*Important Ethics Commission disclosure form update in procedure.

Police Chiefs must file required Ethics Commission forms, including the annual FORM 1 (financial disclosure). In the past these were filed with the Supervisor of Elections. In 2024 they will be electronically filed with the Ethics Commission. Chiefs wishing to obtain the protection of exempting certain personal information on Form 1 (or other filed forms) must file <u>at</u> the Commission a new request to exempt from public records their personal information such as home address and other information made exempt for law enforcement officers under Florida law. The previous exemptions filed with local Supervisors of Elections do not "carry over" to the Ethics Commission.

The Commission recommends filing the request to keep information exempt BEFORE e-filing forms this year with the Commission. This will allow them to identify that the information on a filed form should be edited to exclude exempted information.

Details are on the cover page of the current Ethics Commission webpage at: <u>https://ethics.state.fl.us/</u>.

Each Chief should access and read the Commission's information promptly.

Chiefs should contact the Commission if they have any questions about the new process.

Michael Romage

FDLE General Counsel, Retired FPCA "New Chiefs" segment instructor

https://ethics.state.fl.us/Documents/Forms/PublicRecordsExemption.pdf?cp=2024222

Local filers who traditionally filed with their local Supervisors of Elections and had a public records exemption on file for redaction of certain information under Florida's Public Records Law, will need to file a public records exemption request with the Commission. It is highly recommended that filers make their exemption request with the Commission PRIOR to filing their disclosure form, so that the form can be routed for redaction prior to publishing on the website. Visit our forms page to access the Exemption Request Form. The form must be mailed to the Commission and can be filed now.