Email & E-Communications
Records Management

SESSION 6 OF 6 ON RECORDS MANAGEMENT

This training does not constitute a legal opinion or legal advice on the part of the Library, Archives and Public Records Branch, of the Secretary Of State.
Session Guidelines and general information
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The State Archives, located in the Polly Rosenbaum Archives and History Building, collects preserves, and makes available to the public and all branches of government, permanent public records, historical manuscripts, photographs and other materials that contribute to the understanding of Arizona history. The Records Management Center administers the management of public records throughout state and local government in Arizona.
1. We will be muting All participants to help with sound distortion.

2. Please make sure that all phones are muted during the sessions. **Press *6 and your phone will be muted.**

3. Feel free to submit notes during session for discussion. If you would like to **send a note / comment**, please **send to “all”** so that everyone can see the question and then hear the answer to that question.

4. **Take a vote**: How many of you are participating in today’s session with a group of co-workers?

5. If so, how many of you are there in your group? (Send # as a note)

6. **At the end of the training, we will be taking questions.** Write down any questions you have during the session, and we will have an opportunity to ask them at the end.
All Records Management in Arizona is Governed by Arizona Revised Statutes (ARS)

- In Arizona, **everything that we do** in Records Management is governed by Arizona Revised Statutes (ARS).

- The ARS that govern Records Management are: §41-151.01 – §41-151.23

- The purpose of this training today is to discuss the management of email and electronic communication records.
41-151.18. **Definition of records**

In this article, unless the context otherwise requires:

- **"records"** means all books, papers, maps, photographs or other documentary materials,

- **Regardless of physical form or characteristics**, including prints or copies of such items produced or reproduced on film or electronic media pursuant to section 41-151.16,

- **Made or received by any governmental agency** in pursuance of law or in connection with the transaction of public business and preserved or appropriate for preservation by the agency or its legitimate successor

- **As evidence of the organization, functions, policies, decisions, procedures, operations or other activities of the government, or because of the informational and historical value of data contained in the record**, and includes records that are made confidential by statute.
What is **NOT** a Record

41-151.18. **Definition of records - continued**

Not included within the definition of records as used in this article:

- **Library or museum material** made or acquired solely for reference or exhibition purposes,
- **extra copies of documents preserved only for convenience of reference**
- **and stocks of publications or documents intended for sale or distribution to interested persons**
Two Records Management Principles

As long as you are required to retain / keep / hold onto records:
- those records needs to be **useable and readable**
  - Obsolete media, format, system
  - Back-up tapes that cannot be read
    Why keep information that cannot be used?

- those records need to be **available and accessible**
  - Open to PRR, litigation, audits, government investigations
  - No hidden data warehouses / data archives
    Why hide information from the public / colleagues?
The Benefits of a Good Records Management Program

The **benefits** of having a good Records Management Program in place:

**Financial Benefits:**
- Save money and resources previously being spent on storing records (physical floor space, server space, off-site storage):
  - That don’t need to be stored (copies, short-term, transitory, etc.)
  - That aren’t records (copies and personal) – and can be destroyed
  - That have passed their retention period - and can be destroyed
- Save money and resources for records no longer needed:
  - spent in searching for, retrieving, copying, producing or redacting records in response to requests

**Risk Management Benefits:**
- Keeping records LONGER than the retention period is a risk
- If you have the information, you need to provide it for Public Records Request, Audit, Investigation, Litigation
- If you don’t have the information because you destroyed it per a Retention Schedule, you are legally OK.
Email Records:
A General Introduction
Definitions and Challenges: Electronic communications

E-mail and Electronic Communication Records*
- (including electronic mail messages (E-mail), instant messages (IM), text messages, mobile to mobile (M2M) messages, voice-over Internet Protocol (VoIP) messages and other related records)

IT Challenge: Not all of these forms of communications can be easily tracked by IT, and some may not even pass through IT-controlled channels. Ex: mobile to mobile messages are on networks not managed by IT

