

TIRC OPEN MEETING ACT PROCEDURES

I. Attendance by Means Other than Physical Presence (Video and Audio Conference Remote Attendance)

The Illinois Torture Inquiry and Relief Commission (TIRC) allows remote attendance of Commission meetings by Commissioners via video or audio conference to the full extent allowed by Section 7 the Illinois Open Meetings Act (OMA), 5 ILCS 120/7, subject to the following TIRC procedures.

The Commissioner seeking to attend Commission meetings via video or audio conference must notify the Chair, Executive Director, Staff Attorney or TIRC Secretary of the desire to attend remotely as soon as reasonably practical after the Commissioner seeking to attend remotely becomes aware remote attendance will be requested.

Pursuant to section 7(c) of OMA, a quorum of the Commission must be physically present at the posted meeting place in order for another Commissioner to attend via audio or video conference. Pursuant to section 7(c) of OMA, a majority of the public body (five voting members) must vote affirmatively to allow a member to attend by video or audio conference. The Commissioner seeking to attend remotely shall be allowed to participate remotely in this vote and his or her vote will count in establishing a majority.

II. Right to Speak

The Public shall be afforded the right to speak at Commission meetings per section 2.06 of OMA, TIRC Administrative Rules (2 Ill. Admin. 3500.310) and the following procedures:

As provided by the Illinois Attorney General's determination in Illinois Attorney General Public Access Counselor Request for Review Letter 20198, issued September 19, 2012, comment at specially scheduled meetings is limited to subject(s) germane to the items on the agenda.

III. Audio Taping, Video Taping and Photographing of Meetings

The Public shall be allowed to video- or audio-record and photograph open session portions of Commission meetings pursuant to Section 2.05 of the Open Meetings Act and these procedures.

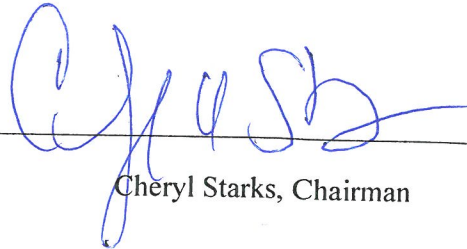
Members of the public may audio tape, video tape or photograph from their seat, provided their actions are not distracting to others as determined by the Chair.

Those requiring a tripod, other stands, or bulky equipment for their recording equipment must operate their equipment in the rear of the meeting room. Members of the public recording Commission meetings may reposition themselves, but only to the back of the meeting room, and may not move forward into the meeting room regardless of the quality of the recording that their equipment provides from the rear of the meeting room. Exceptions for "News Media" as that term is defined by section 2(f) of the Freedom of Information Act, 5 ILCS 140/2(f), and as further defined by opinions and determination letters of the Attorney General's Public Access Bureau, may be made at the discretion of the chair.

No flash photography or video recording with lights are allowed.

Recording equipment may not be positioned at Commissioners' table or interfere with Commission recording equipment. Exceptions for "News Media" as that term is defined by section 2(f) of the Freedom of Information Act, 5 ILCS 140/2(f), and as further defined by opinions and determination letters of the Attorney General's Public Access Bureau, may be made at the discretion of the chair.

Adopted by vote of the
Torture Inquiry and Relief Commission
in public session on June 18, 2014



Cheryl Starks, Chairman