



# LYNDON BAINES JOHNSON LIBRARY & MUSEUM

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FE 14-1  
LE/FE 14-1

## THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT

### INTRODUCTION

This list includes the principal files in the Johnson Library that contain material relating to the Freedom of Information Act. It is not definitive, however, and researchers should consult with the Library's archivists about other potentially useful files. The guide includes those collections that have been opened for research in part or in whole, and those collections that are currently unprocessed or unavailable.

### WHITE HOUSE CENTRAL FILES (WHCF), SUBJECT FILE

This permanent White House office was the main filing unit during the Johnson presidency, though not the primary file for foreign policy documents. Material was filed under 60 major subject headings, several of which are pertinent to the Freedom of Information Act.

	<u>Box #</u>
FE, Federal Government	
FE 14-1, Access to Records	25
LE, Legislation	
LE/FE 14-1, Legislation/Access to Records	44

### WHCF CONFIDENTIAL FILE

Arranged in the same subject categories as the WHCF Subject File, this file contains security classified or otherwise sensitive material. The CF Name File serves as a name index to the CF Subject File. This collection also includes agency reports and oversize attachments. The CF is entirely processed, but portions are still classified.

LE/FE 14 (3 pages) Box 62

### OFFICE FILES OF THE WHITE HOUSE AIDES

Many White House aides maintained office files of their own, separate physically from the rest of the White House Central Files. The files of each aide reflect his or her responsibilities. This list is not definitive, but it does include most pertinent folders in the aides' files. If a folder is not open for research, it will be processed upon request. Researchers should anticipate a delay in receiving this material.

McPherson, Harry  
"Executive Privilege" Box 22

## ENROLLED LEGISLATION

Prepared by the Director of the Legislative Reference Office of the Bureau of the Budget, these reports cover both private and public bills and joint resolutions submitted to the President for his approval. The reports include the purpose of the act, agency recommendations, and discussions of the ramifications of the legislation. For more information see the Special Files finding aid.

PL 89-487 (S. 1160, 7/4/66)

Box 36

## STATEMENTS OF LYNDON B. JOHNSON

Johnson gave several speeches in which he briefly mentions the Freedom of Information Act. Researchers should check the index to *The Public Papers of the Presidents* for references to this topic. The Statements File may also contain material pertaining to this topic. This collection is filed chronologically and contains backup material, correspondence, drafts and final copies of speeches. Request by date and subject of speech.

Statement by the President Upon Signing the "Freedom of Information Act" 7/04/66

Box 195

## PERSONAL PAPERS

The collection of papers from individuals or organizations came to the Library separate from President Johnson's papers. See the finding aid for information concerning the availability of individual collections.

Clark, Ramsey

"Attorney General's Memorandum on the Public Information Section of the Administrative Procedure Act, June 1967." Government Publications Office pamphlet distributed to the agencies.

Box 55

## WHITE HOUSE PRESS OFFICE FILES

Files related to the office of the press secretary, including press releases, press secretaries news conferences, presidential press conferences, and some backup material.

	<u>Box #</u>
Press Secretaries News Conferences	28
"July 1966" News conferences 502a and 503a	
Press Releases	49
"6/30/66-7/15/66 PR #2108a – PR#2134a" [see Press Release #2114]	
Press Release Drafts	120
"July 1966 [3 of 3]" Marked up version of signing statement for FOIA.	

## HANDWRITING FILES OF PRESIDENT LYNDON B. JOHNSON

The Handwriting File is a collection that was maintained during the White House years. Documents exhibiting Johnson's handwriting are contained in this file. Often these documents bypassed the White House Central Files Office and went directly to the Handwriting File. Consequently, some material in the Handwriting File is not in WHCF.

“June 1966 (Notes, instructions, doodles) [4 of 5]”

Box 15

Memo for the President from Robert Kintner, 6/24/1966, with attached buckslip describing when the White House received the bill for signing.

### **THE PRESIDENT’S NIGHT READING AND SIGNING TABLE LISTS**

Night Reading lists accompanied documents sent to the President most evenings for him to read before retiring. The secretary who prepared Night Reading numbered each document and added the number to the list with a brief description. Often an aide “worked” the Night Reading with the President, discussing the materials with the President and annotating documents with Johnson’s decisions or responses. When the lists, along with the bundle of documents, were returned to the President’s secretary, she annotated the lists with the information that either the President or his aide had recorded on the document. The secretary then disbursed the documents, making no record of the disposition. The secretary sent many of the documents to the White House Central Files or to Dorothy Territo, the Special Assistant who filed them in the Handwriting File, the Appointment File [Diary Backup], or other files she maintained. Some documents were returned to aides for action. Often the Library staff is unable to locate documents listed in Night Reading because the file location is unknown.

Signing Table Lists, listing documents and photographs left for the President’s signature, were prepared by the President’s secretary, but they do not appear to have been prepared on a regular basis. The lists were sometimes attached to the Night Reading lists and filed with them. At other times they were filed in folders separate from Night Reading and in chronological order.

	<u>Box #</u>
“June 1966”	3
President’s Night Reading list for 6/24/1966, document number 5, see entry #2	
President’s Night Reading list for 6/21/1966, document number 8, see entry #48	
“July 1966”	3
President’s Night Reading list for 7/2/1966, document number 24	
President’s Night Reading list for 7/1/1966, document number 25	