RM Challenge: If some of these communications are not controlled by IT, then the challenges of capturing the communications and managing them throughout their retention life cycle will be difficult.
- The USER becomes the one that MUST capture and manage these communications if they fit the definition of a “record”.
- AND, the USER must be made aware of this (their) responsibility!
Main Points to E-mail as a Record

- E-mail requires **all** Government employees to be Records Managers
- E-mail records retention is based upon the content and intent of e-mail
- E-mail is a format of communication and not a record series of its own
- There can be no single retention period for e-mail records since retention is based upon content
- When sending / receiving e-mails:
  - Is this a record?
  - What type of record is this?
  - What is the retention for this record?
Tips for thwarting viruses:

- Don’t open an e-mail attachment from someone you don’t know.

- If you are unsure of an attachment, call your Systems staff – they can try to determine if it’s legitimate.

- Banks, credit card companies, and financial businesses will NEVER ask for personal information in an e-mail. Don’t be fooled by official-looking e-mail.

- Don’t be fooled by official-looking messages which threaten to suspend your account(s).

- Don’t click on that ‘unsubscribe’ link in a spam e-mail message – it only tells the spammer you’re still there.
Content and Intent

E-mail is managed by its content and intent, NOT its format.
Test your understanding— which of these statements are true?

- The retention period for email is 45 days.
- There can never be ONE single retention period for email.
- All email can be classified as “General Correspondence.”
- An email from an employee asking for vacation leave is the same retention as a *Policy and Procedure Record*.
- An email from a contracted vendor regarding a specific contract is the same retention as a *Contract Record*.
- An email between two employees discussing the FY 17 Budget is the same as a *Budget Record*. 
Keep or delete?

- Subject: Can you meet me for lunch?
- Subject: Memo re new travel policy
- Subject: Committee meeting minutes
- Subject: New policy on vacation leave
- Subject: Listserv messages 7/10/05
- Subject: Instructions for filling out travel form
- Subject: Pick up some bread for supper?
- Subject: Sorry I missed class this week
- Subject: Negotiations with a records storage company
What to do with attachments?

If e-mail and the attachment are a record:

- Save the e-mail and attachment together in original format within your e-mail software on the e-mail server
- Save the email and its attachment in another location (hard drive or network space)
- Print the e-mail and attachment and save them in paper format

***MUST Keep Email and Attachment Together for chain of custody purposes.
Where should you store e-mail?

What does your IT Policy say? How long is the retention period?

E-mail Inbox / Software
- Advantages – accessed from multiple locations through webmail, more secure, backed up regularly.
- Disadvantages – may run out of allotted space

Personal / Shared Hard Drives (.pst)
- Advantages – avoid filling up allotted server space.
- Disadvantages – may not be backed up regularly, not available through webmail

DVDs / CDs
- Advantages – good for inactive or infrequently accessed messages. Short term retention.
- Disadvantages – messages more difficult to locate, difficult to remember for public records request purposes, media may degrade or become obsolete.
A word about formats

Retention Period:
- If you have a long retention period, is that email safe in your inbox from early or mistaken deletion? Can you really keep a three-year email safe? 5-years? 10-years?

Print:
- Print out important e-mails and keep along with other records in a specific records series.

Electronic:
- If saved in native file formats, accessible only as long as e-mail application supported. If saved in open format, such as ASCII text, better chance for access / preservation in future, but lose original formatting.
A word about printing

Print version must include ALL Metadata:

- Addresses – not names of distribution lists – of specific recipients (the “To:”)
- Including addresses in “cc:” and “bcc:” fields
- Addresses of the sender (the “From:”)
- The subject line
- The body of the e-mail message
- All attachments
- The date and time the message was sent and/or received
3 ways you could organize your e-mail (#1)

1. No filing strategy:
   Creating no folders, keeping all e-mails in inbox

   - **Advantages:**
     - Requires little effort,
     - e-mail owner can locate certain messages by using search engine or remembering when specific e-mail received.
     - Threading feature can also be used, if available.

