

NEWS RELEASE

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FMCS Launches Electronic FOIA Processing System FOIAXpress allows users to electronically file, monitor and appeal FOIA requests.

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service (FMCS) launched the new FOIAXpress software today to process and track Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests and appeals.

FOIA provides individuals the right to access federal government records. While FMCS posts many agency documents as an information resource in the public <u>online reading room</u>, individuals can submit a FOIA request for other records that may be available. The FOIAXpress tracking and management software replaces the agency's previous in-house FOIA tracking system.

As part of FMCS's commitment to transparency, public participation, and accountability, FOIAXpress will speed up the processing of FOIA requests by allowing FMCS staff and FOIA requesters the ability to electronically exchange pertinent documents. FOIAXpress requesters will be able to monitor their requests and appeals online in real-time via the public access link (PAL).

For those unable to file FOIA requests electronically, the FMCS Office of General Counsel will also still receive FOIA requests via mail and fax.

FOIAxpress is available to requesters directly at https://palfmcs.efoia-host.com/ or via the FMCS website at https://www.fmcs.gov/foia/

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The U.S. Federal Mediation & Conciliation Service (FMCS) is the nation's premier public agency for dispute resolution and conflict management. FMCS was created by Congress as a neutral and independent government agency upon enactment of the Labor-Management Relations Act of 1947 (Taft-Hartley Act) and mandated to resolve industrial conflict and promote labor-management peace and cooperation, minimizing the impact of these disputes on the free flow of commerce. With headquarters in Washington, D.C. and offices across the country, the agency has a proud track record of decades of effective dispute resolution and conflict management services for employers and unions across industries and work activities in the private, public, and federal sectors. FMCS is also recognized for its success facilitating negotiated rulemaking processes and for its robust employment mediation program in the federal sector as well as its global program, partnering with more than 60 countries to provide international consulting and training. For more on FMCS or to request services, visit www.fmcs.gov