Agency Electronic Information Request Standard

Introduction
Under the Oklahoma Open Records Act, all public records are available for inspection and copying unless specifically exempted from disclosure under the law. In a federated and decentralized organization, agencies are the subject matter experts for their data records. As such, there are specific responsibilities they bear for electronic information requests.

Purpose
This document establishes requirements for agencies to request data held by OMES in response to the Open Records Act and electronic discovery requests. This standard is applicable for requests made by state agencies and is not intended for members of the public, vendors, law enforcement or any other entity to make requests through use of the OMES Service Desk. Service desk tickets received from any such persons or entities will be closed without response.

Standard
All OMES division administrators and employees must forward all requests for OMES owned records to the online OMES Open Records Request Form. OMES Legislative and Public Affairs designees coordinate assignment of each request to corresponding division(s) and track status of requests agencywide.

Any other state agency may request a search of its own data when that data is held by OMES through a request to its contracted eDiscovery service provider, or if the agency has no contracted provider, by service request to the OMES Service Desk. Agencies are prohibited from requesting a search of data sources owned by another agency. Each data request for OMES must include search parameters including, but not limited to, key words, date ranges and mailbox(es)/source(s) to be searched. Request should also include any related documents that are not confidential (e.g., a copy of the original open record request).

Pursuant to 62 O.S. §35.8(c), each requesting agency has the duty to thoroughly review records provided in response to this request. If records received contain records that do not belong to the requesting agency, the requesting agency must immediately notify both OMES Legal, the eDiscovery provider (if applicable) and the affected agency. Prior to releasing any records received, the requesting agency must ensure that such records are (i) the requesting agency's records, (ii) responsive to the request and (iii) do not contain privileged or exempt records that also belong to another agency. The requesting agency is solely responsible for redacting records and asserting privilege and/or exemptions which may be claimed or required by law.

Compliance
This standard shall take effect upon publication and is made pursuant to Title 62 O.S. §§ 34.11.1 and 34.12 and Title 62 O.S. § 35.8. OMES IS may amend and publish the amended standards policies and standards at any time. Compliance is expected with all published policies and standards, and any published amendments thereof. Employees found in violation of this standard may be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including termination.
Rationale
To coordinate and require central approval of state agency information technology purchases and projects to enable the chief information officer to assess the needs and capabilities of state agencies as well as streamline and consolidate systems to ensure that the state delivers essential public services to its citizens in the most efficient manner at the lowest possible cost to taxpayers.

References
- Open Records Act.
- OMES Open Records Request Form.

Revision history
This standard is subject to periodic review to ensure relevancy.

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