   - **Disadvantages:**
     - Over time, more difficult to recall when certain e-mails received,
     - more difficult to retrieve w/out subject folders.
     - May be difficult for your successor, colleagues, or an archivist to make sense of e-mails in the future.
     - May keep more e-mails than you need to.
Organizing e-mail (#2)

2. **Filing system**: Simple filing scheme based on topical areas. Can incorporate your office’s records retention and disposition schedule.

- **Advantages**:
  - Provides complete view of all e-mails on a particular topic,
  - provides context for a set of messages,
  - allows for quick retrieval,
  - allows others to make sense of your e-mails, reduces clutter in inbox

- **Disadvantages**:
  - Takes time and discipline to maintain
Organizing e-mail (#3)

3. **Combination of filing system and usage of inbox**

- E-mails left in your inbox should be e-mails you need to act upon or on which you need resolution
- Delete e-mails you don’t need to keep on a daily basis
- File e-mails you know you want to keep but don’t have to follow up on
Sub-folders and how to create them (Outlook)

Do you know how to set up subfolders for your inbox? If not, ask a colleague or ask IT to help with this

Here’s a How-to from help.outlook.com:
Create and Manage Folders
- By default, messages that are sent to you are stored in your Inbox.
- But you can organize your messages into a hierarchical folder system and continue to adjust it as your needs change.

- How do I create a new mail folder?
- In the Navigation Pane, click Mail to view the list of all folders in your Inbox. Right-click the folder in which you want to create a new subfolder. For example, to create a subfolder in your Inbox, right-click Inbox. To create a new folder at the same level as your Inbox, right-click your name at the top of the folder list.

- Click Create New Folder.
  Type a name for your new folder.
  Press ENTER to save your changes.
Video on how to create subfolders

- For those of you that like “how-to” videos, here is one for creating subfolders in Outlook:

  http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9IAjU34ebng

***Disclaimer: I am not recommending this video creator, nor their videos, etc. At 29 seconds, this video is short, sweet and to the point.
Suggested Subfolder examples

- Here are some subfolders you might want to create:
  - 1. General Correspondence
  - 2. Time and Leave Records
  - 3. Progress Reports (Weekly / Monthly)
  - 4. Budget Work files (FY15) (FY16) (FY17)
  - 5. Current Contracts
  - 6. Expired Contracts
  - 7. Case-related

- Use the General or Custom Retention Schedule for your Division or the record series you create / receive and set up subfolders for each records series you work with.

- Set up subfolders that reflect the types of records you deal with.
E-mail Folder Structures

- **Records series** – Example: Annual Reports
- **Geographic area or location** – Example: Travel Reports – England
- **Numbers or symbols** – Example: NSF-001; Case #
- **Dates** – Example: March 2004
- **Subjects** – Example: Budgets, Departments/Offices
- **Sender** – Example: John Smith; State Library and Archives
Top 10 Tips for E-mail Use

10. Be careful when opening e-mail from an unknown sender. The message could be spam or could contain a virus.

9. Use subject lines that are indicative of the content of your message and that the person who receives the e-mail can use to retrieve it.

8. Use work e-mail systems sparingly to send or receive personal e-mail. Use discretion when mixing personal and work-related messages.
7. Take time to compose a thoughtful response before sending an e-mail. Proofread your e-mail for spelling errors, grammar, and punctuation before sending it.

6. When sensitive issues need to be discussed, face-to-face conversation or a telephone call may be a better communication choice than e-mail. Remember that the security of your e-mail cannot be ensured.

5. Do not put anything in an e-mail message that you would not want to see printed in tomorrow’s newspaper or displayed on a bulletin board.
Top 10 Tips (cont.)

4. Manage e-mail based on its content, not space quotas. Retain and dispose of e-mail messages according to established records retention schedules.

3. Everyone receives e-mail that may pose personal or institutional risks. These e-mails should be removed from the e-mail system as soon as possible and according to law.

