



**2018**  
**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION**  
**ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

FEATURED TOPIC:

**Why FOI?**

Friday, April 27, 2018  
8:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M.

The Riverhouse at Goodspeed Station  
Haddam, Connecticut

**Sponsored by**

Connecticut Freedom of Information Commission  
Connecticut Foundation for Open Government  
Connecticut Council on Freedom of Information  
Connecticut Society of Professional Journalists

**The Riverhouse at Goodspeed Station, 55 Bridge Road, Haddam, CT 06438 Phone: 860.345.4100**

Directions: **From Hartford area:** South on I-91 to Exit 22S (left-hand exit). South on Route 9 to Exit 7.

**From New Haven area:** North on I-95 to Exit 69. North on Route 9 to Exit 7. Then follow directions **in bold** below.

**From New London area:** South on I-95 to Exit 69. North on Route 9 to Exit 7. Then follow directions **in bold** below.

**Turn left at the end of the ramp (ramp is three miles long), following Route 82. At first stop light, turn right onto Bridge Rd. The Riverhouse will be approximately 1/2 mile down on the right.**

**2018  
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION COMMISSION CONFERENCE PROGRAM**

**8:00 A.M. - 8:30 A.M.**

**Registration and Continental Breakfast**

**8:30 A.M. – 8:40 A.M.**

**Welcome and Introduction**

Colleen M. Murphy, Executive Director and General Counsel, Freedom of Information Commission

**NEW: Video Welcome**

**The Honorable Christopher Murphy**, United States Senator for Connecticut

**Opening Remarks**

**The Honorable Kevin Lembo**, Comptroller, State of Connecticut

**8:40 A.M. – 8:45 A.M.**

**Break**

**8:45 A.M. – 10:30 A.M.**

**Break Out Sessions**

**Nuts and Bolts: Answers to Cutting Edge FOIA Questions**

FOIC Staff

**OR**

**FOI 101: A Crash Course in the FOI Act**

**Tracie C. Brown**, Commission Counsel, Freedom of Information Commission

**10:30 A.M. - 10:40 A.M.**

**Break**

**10:40 A.M. – 11:30 A.M.**

**Panel Discussion**

**Complying with the FOIA: Some Helpful Hints**

Presented by:

**Attorney Henry J. Zaccardi**, Counsel, Shipman and Goodwin, LLP

**Attorney Jessica Richman Smith**, Associate, Shipman and Goodwin, LLP

**11:30 A.M. – 11:40 A.M.**

**Break**

**11:40 A.M. – 12:50 P.M.**

**Panel Discussion**

**Why FOI?**

In our ever-changing, technology driven world, where information abounds, is Freedom of Information still critical to the conduct of good government? With so much information available at everyone's fingertips, do we need open records laws? When public agencies are contemplating holding meetings remotely, do we need open meetings laws? Has technology yielded more government transparency? Or does the use of technology actually conceal government activities? Is FOI irrelevant or is it more important now than ever? This featured panel explores these issues.

**Moderator:**

**Attorney Mark J. Sommaruga**, Partner, Pullman and Comley, LLC

**Panel Members:**

**Attorney D. Randall "Randy" DiBella**, Partner, Cramer & Anderson, LLP

**Jill Konopka**, Investigative Reporter, NBC 30 News

**The Honorable Nancy R. Rossi**, Mayor, City of West Haven

**12:50 P.M. - 1:00 P.M.**

**Break**

**1:00 P.M. – 2:00 P.M.**

**Luncheon**

**and**

**Keynote Speaker**

**The Honorable Erin E. Stewart**

Mayor, City of New Britain

**REGISTRATION FORM**

\$55.00 Registration fee covers all or part of the program, including continental breakfast & lunch. Registration for conference & luncheon on a space available basis.

**Registration must be received by April 20, 2018 and will only be accepted with full payment, payable to:**

**CONNECTICUT FOUNDATION FOR OPEN GOVERNMENT**

**C/O FOI COMMISSION, 18-20 TRINITY STREET, 1<sup>ST</sup> FLOOR, HARTFORD, CT 06106**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ Breakout Session FOI 101 (Please check if you plan to attend)\_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE OR EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

AFFILIATION: \_\_\_\_\_

AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Lunch includes: Soup – Vegetarian minestrone; Baby Greens with Mandarin Orange Segments, Feta Citrus Vinaigrette (toasted almonds on the side); Chicken Napoleon; Grilled Marinated Chicken Breast, Fresh Mozzarella, Tomato Salsa with a Balsamic Drizzle, Pan Seared Salmon with Mango, Cucumber and Cilantro Lime Salsa; Seasonal Grilled Vegetables; Mushroom Risotto; Rolls and Butter; Assorted Cookies; Coffee and Teas with Assorted Soft Drinks.