

WAC 162-04-030 Public access to records. (1) RCW 42.56.070(1) requires the human rights commission to make available for inspection and copying nonexempt "public records" in accordance with published rules. The act defines "public record" at RCW 42.56.010(3) to include any "writing containing information relating to the conduct of government or the performance of any governmental or proprietary function prepared, owned, used, or retained" by the agency. RCW 42.56.010(3) excludes from the definition of "public record" the records of volunteers that are not otherwise required to be retained by the agency and which are held by volunteers who do not serve in an administrative capacity; have not been appointed by the agency to an agency board, commission or internship; and do not have a supervisory role or delegated authority.

(2) The purpose of these rules is to establish the procedures that the human rights commission will follow in order to provide full access to public records. These rules provide information to persons wishing to request access to public records of the human rights commission and establish processes for both requestors and human rights commission staff that are designed to best assist members of the public in obtaining such access.

(3) The purpose of the act is to provide the public full access to information concerning the conduct of government, mindful of individuals' privacy rights and the desirability of the efficient administration of government. The act and these rules will be interpreted in favor of disclosure. In carrying out its responsibilities under the act, the human rights commission will be guided by the provisions of the act describing its purposes and interpretation.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 42.56.120 and 42.56.040. WSR 21-18-025, § 162-04-030, filed 8/23/21, effective 9/23/21. Statutory Authority: RCW 49.60.120(3). WSR 89-23-019, §162-04-030, filed 11/7/89, effective 12/8/89; Order 13, §162-04-030, filed 2/16/73.]