ABOUT CAC
The Citizen Advocacy Center is devoted to strengthening civic engagement and holding government entities accountable. CAC’s community lawyers work at the local level and have a regional and statewide impact. We work with community members to address systemic issues of public concern through pursuing democratic reforms.

RESOURCE FOR JOURNALISTS

The Citizen Advocacy Center is dedicated to building democracy for the 21st century by strengthening the citizenry’s capacities, resources, and institutions for self-governance.

All CAC services are free.

CAC’s reach goes beyond the neighborhoods. It’s a valuable resource in the classroom so students can learn the importance of transparency in government.

STAN ZOLLER, Journalist, lecturer at Lake Forest College, CAC Advisory Council member

CAC is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, funded through the philanthropic support of individuals, foundations, corporations, and law firms.

ISSUES CAC WORKS ON
- Open Meetings Act (OMA)
- Public record requests (FOIA)
- First Amendment rights
- Public record retention
- Economic development
- Tax increment financing (TIF)
- Zoning/Land Use
- Procurement
- Home Rule
- Ethics
- Ballot access/Elections
- Campaign finance regulations
- Census
- Lobbying/Redistricting
- Governmental Law

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OUR MISSION

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RESOURCES FOR JOURNALISTS

MEDIA ACCESS & FOIA REQUESTS
CAC assists with FOIA requests and Open Meetings Act compliance to ensure more accurate and effective reporting.

SOURCE FOR NEWS STORIES
CAC offers political commentary on myriad issues affecting local and state government and civic engagement.

STORY IDEAS
CAC provides story ideas and introduction to sources to bring attention to local, regional, and statewide issues.

WRITTEN RESOURCES
CAC provides written resources on FOIA and OMA and other topics.

TRAINING
CAC provides training on timely topics for journalists who cover community and statewide politics.

CONFERENCES & PRESS RELEASES
CAC brings attention to undemocratic local and state policies and legislation.

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