of the Attorney General as well as FOIFT. The morning session has been approved by the Office of the Attorney General as meeting the requirements for open government training for public officials.

Scheduled presenters include Joseph R. Larsen, an attorney with the law office of Ogden, Gibson, Broocks & Longoria, L.L.P; Hadassah Schloss, cost rules administrator with the Open Records Division of the Office of the Attorney General of Texas; and Thornton Wood, an attorney also with the Open Records Division of the Office of the Attorney General of Texas.

The portion compliant with open government training for public officials will be from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. and is free. The afternoon session offers an in-depth, interactive discussion with presenters for \$40 and includes a Freedom of Information Foundation of Texas membership, on-line handbook access and open records resource materials.

A 90-minute lunch break allows participants to travel to area restaurants. Seating is limited and registration is due by May 9. Register at www.foift.org/open_gov.html. If you wish to pay by check or purchase order, a downloadable form on the website may be faxed to 214.977.6666 or mailed to 400 S. Record St., 13th Floor, Dallas, TX 75202. The last seminar of 2008 will be October 30 in Lubbock. For questions call 214.977.6658 or email foift@foift.org.

The Freedom of Information Foundation of Texas, a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization, works to encourage, sponsor and facilitate a greater appreciation, knowledge and understanding of the First Amendment. The FOIFT strives to preserve the freedoms necessary in a democratic republic by educating media and legal professionals, educators, students, public and government officials and individual citizens about their rights and responsibilities as citizens.

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