Contact the LNP for information:
www.lnp.gov.lr

FOI HOTLINE
Learn more about how to use the Freedom of Information Act
Call 1281

Liberia Freedom of Information Act
Ask us! It’s your right!

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What is FOI?

Freedom of Information (FOI) is a human right. Under the Liberia FOI Act, signed into law on September 16, 2010, everyone has the right to ask for and receive information from government or private agencies that provide public services or receive public funds.

“There shall be no limitation on the public right to be informed about the government and its functionaries...”
(Article 15c, The Constitution of the Republic of Liberia)

Why is FOI Important?

FOI is essential to genuine democracy. The right to request and receive information allows both citizens and government officials to ensure good governance, transparency, and accountability.

Freedom of information:
- Is a tool to fight corruption
- Allows citizens to demand transparency and hold leaders accountable
- Promotes citizen participation in government
- Provides a clearer understanding of government policies
- Can be used to secure other critical human rights such as the right to education, healthcare, and clean water
- Enhances citizen trust and confidence in government
- Improves the efficiency of public administration
- Allows for better use of resources
- Encourages foreign investment

A transparent and accountable government is better prepared to provide for its citizens, as well as maintain long-term peace and stability in Liberia.

What Kind of Information Can I Get?

You can request any information from any government agency or private entity that provides public services or receives public funds. Under the Liberia Freedom of Information Act, you can request information from the LNP about:

- Laws, regulations, and policies
- LNP authorities and personnel such as contact details, qualifications, responsibilities, etc.
- Police Training Academy
- Professional Standards Division
- Community policing
- Women and Children’s Protection Division
- Case statistics
- Lost and found persons or items
- Annual reports
- Budget expenditures, procurement, and resources
- And more...

How Can I Get Information?

1. Decide the information you want.
2. Identify which agency holds the information.
3. Ask if the information is already available (proactively published) without needing to make a request.
4. Mail, email, phone, or deliver your request in person. You do not need to give a reason for making the request.
5. Track your request by marking your calendar with the day you made the request.
6. The agency must respond within 30 days unless they transfer the request or show a reason why they cannot respond timely.
7. You have the right to an internal review if you receive no answer within the time period, a denial of or only part of the information, a transfer notice with which you disagree, a fee you think is too high, or other negative decision.
8. You can appeal the internal review decision to the Independent Information Commissioner (IIC) if still not satisfied. You do not need a lawyer to contact the IIC.

Asking for and viewing information is free. You can only be charged for the actual cost of copying the information you want.