

Open Meetings Act (Core)

Objectives: Upon completing this class, students will be able to answer the following questions –

- 1) What is the Open Meetings Act?
 - why should a public body comply?

- 2) What does it require of my public body?
 - what activities does it govern? (or not)
 - what actions does it require before a meeting?
 - what actions does it require during a meeting?
 - what actions does it require after a meeting?

- 3) How is the Act enforced?

Description: **Open Meetings Act**

This class provides an overview of Maryland's *Open Meetings Act* law, which guides public officials in the requirements for providing public notice of the meetings that public bodies hold to conduct public business and for closing meetings when appropriate. The presenters focus on steps that local governments can take to comply with the law's application to Maryland local government, discuss some of the cases and complaints that have come before the Open Meetings Compliance Board, and, if time permits, address questions from the audience.

Instructors: Ann MacNeille, Office of the Maryland Attorney General; John Mathias, County Attorney, Frederick County