



U.S. Department of Justice

Office of Information and Privacy

Telephone: (202) 514-3642

Washington, D.C. 20530

October 31, 2008

MEMORANDUM

TO: Kevin J. O'Connor  
Associate Attorney General  
Office of the Associate Attorney General

FROM: Melanie Ann Pustay  
Director

SUBJECT: Certification of the Department of Justice's  
Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Reading Rooms

One of the recommendations contained in the May 30, 2008 Attorney General's Report to the President on agency progress under Executive Order 13,392, "Improving Agency Disclosure of Information," requires agency Chief FOIA Officers to certify, by October 31, 2008, to the Office of Management and Budget that their agency FOIA Reading Rooms are in compliance with the FOIA.

The Department of Justice maintains forty Reading Rooms, one for each Department component. In order to comply with this recommendation, the Office of Information and Privacy (OIP) requested that all Department of Justice principal FOIA contacts review their Reading Rooms and certify to this Office that their Reading Rooms are in compliance with the FOIA. Those component certifications have now all been received. In addition, OIP reviewed the Reading Rooms of the Offices of the Attorney General, Deputy Attorney General, Associate Attorney General, Legal Policy, Legislative Affairs, Intergovernmental and Public Liaison, and Public Affairs. Those Reading Rooms are likewise in compliance with the FOIA.

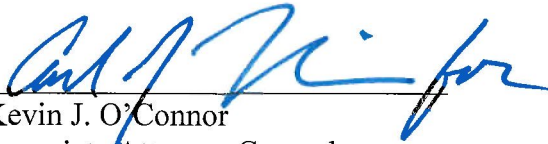
In conjunction with this initiative, many improvements have been made to the electronic Reading Rooms throughout the Department. Components have restructured or reorganized their electronic Reading Rooms, removed outdated material, and added additional records, including records not technically required to be posted, but which may be of interest to the public.


As a result of these efforts, I recommend that you sign the attached sheet certifying that the Department of Justice's Reading Rooms are in compliance with the FOIA. Once we have received your approval, we will submit this certification to the Office of Management and Budget and post this document in the Office of the Associate Attorney General's electronic Reading Room.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. If you have any questions, you may call me at (202) 514-3642.

Certification of the Department of Justice's FOIA Reading Rooms

The Department of Justice has completed its review of the FOIA Reading Rooms maintained by each of the forty Department components for purposes of determining whether they are in compliance with the FOIA. As a result of that review many improvements have been made to the Department's Reading Rooms, including the posting of additional records and the removal of outdated records. I hereby certify that the Department of Justice's Reading Rooms are in compliance with the requirements of the Freedom of Information Act.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Kevin J. O'Connor  
Associate Attorney General

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date