2. For most people, much of the e-mail that they receive is not too important, but everyone receives a small percentage that is. You should take special care with these important e-mails to make sure that they are secure, retrievable, and preserved over time.
1. E-mail does not manage itself.
   - Be a proactive manager of your inbox
   - Manage your messages in a way that is most effective for you
   - May involve filing significant messages
   - Or, a combination of filing in folders
   - and / or using the inbox to store messages.

Important to Remember:

E-mails that mix business and personal messages are considered public records!
Email Policies
(from a records management point of view)
Protecting Your Records

Job #1: Have a Records Management-focused Email Policy in Place!
E-mail / E-Communications Policy Essentials

- Clearly state what makes an e-mail a record
  - Content of e-mail
  - Intent of e-mail
  - Meets the definition of a “record”
  - Is discoverable

- Privacy expectations
  - Explode the myth of the “private” e-mail
  - E-mails have a life of their own
  - But I used my home computer / PDA!
  - Sensitive, proprietary, confidential
E-mail / E-Communications Policy Essentials

• Identify and classify
  • Going beyond, “Is this a record?”
  • business: sensitive / restricted / closed,
  • informational, personal, junk

• Retention for dummies
  • What to keep and why
  • How long = content and purpose
  • Who keeps it: sender, recipient, all?
  • Subject line matters
E-mail / E-Communications Policy Essentials

• **Leave no piece behind:**
  • Body, attachments, metadata, distribution lists

• **Choose a format that can provide the following:**
  • Preservation of metadata
  • efficient and timely retrieval
  • lifelong usability
  • Lifelong access

• **Quotas and restrictions**
  • E-mail message and mailbox size limitations
Don’t forget to include email / e-communications as part of your office Disaster Recovery plan:

- Names and phone numbers of contacts
- Names and phone numbers of data recovery vendors
- A back-up copy of computer files
- Plan to recover paper records too
- Try your plan out and see if it works
Email Records Series / Email Retention Period
Toronto Email Scandal in Comics

Thinking Records: James Lappin's records management blog. http://thinkingrecords.co.uk/
Email Records General Retention Schedule

Arizona State Library, Archives and Public Records

General Records Retention Schedule for All State and Local Agencies

Electronic Communications, Social Media and Website Records

Schedule Number: GS 1026
After the Arizona Supreme Court rulings in Lake v. City of Phoenix, metadata is a record, and needs to be preserved and retained as an essential component of any electronic record. In order to meet the requirements of the definition of a "record" per ARS § 41-151.18, electronic communications must capture and retain, for the entire retention period of the record, the following minimum metadata requirements:

- **Sender and receiver identification** (must be explicit enough to identify the individual senders I recipients);
- If the message only indicates initials or other abbreviated identifiers (e.g., distribution lists, grouped addresses, etc.) as senders and/or recipients, then the custodian must document who were the actual senders and/or recipients of the message;
- **Date and time** sent/received

This metadata must be accessible with the official record.
“The actual retention period for an Electronic Communications Record depends upon the content and intent of that communication. Many different topics (content) can be discussed in an Electronic Communication. The Sender/Receiver needs to determine the content of that Electronic Communication, and then retain the Communication for the period of time required for that particular topic (content).”
Examples of common items found in e-mail include the following:

Electronic Communications - - General Correspondence-Related Records (item #10407)

- Including any content in the actual message, any attachments or links and is not a duplicate record, transitory or retained elsewhere, and the appropriate, minimum required metadata. These records do NOT include Executive Correspondence. These are records that are not related to a specific project or case. Including, but not limited to, forms, letters, and memos.

...After administrative or reference value has been served
Example of common items found in e-mail include the following:

10408. Electronic Communications - Time and Leave-Related Records, School Districts and Charter Schools

- (Including any content in the actual message, any attachments or links and is not a duplicate record, transitory or retained elsewhere, and the appropriate, minimum required metadata)
- ...4 years After fiscal year created or received
Email records management options
“I don’t know how” = ignorance = non-compliance

 Thinking Records: James Lappin's records management blog. http://thinkingrecords.co.uk/
Use what you have!

