

Caroline (Kine) Icks Torinus

From: Caroline (Kine) Icks Torinus <torinus@hnet.net>
Sent: Wednesday, January 6, 2016 4:56 PM
To: DOA Public Records Board Comments
Cc: Rep.Gannon - LEGIS
Subject: from TORINUS

Public Records Board

January 6, 2016

I demand that you leave our open records law alone.

You are using fancy words as an excuse to hide records that belong to the public. Citizens elected you. We citizens have the right to know what you are doing. It keeps everyone honest if you know the public is looking over your shoulders. Transparency is the essence of our government – or was.

When state officials say they want to "clarify" open records laws, we are wary. I want to know what our elected officials are doing with our money.

By messing with the open records law, people in power will limit access to text messages, emails, Facebook posts and other electronic communication by public employees. I do not want you to conduct the public's business in darkness using such tools. We have an interest in those communications and a right to see them.

When government made the secretive decision last summer to limit access to public records, it reeked of totalitarian governments in other countries. Make no mistake about it -- hiding communication from the public is as close to controlling the press as anything we've seen in recent years.

Stop working behind the scenes so you politicians have excuses to hide behind.

Sincerely,
Caroline Torinus
West Bend WI