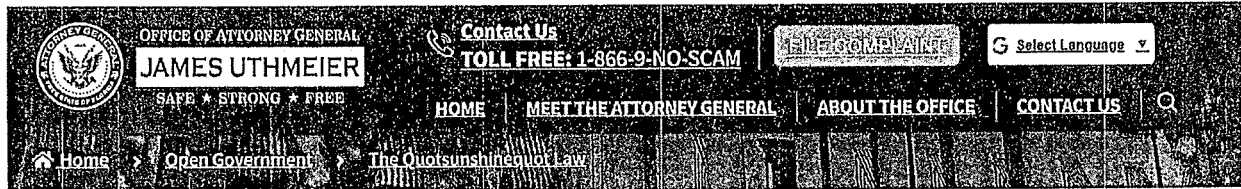


Here is a short quiz on the core aspects of Florida's Government in the Sunshine Law, focusing on open meetings, public records, and key requirements:

Quiz on Florida's Sunshine Law

1. **What are the three main requirements of the Sunshine Law regarding public meetings?**
 - A. Meetings must be audio-recorded, agendas must be posted, and minutes must be kept.
 - B. Meetings must be open to the public, reasonable notice must be given, and minutes must be taken.
 - C. Meetings can be held in secret, but official actions must be published later.
2. **Who is subject to the Sunshine Law?**
 - A. Only state-level agencies.
 - B. Federal agencies, but not state or local governments.
 - C. Any public body, officer, or agency at the state, county, or municipal level, and certain advisory committees.
3. **What qualifies as a "public record" under the Sunshine Law?**
 - A. Any document, regardless of physical form, made or received by an agency in connection with official business.
 - B. Only documents that have been publicly announced.
 - C. Any record that is related to public finances.
4. **Can a meeting be held privately if a social media group discusses the matters first?**
 - A. Yes, as long as the official vote happens in a public meeting.
 - B. No, any discussion among two or more members of a board about potential official business must occur in a public setting.
 - C. Yes, if the members are at a social function.
5. **What can happen if someone knowingly violates the Sunshine Law?**
 - A. Nothing, as violations are usually unintentional.
 - B. They may face fines, removal from office, and court costs.
 - C. They are only required to attend a public records training course.



THE "SUNSHINE" LAW


To assist the public and governmental agencies in understanding the requirements and exemptions to Florida's open government laws, the Attorney General's Office compiles a comprehensive guide known as the Government-in-the-Sunshine manual. The manual is published each year at no taxpayer expense by the First Amendment Foundation in Tallahassee.

Florida began its tradition of openness back in 1909 with the passage of [Chapter 119](#) of the Florida Statutes or the "Public Records Law." This law provides that any records made or received by any public agency in the course of its official business are available for inspection, unless specifically exempted by the Florida Legislature. Over the years, the definition of what constitutes "public records" has come to include not just traditional written documents such as papers, maps and books, but also tapes, photographs, film, sound recordings and records stored in computers.

Florida's Government-in-the-Sunshine Law was enacted in 1967. Today, the Sunshine Law regarding open government can be found in [Chapter 286](#) of the Florida Statutes. These statutes establish a basic right of access to most meetings of boards, commissions and other governing bodies of state and local governmental agencies or authorities.

Throughout the history of Florida's open government, its courts have consistently supported the public's right of access to governmental meetings and records. As such, they also have been defining and redefining what a public record is and who is covered under the open meetings law. One area of public concern was whether or not the Legislature was covered under the open meetings requirements. To address that concern, a Constitutional amendment was passed overwhelmingly by the voters in 1990 providing for open meetings in the legislative branch of government.

The Attorney General's Office has consistently sought to safeguard Florida's pioneering Government-in-the-Sunshine laws. Our attorneys have worked, both in the courtroom and out, to halt public records violations. In 1991, a decision by the Florida Supreme Court raised questions which made it clear that the best way to ensure the public's right of access to all three branches of government was to secure that right through the Florida Constitution. The Attorney General's Office then drafted a definitive constitutional amendment, which guaranteed continued openness in the state's government and reaffirmed the application of open government to the legislative branch and expanded it to the judiciary. This amendment passed in 1992.

<p>Resources</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> AG Opinions Annual Regulatory Plan Consumer Protection Doing Business with the Office FAQ Florida Digital Bill of Rights Annual Enforcement Report Opioid Settlements Statement of Agency Organization and Operation 	<p>Quick Links</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consumer Alerts Military and Veterans Assistance Program Open Government Dose of Reality Florida Crime Prevention Summit 	<p>Employment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> File a Complaint Human Trafficking Summit Victim Services Dozier Claims Nicotine Dispensing Device Directory Attorney General's Policy Memorandum Regarding Outside Counsel for the State of Florida 	 <p>Office of the Attorney General State of Florida PL-01, The Capitol Tallahassee, FL 32399-1050</p>
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