- Who is managing your email records? IT? RM? You?
- Who is responsible for managing your email? IT? RM? You?
- Does my public body need to have a special software / special vendor to help manage our email records?
- Many public bodies in Arizona utilize Microsoft Outlook for their email
- **Outlook** has some Records Management (records retention capabilities) built in
- You can set a specific retention period for a specific subfolder(s)
- Your IT may NOT have enabled individual users to set retention.
- Ask IT to help you set up folder retention – which I will demonstrate next.
How to allow auto-archive for your Outlook (2010 Version)

How to Set-up Outlook so AutoArchive is allowed:
1. In Outlook, under HOME tab (at top of Outlook screen), click on your “Inbox”
2. Next, click on FILE tab
3. Move down to OPTIONS and click
4. In pop-up box, click on ADVANCED
5. Click on AutoArchive Settings
6. Click to checkmark box for “Run AutoArchive every 14 days” (standard time frame)
7. Click to checkmark box for “Prompt before AutoArchive runs”
8. Under “During AutoArchive”, click to checkmark “Delete expired items (e-mail folders only)"
9. Then, click OK button
This will allow you to next set up AutoArchive for certain subfolders
Screen Print of Auto-archive process
How to Auto-archive at individual folder level

How to Set-up Outlook folder(s) so AutoArchive is allowed at folder level:
1. In Outlook, under HOME tab (at top of Outlook screen), click on one of your subfolders
2. Next, click on FOLDER tab
3. Move over to AUTOARCHIVE SETTINGS and click
4. In pop-up box, you should see “Do not archive items in this folder” highlighted
5. (All of your subfolders should have this box highlighted UNTIL you choose to set a specific retention period – activate AutoArchive for that folder)
6. Click “Archive this folder using these settings” to highlight
7. Set an appropriate retention period by choosing a **number** from the drop down and **selecting** either “**months**” “**weeks**” or “**days**”
8. Next, you have two options depending upon whether you want the emails to be automatically deleted when time is up, or placed into a folder for you to review before you delete them.
9. For some email subfolders (like “General Correspondence”) you will probably not need to review each email before they are deleted, so you can click “Permanently delete old item”
10. For some email subfolders (like “Current Contracts”) you will want to review each email to see if they need additional retention, need to be moved to another subfolder (like “Expired Contracts”), etc. In this case, click “move old items to” button
11. When you choose this option, you will need to set up a folder, name it (“Review Emails Before Deleting” or the like), choose the location of the folder, etc.
12. Then, click OK button
13. This will allow you to next set up AutoArchive for certain subfolders
Screen print of folder auto-archive process
Office.microsoft.com provides help

Automatically move or delete older items with AutoArchive

AutoArchive settings explained
Videos on how to Auto-archive in Outlook

Outlook 2010
- *How to Setup and Run Auto Archive Outlook 2010* by David Ludlow
  [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JGSHIepyLkI](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JGSHIepyLkI)

- *How to use Outlook 2010 AutoArchive Settings* by ApexNWTechnology
  [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ip3sVjMhCIA](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ip3sVjMhCIA)

IT Outlook Governance (Usually available only to IT)
  [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QkKoC1GX-FQ](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QkKoC1GX-FQ)

***Disclaimer: I am not recommending this video creator, nor their videos, etc.***
Got Questions?

***Please complete an Evaluation – in email with on-line session instruction***
HELPFUL CONTACTS

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State Ombudsman’s Office
http://www.azleg.gov/ombudsman/default.asp

State Attorney General – Records Publication
https://www.azag.gov/sites/default/files/sites/all/docs/agency-handbook/ch06.pdf

ARMA International:
http://www.arma.org/

Institute of Certified Records Managers (ICRM):
http://www.icrm.org/

National Archives and Records Management (NARA):
http://www.archives.gov/records-mgmt/

National Association of Government Archivists and Records Administrators (NAGARA):
http://www.nagara.org/index.cfm