

Sun-e Briefs • October 2009

Sun-e Briefs are a service of the Sunshine Center made possible through a grant from the Knight Foundation. This monthly news update will keep you in the open-government loop by bringing you news about access issues from across the state and updates on the Sunshine Center and North Carolina Open Government Coalition. Coming to you from Elon University, home of the Sunshine Center, we think you'll find **Sun-e Briefs** a valuable addition to your inbox. If you would like to contact us to let us know about a story or to remove your name from our list, please write ncopengov@elon.edu.

Coalition & Center News

Sunshine Center holds free workshops for public in Greensboro Oct. 22

The City of Greensboro and the Sunshine Center of the North Carolina Open Government Coalition have scheduled two workshops dealing with public records and open meetings for Oct. 22 at the Greensboro Historical Museum auditorium. The workshops are free and open to the public, and they will feature multimedia presentations on best practices in making and responding to requests for public records.

[Read about the event.](#)

[View the topics to be discussed.](#)

Sunshine Center participates in Liberty Tree Event

The Sunshine Center participated in Elon University's First Amendment celebration Sept. 29. The Liberty Tree Campus Initiative grant helps fund the program and encourages universities to develop thought-provoking programs and invite nationally renowned speakers to help raise awareness of fundamental First Amendment freedoms on America's college campuses.

[Read about the First Amendment panel discussion.](#)

Sunshine Center assistant director talks about open government on WPTF-FM.

Sunshine Center Assistant Director Dale Harrison was interviewed by radio host Scott Fitzgerald for WPTF's morning-drive program "North Carolina's Morning News" Sept. 11. Fitzgerald and Harrison spoke about the pending U.S. Supreme Court case involving corporate spending and campaign financing.

[Read more about the interview.](#)

Access Update

Gov. Bev Perdue uses first veto to smack down secrecy

Gov. Bev Perdue's first veto Sept. 11 was used to promote transparency in government. The bill she rejected was supported unanimously by lawmakers and it would've added to laws already in place that keep legislators' behind-the-scenes work secret.

[Read more from the Asheville Citizen-Times.](#)

Alamance News publisher recognized for his support of open government

Alamance News publisher Tom Boney Jr. was honored for his outspoken support of the First Amendment and his dedication to open government at a luncheon Sept. 29 during Elon University's First Amendment Day celebration.

[Read more about Boney's recognition on E-net.](#)

North Carolina appeals court rules judge could block release of warrants

A North Carolina appeals court ruled that Wake County judge could temporarily block the release of search warrants in a murder case. Media organizations has argued that the warrants were public records and should be released.

[Read more from WRAL.com.](#)

National News

The Liberty Tree Campus Initiative spreads to college campuses
First Amendment celebrations, funded in part by the Liberty Tree Campus Initiative, have been taking place on college campuses for the last year. Elon University, Berry College, Winthrop University and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill have all celebrated the First Amendment within the last year. Read more about their events below.

[Elon University](#)

[Berry College](#)

[Winthrop University](#)

[University of North Carolina](#)

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