

INTRODUCTION

Chi Hack Night (chihacknight.org) is a group of thousands of designers, academic researchers, data journalists, activists, policy wonks, web developers and curious citizens. We strive to make our society more just, equitable, transparent and delightful to live in, by making data, design and technology more accessible. Each week, we volunteer to build tools that serve the public good, and open government data makes it possible for us to do this valuable work.

ILLINOIS ATTORNEY GENERAL PLEDGE

Criminal, economic, and social justice require transparency and accountability, facilitated by open access to information. The Attorney General's office collects and stores a wide range of data on our legal system that's critical for the public to know and use. As the chief legal officer for the state, I will be committed to supporting open data practices to benefit all constituents, including citizens, organizations, journalists, and other government entities.

I recognize that capturing and providing public access to data is critically important for creating an open, efficient and responsive Attorney General's office. Access to public information is a right, not a privilege.

If elected, I will ensure that the Illinois Attorney General's Office receive adequate support and funding to implement an open data policy in these nine areas:

1. **Lead Data-Driven Governance:** I will use open data to inform decision-making, initiatives, operations, and policy creation wherever possible. I will also report annually on my office's progress in this area.
2. **Appoint a Data Leadership Team:** In the first year of my term, I will appoint a Data Officer who will be responsible for developing and implementing data governance policies (including open data policies), and supporting the Office's data analysis projects.
3. **Collaborate and Share Services:** I will meet regularly with county and municipal units of governments to promote the open sharing of data and to find ways we might together improve the quality and quantity of data available to our residents.
4. **Adhere to Open Standards:** I will advocate for renewal of the *Open Operating Standards Act* (Public Act 98-0627), and propose revisions to account for current technology and law enforcement needs.
5. **Defend and Enforce FOIA law:** I will implement decision-making processes for FOIA response and open data release that shield those decisions from political or reputational considerations. I will drive good-faith compliance with the Illinois Freedom of Information Act. I will instruct my Office to make good-faith efforts to publish its data and fully respond to legitimate FOIA requests in a timely manner.
6. **Respect the Privacy & Security of Citizens:** My policies will ensure secure data storage, safeguard personal identity, respect personal privacy, and follow all applicable privacy laws.
7. **Reduce Barriers to Access:** I will remove barriers to accessing data online by using open-source data structures and providing APIs, and by publishing data in bulk.
8. **Prioritize Accuracy & Currency:** I will support and seek funding for processes to create data that is accurate and keep it up-to-date.
9. **Require Documentation:** I will require publication of the sources of open data and the processes used to collect and manage the data, and will make citation information available to facilitate sharing.

SIGNATURES

Aaron Goldstein (D)

Erika Harold (R)

Gary Grasso (R)

Jesse Ruiz (D)

Kwame Raoul (D)

Nancy Rotering (D)

Pat Quinn (D)

Renato Mariotti (D)

Scott Drury (D)

Sharon Fairley (D)