



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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WASHINGTON COALITION FOR OPEN GOVERNMENT HOSTS "SUNSHINE WEEK" TOWN MEETING
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19 AT KCTS-TV, SEATTLE

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Washington joins the national observance of Sunshine Week 2008, March 16-22, with the screening of a national broadcast and a local panel discussion on Wednesday, March 19 at 10 a.m. at the studios of public television station KCTS in Seattle. The event, sponsored by the Washington Coalition for Open Government, is free and open to the public.

The event begins with the simulcast of a live nationwide broadcast from the National Press Club in Washington, D.C., "Government Secrecy: Censoring Your Right to Know" from 10-11:30 a.m. Immediately following from 11:30 a.m. until 1 p.m. is a panel discussion and Q&A session featuring Washington Attorney General Rob McKenna, Washington State Auditor Brian Sonntag, Washington Secretary of State Sam Reed, Seattle City Attorney Tom Carr, and attorney William Crittenden of Groff Murphy in Seattle. KCTS executive producer Enrique Cerna will moderate the discussion.

The KCTS studios are located at 401 Mercer Street in Seattle near Seattle Center. For driving directions, visit www.kcts.org/inside/directions/index.asp.

Sunshine Week is a national initiative to open a dialogue about the importance of open government and freedom of information. Participants include print, broadcast and online news media, civic groups, libraries, non-profits, schools and others interested in the public's right to know. Sunshine Week is led by the American Society of Newspaper Editors and is funded primarily by a grant from the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation.

The Washington Coalition for Open Government (WCOG) is an independent non-partisan non-profit organization founded in 2002 by a group of individuals representing organizations with a broad spectrum of opinions and backgrounds, all dedicated to the principles of strengthening the state's open government laws and protecting the public's access to government at all levels.

For more information, contact Washington Coalition for Open Government, 6351 Seaview Avenue NW, Seattle, WA 98107-2664 or on the web at www.washingtoncog.org; call (206) 782-0393 or e-mail info@washingtoncog.org.

WCOG is building a network of citizens who support open government laws and practices. Please send to info@washingtoncog.org your name, address, phone, and e-mail address. We will notify you, as they arrive, of threats to open government and opportunities to strengthen it.