

# ***Save the Date!***

**Wednesday, March 19, 2008  
1pm to 2:30 pm EDT**

**Government Secrecy:**

**CENSORED**  
**Censoring Your  
Right to Know**



**The Third Annual OpenTheGovernment.org  
Sunshine Week National Dialogue on  
Open Government, Secrecy, and Censorship**

***Join us for a discussion of the public's right to know, what the  
government is hiding, and what you can do about it.***

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**From the National Press Club's Holeman Lounge in Washington, D.C.**

The broadcast will be available to individual sites via satellite (advance registration and payment required) and webcast (free). Please RSVP to indicate interest in hosting your own viewing and discussion, or to express interest in working with another organization.

Sponsored by  
OpenTheGovernment.org and  
the American Association of Law Libraries, and Sunshine Week

For more information, and to join OpenTheGovernment.org's  
Sunshine Week email list, please contact Chris Green,  
[cgreen@openthegovernment.org](mailto:cgreen@openthegovernment.org)

**Sunshine Week 2008 Webcast: Save the Date!**  
**"Government Secrecy: Censoring Your Right to Know"**

Register at <http://www.openthegovernment.org>! Registration ends March 7

**What?**

The event will be in two segments:

I. The Secret Executive -- What Can Congress and the Public Do?

This panel will address executive branch power and secrecy, congressional rights and responsibilities, and the role of the press in combating government secrecy.

Confirmed Speakers:

-Patrice McDermott (Moderator): Director of OpenTheGovernment.org. Previously the Deputy Director of the Office of Government Relations at the American Library Association Washington Office, and senior information policy analyst for OMB Watch.

-Anne Beeson, Director of U.S. Programs at the Open Society Institute and previously Associate Legal Director of the American Civil Liberties Union.

-Mickey Edwards: Director of the Aspen Institute-Rodel Fellowships in Public Leadership and former Republican member of Congress from Oklahoma for 16 years (1977-92)

-John Podesta: President and Chief Executive Officer of the Center for American Progress, Chief of Staff to President William J. Clinton from October 1998 until January 2001, and formerly in senior staff positions in Congress

II. Citizen Self-Help: Finding the Information You Need

-We will be visiting and talking with creators of web sites that help the public avoid having to file official requests or go to offices and meetings to learn what our government is doing. These sites make hard-to-find government information – federal, state and local – easy for the public to find and use and may inspire you to do likewise. The sites include Sunlight Foundation, Center for Responsive Politics/OpenSecrets.org, OpenCongress.org, FedSpending.org, and EveryBlock. Greg Elin, Chief Data Architect of Sunlight Labs at the Sunlight Foundation will moderate this segment.

-A report will be given on an initiative to develop a 21st Century Right-to-Know agenda and recommendations for the next President and Congress.

In each segment, opportunities will be available for audience questions from all participants.

## **Where?**

The event will be held in the Holeman Lounge of the National Press Club in Washington, D.C and webcast to sites around the country. A satellite downlink option will be available for a fee.

We're inviting you to host a program in your community!

Sites are encouraged to show the national program and plan local programs tailored to open government issues in their communities. Audience members at all sites viewing the live event will have an opportunity to call in (using any telephone) and email questions to our live panels. We will answer as many questions as time permits.

## **When?**

The event will be held on Wednesday, March 19, 2008 1:00pm- 2:30pm (EDT). Once registered, sites may access the archived webcast for about one month after the program. If you are not able to show the program live, please consider showing it at a later date! Contact Chris Green at [OpenTheGovernment.org](http://OpenTheGovernment.org) [[cgreen@openthegovernment.org](mailto:cgreen@openthegovernment.org)] for more details. The program will also be up on the [OpenTheGovernment.org](http://OpenTheGovernment.org) website and will be available by DVD.

Sunshine Week is March 16-22, 2008. Visit [www.sunshineweek.org](http://www.sunshineweek.org) to learn more about Sunshine Week.

## **How?**

Anyone will be able to watch the webcast for free! We request that you register to do so.

The cost for the satellite downlink option is \$250 per site. All sites requesting the satellite downlink are required to pay this fee even if showing the program at a later date, to help us underwrite our costs. You must register for the satellite feed.

Please register at [www.openthegovernment.org](http://www.openthegovernment.org)!

If you have questions please contact: Chris Green, Program Associate, [OpenTheGovernment.org](http://OpenTheGovernment.org), [cgreen@openthegovernment.org](mailto:cgreen@openthegovernment.org)