Fact v. Fiction: Correcting Misconceptions about Electronic Records in a Government Setting

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Purpose

- Section 30-1-90 Public Records Act
  - “Archives shall assist in creating, filing and preserving records; inventories and schedules.”
Training

• Annual or bi-annual training
• Individual Training
• Site Visits
What do you mean electronic records are public records?

• Section 30-4-20(c) Public Records Act
  - “...includes all books, papers, maps, photographs, cards, tapes, recordings, or other documentary materials regardless of physical form or characteristics prepared, owned, used, in the possession of, or retained by a public body...”
Why can’t I put it on the computer and ignore it for twenty years?

- Digital obsolescence
  - Hardware
  - Software
Why can’t I do exactly what they do?

- Size of agency
- Public vs. private information
- Available resources
Digital storage is cheap, I should digitize and keep everything forever.

- Priorities
- Long-term maintenance
- FOIA
- Organization
Why is this my responsibility? I am not smart enough to do this.