# Section Records Retention 101

STATE BAR OF TEXAS ARCHIVES DEPARTMENT

#### Your Records Compliance Obligations

State Bar of Texas records are subject to Texas state agency records laws. Government Code, Chapter 441, Subchapter L Preservation and Management of State Records and other Historical Resources

"Section 441.180. Definitions

(9) 'State agency' means:

(A) any department, commission, board, office, or other agency in the executive, legislative, or judicial branch of state government created by the constitution or a statute of this state...

(D) any public nonprofit corporation created by the legislature whose responsibilities and authority are not limited to a geographical area less than that of the state."

## **Records Retention Schedule**

Each state agency, including the State Bar of Texas, is required to follow a Records Retention Schedule that is regularly certified by the Texas State Library and Archives Commission.

The records retention schedule lists the state records created and received by the agency and specifies a minimum time period each type of record must be retained.

STATE OF TEXAS  Form 3  accord State Likes  accord State Likes  accord State Likes							accomp	t 105 m SLR 105C must propany this form.		
2. Agend Code	y 202	3. Agency Name State Bar of Texas								
4. Records Series Item No.	5. Agency Item No.	6. Record Series Title		ention Pe	Total	8. Ar	rchival 9. Remarks		10. 106 No.	11. TSLA ONLY Amend
		Record Series for the State Bar of			Total	-	Keinens		NO.	140.
1.1.007	SBOT-01	Correspondence - Administrativo Incomingioutgoing and internal correspondence pertaining to the formulation, planning, implementation, interpretation, modification, or redefinition of the programs, services, or projects of an agency and the administrative regulations, policies, and procedures that govern them.	4		4	0	State Archives Note: Only the administrativ correspondence of executive staff, board or commission members, dvision directors and program heads require archival review. Con State Archives when these records have met retension periods. Caution: This records are item number 1.1.008 should be used only for correspondence that is not included in or dir related to another records neries on the agen approved schedule. For example, a memoran that documents an appropriations request an retained for the minimum retention period prescribed by item number 1.1.004; a letter concerning an audit for that prescribed by ite number 1.1.004; etc. See Also item number 1.	d tact the their ies and r rectly cy's ndum ust be em		
1.1.008	SBOT-02	Correspondence - General Non-administrative incoming/outgoing and internal correspondence, in any media, pertaining to or arising from the routine operations of the policies, programs, services, or projects of an asericy.	2		2		See comment to item number 1.1.007. See , item number 1.1.010.	Also		

Retention Codes (Field 7) Time is given in YEARS				Archival Codes (Field 8)
AC – After Closed, Terminated, Completed, Expired, Settled AV – Administrative Value	CE – Calendar Year End FE – Fiscal Year End	LA – Life of Asset MO – Months	PM – Permanent US – Until Superseded	I – Transfer to Archives O – Review by Agency Archivist
SLR 105				

#### Records Retention Schedule



# The basis for the lawful destruction of State Bar records.

Any recorded information, regardless of format, created or received by or on behalf of the Bar that documents activities in the conduct of Bar business or the use of Bar funds.

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> Paper files Electronic files Emails Database contents

Any recorded information, regardless of format, created or received by or<u>on</u> <u>behalf of the Bar</u> that documents activities in the conduct of Bar business or the use of Bar funds.

> Includes records of contractors, vendors, or **volunteers** doing work on Bar projects

## Common Section Record Types

Correspondence (i.e. your sent and received emails related to Section business)

- Administrative correspondence: Big picture, related to programs & policies
- General correspondence: Related to routine operations
- Transitory correspondence: Only temporarily useful

Financial records

Contracts and related bid documents

Meeting documentation:

- Agendas
- Minutes
- Reports/Packets

# Common Section Record Types

#### RETENTION PERIODS – How long must you keep each record type?

Correspondence (i.e. your sent and received emails related to Section business)

- Administrative correspondence: Big picture, related to programs & policies 4 years
- General correspondence: Related to routine operations 2 years
- Transitory correspondence: Only temporarily useful Until resolved

Financial records – 3 years

Contracts and related bid documents – 7 years

Meeting documentation: - PERMANENT

- Agendas
- Minutes
- Reports/Packets



## **Circumstances Halting Destruction**

Even if records have met their minimum retention period, there is a possibility there are other circumstances that prevent their destruction, including:

- Litigation
- Public Information Act request
- Audit
- Other pending action involving the records

The State Bar's Legal Department will let you know if there are any holds on records destruction affecting your Section records.

## Document Any Records Destruction

#### You may use our Disposition Log:

itate Bar of T	'exas Departmen	t	Employee Name	Employee Name			Employee Title			
		o be used in c If	position (destruction or transfer onjunction with the State Bar's R a field below does not apply to a Action Codes: TTA = Transfer	ECORDS RETENTION SC particular disposition ac	HEDULE and shoul tion, enter n/a in t	d be retained hat field.	for 10 years after most			
Disposition Date	Records Series Item No.*	Agency liem No.*	Record Series Title/ Description of Records	* Retention * period*	Date Range of Records	Volume of Materials (pages, inches, megabytes)	Signature Authorizing Disposition	Disposition Action Taken (Use code)		

Or, document it any way that works best for you!

Just be sure to include:

- Date records were destroyed
- Type of records
- Date range
- Approximate volume

## Permanent Retention

#### Keep an eye out for records with PERMANENT HISTORICAL VALUE

Indications in the Records Retention Schedule to consider sending records to Archives:

- Retention Period PM =
   PERMANENT
- Archival Codes
  - I = Transfer to Archives
  - O = Review by SBOT Archivist

## When in doubt, send it to the Archives!

The State Bar of Texas Archives Department is the official home for all permanently valuable State Bar records, including Section records

- Section meeting minutes, agendas, and packets
- Section publications
- Public relations and outreach materials
- Event photos and programs
- Evidence of changes

## **Records Destruction**

If a State Bar record is not covered in the Records Retention Schedule, you cannot destroy it without special permission from the State Library.



## Pardon our Dust

#### DISCLAIMER:

The State Bar's records retention schedule is under construction.

If you notice anything missing from the schedule, please get in touch so we can fix it!



#### The Records Retention Schedule is your **FRIEND**



### Contact us with any questions!



Archives Department 512.427.1311 archives@texasbar.com