NATIONAL ARCHIVES

Archivist *of the* United States

November 6, 2026

Mr. Michael Bekesha
Director, Constitutional Rights Litigation
Judicial Watch, Inc.

SUBJECT: Appointment to the 2026-2028 Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Advisory Committee

Dear Mr. Bekesha,

I am pleased to appoint you to serve on the 2026-2028 term of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Advisory Committee representing the interests of Judicial Watch, Inc., a non-governmental organization that advocates on FOIA matters.

The National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) established the Committee in 2014 in accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended, 5 U.S.C. §§ 1001-1014. The FOIA Advisory Committee's goal is to foster dialogue between the executive branch and the requester community, solicit public comments, and recommend improvements to FOIA administration and proactive disclosures.

The Committee begins its seventh term on Thursday, December 3, 2026, with an in-person meeting in the William G. McGowan Theater at the National Archives in Washington, DC. This first meeting will be followed by a virtual meeting on Thursday, December 10, 2026. The first meeting will primarily consist of an introduction to one another and to the work of the Committee, while the goal of the second meeting will be to organize into working subcommittees and appoint subcommittee co-chairs (one government co-chair and one non-government co-chair). We expect most of the remaining meetings to be virtual.

Please note that NARA is unable to compensate Committee members for their time, travel, or per diem costs.

Your commitment to the full Committee meetings as well as active participation in subcommittee work is critical to the success of the 2026-2028 Committee.

Ms. Kirsten Mitchell of OGIS will continue to serve as the Committee's Designated Federal Officer (DFO). In this role, Kirsten provides management support, ensures compliance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act and other laws and regulations, and ensures efficient operations. To confirm your acceptance of this appointment, please contact Kirsten at foia-advisory-committee@nara.gov as soon as possible but no later than **Tuesday, November 10, 2026**.

I appreciate your commitment to improving FOIA administration across the federal government, an important part of delivering transparency to the American people.

Sincerely,

Bradford P Wilson

Bradford P. Wilson
Archivist of the United States