

## **Privacy Notice**

The Ohio Attorney General's Office recognizes the importance of privacy to website visitors. We collect the minimum amount of information necessary to serve our visitors and to provide the best website experience. We will not collect personally identifiable information about you when you visit our website unless you voluntarily provide information. [See Section I]. This privacy notice applies only to public sites and services provided by the Ohio Attorney General Office.

The Ohio Attorney General's Office may be required to disclose personally identifiable information voluntarily submitted through [www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov](http://www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov) in response to requests for information pursuant to Ohio's Public Records Act, RC 149.43. [See Section III for more information.]

### **I. What We Collect:**

When you access [www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov](http://www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov), we may gather information in the following ways:

- **Information collected automatically.** When you view pages on our website [www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov](http://www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov), some of your information is automatically collected.

This information may include:

- Internet protocol (IP) address of the individual computer (or proxy server) making the request;
- Type of internet browser or computer operating system you are using;
- Date and time you accessed the website;
- Webpages visited on the site;
- Internet address of the website from which you may have linked to this site.

This information is aggregated and is used to analyze users' trends and statistics to help us improve our website. It may also be used to identify and respond to threats to our network.

- **Information voluntarily submitted.** The Attorney General's Office may collect additional information if you voluntarily provide it by filling out any online forms or submissions, requesting information, submitting questions or comments via email, registering for a subscription email, or participating in our live chat. The type of information varies by transaction. Unless the online form specifically asks for it, users should exercise caution when submitting sensitive information such as:
  - Social security number;
  - Driver's license number;
  - Medical information;
  - Financial account numbers (ex: bank account numbers);
  - Credit or debit card numbers;

- Personal Identification Numbers and Passwords.

## **II. Sharing information**

We will only share personal information for the following reasons, which may include sharing data with other parties as necessary to fulfill your request or remain in compliance with the law:

- To respond to your request and answer questions or process your request as efficiently as possible;
- To provide the product or service you have requested, including sharing information with other entities if they are in a better position to respond or if disclosure to the other entity is necessary to provide the product or service;
- To respond to a valid legal process, such as a warrant, subpoena, or court order;
- To fulfill the duties charged to the Office;
- To assist law enforcement in investigating complaints, prosecuting cases, or coordinating law enforcement efforts;
- To fulfill requests pursuant to Ohio's Public Records Act, RC 149.43;
- For any other reason if the information is believed to pose threat of harm to people, property, systems, or is believed to be a violation of a law;
- For any other reason with your written consent.

## **III. Public Records**

The Ohio Attorney General's Office is required to adhere to Ohio Public Records Law. Therefore, information submitted, both automatically and voluntarily as described above in Section I, through our website may be disclosed pursuant to a public records request. Due to the volume of public records requests received, we are unable to notify you if your records have been provided subject to a public records request.

Once information is produced pursuant to a public records request, it is no longer protected by this Privacy Notice, and any future dissemination of the information is at the sole discretion of the records requestor.

## **IV. Cookies**

OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov uses "log files" and "web cookies" to capture generic, Internet user information each time a request is made to view a page within this site. A cookie is a small text file, not a program, which is saved on your computer when you visit a website. Cookies do not disclose your name or e-mail address to a website. They can only tell a website if you have visited before and can pass short bits of information from the website back to itself the next time you visit.

OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov uses cookies in the following ways:

- To help you to conduct online transactions;

- To help process data submitted to us;
- To maintain your connection to our services; and/or
- To perform statistical analyses on website usage to understand how people are using the website and how we can improve it.

If you disable cookies, you can still use [www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov](http://www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov), but your ability to use some areas or functions of the website may be limited.

## **V. Outside links**

We provide links to other organizations through [www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov](http://www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov). These links are for informational purposes only. In providing these links, we do not endorse the content, products, services, or viewpoints of any external websites. When you link to another site, you are no longer on our website and this privacy notice does not apply. When you link to another website, you are subject to the privacy policy of that website.

## **VI. Access and Dispute of Information:**

In certain cases you have the right to access the records our office maintains about you, and you also have the right to correct or request these records be deleted in certain cases. More detailed information on this right and stipulations can be found in Ohio Revised Code (ORC) 1347, sections 1347.08 and 1347.09, individuals have access rights to their information maintained in personal information systems. An "access right" means you have the right — with limits — to review, correct, and dispute your information. The Ohio Attorney General's Office maintains a number of personal information systems to effectively support the constituents of Ohio and the interests of the state agencies the Office represents. However, according to ORC 1347.04, some records of the Ohio Attorney General's Office are exempt from the requirements of ORC Chapter 1347. For example, if your information is part of an ongoing investigation for law enforcement, the Ohio Attorney General's Office would not be able to provide such information, in accordance with Ohio laws.

## **Contact:**

If you have any questions concerning the privacy policy for the sites and services provided by the Office of the Ohio Attorney General, please contact the Ohio Attorney General's Privacy Officer at [Privacy@OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov](mailto:Privacy@OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov). Please contact:

AGO ITS Security Office  
150 East Gay Street  
Columbus, Ohio 43215  
[Privacy@ohioattorneygeneral.gov](mailto:Privacy@ohioattorneygeneral.gov)  
614-387-7644 or 800-750-7922